1 Brian C. Johnson, State Bar No. 235965 Kimberly Gates Johnson, State Bar No. 282369 2 SEVEN HILLS LLP 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400 Superior Court of California County of San Francisco San Francisco, CA 94111 3 Telephone: (415) 926-7247 SEP 0 4 2024 4 kimberly@sevenhillsllp.com CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT brian@sevenhillsllp.com 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff MY NGUYEN 6 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 8 COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO 9 NG YUEN 10 Case No. CGC-21-592813 11 Plaintiff, PROPOSED JUDGMENT 12 PURSUANT TO TERMS OF v. **PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT** 13 AND CONSENT JUDGMENT LINK DEPOT CORP.; et al, 14 Defendants. September 4, 2024 Date: 15 9:30 a.m. Time: Dept.: 302 16 Hon. Richard B. Ulmer, Jr. Judge: 17 Case Filed: June 14, 2021 Trial Date: Not set 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO TERMS OF PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT & CONSENT JUDGMENT

.1	In the captioned matter, plaintiff My Nguyen, and defendant Comtop Connectivity		
2	Solutions Inc., having agreed through their respective counsel that Judgment be entered pursuant		
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	to the terms of their settlement agreement in the form of a stipulated judgment or Consent		
4	Judgment, and following this Court's issuance of an Order approving the parties' Proposition 65		
5	settlement and Consent Judgment, and finding good cause has been shown,		
6	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that, pursuant to California		
7	Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(f)(4) and California Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6, Judgment		
8	is entered in accordance with the terms of the Consent Judgment attached as Exhibit A. By		
9	stipulation of the parties, the Court will retain jurisdiction to enforce the settlement under Code of		
10	Civil Procedure § 664.6.		
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12	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
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14	Dated: 9/4/24 W4		
15	SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE		
16	FICHARD B. ULMER		
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	JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO TERMS OF PROPOSITION 65 SETTLEMENT & CONSENT JUDGMENT		
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EXHIBIT A

	15217-00002/5150038.2			
	CONSENT JUDGMENT			
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21 22		Case filed: June 14, 2021 Trial: June 10, 2024		
20	Defendants.			
19	LINK DEPOT CORP.; et al.,	Sout of Civil Procedure & co.1.0)		
18	v.	(Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq. and Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6)		
17	Plaintiff,	[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT		
16	MY NGUYEN,	Case No. CGC-21-592813		
15	COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO			
14	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
12	COMTOP CONNECTIVITY SOLUTIONS INC.			
11	Attorneys for Defendant			
10	Email: sjackman@greenbergglusker.com Email: sbanks@greenbergglusker.com			
9	Sedina L. Banks, State Bar No. 229193 GREENBERG GLUSKER LLP 2049 Century Park East, Suite 2600 Los Angeles, CA 90067 Telephone: (310) 201-7526			
8				
7	Sherry E. Jackman, State Bar No. 274030			
6	Attorneys for Plaintiff MY NGUYEN			
5	Email: brian@sevenhillsllp.com Email: kimberly@sevenhillsllp.com			
3	San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone: (415) 926-7247 Empile bright San San Francisco, CA 94111			
2	SEVEN HILLS LLP 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400			
1	Brian C. Johnson, State Bar No. 235965 Kimberly Gates Johnson, State Bar No. 282369			

1. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between plaintiff My Nguyen ("Nguyen") and defendant Comtop Connectivity Solutions Inc. ("Comtop"), with Nguyen and Comtop each individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively, as the "Parties," to resolve the allegations in the August 19, 2020, November 18, 2020, and July 3, 2023 60-Day Notices of Violation ("Notices") and associated Complaint filed in this action on June 14, 2021 (and amended on September 14, 2023) ("Complaint") in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 *et seg.* ("Proposition 65").

1.1 The Parties

Nguyen is an individual proceeding in the public interest pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d) to ensure that chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm are disclosed or eliminated from consumer products sold in California. Comtop is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of California Health & Safety Code section 25249.11(a)-(b).

1.2 Consumer Product Description

Nguyen alleges that Comtop manufactures, imports, sells, or distributes for sale in California, cables containing Diisononyl phthalate ("DINP")("Cables"), including but not limited to, the *Link Depot SVGA Male to Male Cable, 6-Feet, SVGA-6-MM, Item No. SV-006-LD, Amazon Standard Identification Number (ASIN) B008GPYVEM*, without providing the health hazard warning that Nguyen alleges is required by California Health & Safety Code section 25249.5 *et seq.* ("Proposition 65"). All such Cables are referred to herein as the "Products." DINP is listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer.

1.3 Notice of Violation

On July 3, 2023, Nguyen served Comtop, the Office of the California Attorney General ("OAG"), and all requisite public enforcement agencies with a 60-Day Notice of Violation; and prior to that Nguyen had served Link Depot Corp. with similar 60-Day Notices of Violation dated August 19, 2020, and November 18, 2020 (collectively "Notices"), The Notices allege Comtop and others, including Comtop's downstream customer Link Depot, i.e., Smart, Inc. dba Link Depot ("Link").

Depot"), violated Proposition 65 by failing to warn its customers and consumers in California that the Products can expose users to DINP. No public enforcer has commenced and is diligently prosecuting an action to enforce the allegations set forth in the Notice.

1.4 Complaint

On June 14, 2021, Nguyen commenced the instant action ("Complaint"), naming Comtop's downstream customer Link Depot as a defendant for the alleged violations of Proposition 65 that are the subject of the Notice. During the discovery phase of this litigation, Nguyen's attorneys learned the true identity of Link Depot's supplier of the Products, Comtop. On June 7, 2023, Nguyen obtained an order from this Court granting leave to file a Doe Amendment to the Complaint naming Comtop as a defendant. On July 3, 2023 Nguyen serveda 60-day Notice of Violation on Comtop. On September 14, 2023, after the applicable 60-day period concluded with no public enforcer electing to enforce the allegations in the Notice to Comtop, Nguyen filed an Amendment to Complaint identifying Comtop as Doe defendant number one. On October 30, 2023, Plaintiff served Comtop with a copy of the Complaint and associated documents.

1.5 No Admission

Complaint and maintains that all products it sold or distributed for sale in California, including the Products, comply with all laws. No term of this Consent Judgment nor Comtop's compliance with its terms shall be deemed an admission by Comtop of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law. This section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Comtop's obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Consent Judgment. Comtop maintains that it has not knowingly manufactured, supplied, distributed, sold, or caused to be manufactured, supplied, distributed, or sold the Products for sale in California in violation of Proposition 65.

1.6 Jurisdiction

For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that this Court has jurisdiction over Comtop as to the allegations contained in the Complaint; that venue is proper in San Francisco County; and that the Court has jurisdiction to enter and enforce the provisions of this Consent Judgment, pursuant to Proposition 65 and Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6.

1.7 Effective Date and Compliance Date

The term "Effective Date" means the date on which the Court approves this Consent Judgment and enters Judgment pursuant to its terms, and Nguyen has provided notice to Comtop that it has been entered in the Court's records as a judgment. The Compliance Date means thirty (30) days after the Effective Date.

2. <u>INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATION, WARNINGS AND NOTIFICATION</u>

2.1 Reformulation Commitment

Commencing on the Compliance Date and continuing thereafter, all Products Comtop manufactures, imports, packages, sells, ships, provides, or distributes for sale in or into California, directly or indirectly through one or more third party retailers or e-commerce marketplaces, shall either qualify as Reformulated Products, as defined by Section 2.2, or be accompanied by a clear and reasonable warning pursuant to Section 2.3.

2.2 Reformulation Standard

For purposes of this Consent Judgment, "Reformulated Products" are defined as Products containing DINP in a maximum concentration of 0.1 percent (1,000 parts per million) in any "accessible component" (i.e., any component that may be touched during a reasonably foreseeable use) when analyzed by a laboratory accredited by the State of California, a federal agency, or a nationally recognized accrediting organization. For purposes of compliance with this reformulation standard, testing samples shall be prepared and extracted using Consumer Product Safety Commission ("CPSC") methodology CPSC CH-C1001.09.4 and analyzed using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency methodology 8270D, or other methodologies utilized by federal or state government agencies to determine phthalate content in a solid substance.

2.3 Clear and Reasonable Warnings

Commencing on the Compliance Date and continuing thereafter, for all Products that do not meet the definition of Reformulated Products established by Section 2.2, above, Comtop shall provide clear and reasonable warnings for all Products distributed, sold or offered for sale to customers in California in accordance with this Section pursuant to Title 27 California Code of Regulations § 25600, et seq. Each warning shall be prominently placed with such conspicuousness as compared with other

words, statements, or designs as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions before purchase or use and shall be provided in a manner such that it is clearly associated with the specific Product to which the warning applies. The warning for Products containing DINP in amounts greater than 1,000 ppm (0.1%) shall consist of one of the following statements:

(a) Warning: The Warning shall consist of the following statement:

⚠ WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Diisononyl phthalate [DINP], which is known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

(Long-Form Warning)

(b) Short-Form Warning: Comtop may, but is not required to use the following short-form warning set forth in this Section 2.3(b) ("Short-Form Warning subject to the additional requirements set forth in sections 2.4 and 2.5, below).

⚠ WARNING: Cancer - www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

(Short-Form Warning)

(c) Foreign Language Requirement. Where a consumer product sign, label or shelf tag used to provide a warning includes consumer information, as that term is defined in Title 27 California Code of Regulations section 25600.1(c) ("Consumer Information"), in a language other than English, the warning must also be provided in those other language(s) in addition to English.

If Proposition 65 or its implementing regulations change from the requirements as they exist on the date the Parties stipulate to this Consent Judgment with respect to levels of DINP or other phthalate chemicals that trigger Proposition 65 warning obligations or permissible safe-harbor warning language, Comtop may, pursuant to Sections 7 and 12, below, seek modification of this Consent Judgment in accordance with California law.

2.4 Product Warnings

Comtop shall affix a warning to the Product label or otherwise directly on each Product sold or offered for sale to consumers in California and to customers with known retail outlets in California or

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with known nationwide distribution. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, "Product label" means a display of written, printed or graphic material that is printed on or affixed to each of a Product or its immediate container or wrapper. A warning provided pursuant to Section 2.3(a)-(c) must print the word "WARNING:" in all capital letters and in bold font. The warning symbol to the left of the word "WARNING:" must be a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a black outline, except that if the labeling does not use yellow, then the symbol may be in black and white. If using the Short-Form Warning option set forth above, the entire warning shall appear in a type size of at least 6-point type and no smaller than the largest type size used for other Consumer Information on the Products.

2.5 Internet Warnings

If, after the Compliance Date, Comtop sells Products via the internet directly, or indirectly through customers with nationwide distribution or e-commerce websites, to customers located in California, Comtop shall provide warnings for each Product both on the Product label in accordance with Section 2.4, and by including either the warning or a clearly marked hyperlink using the word "WARNING" on the product display page, or by otherwise prominently displaying the warning to the purchaser prior to completing the purchase and without requiring the purchaser to search for the warning in the general content of the website. The warning or a clearly marked hyperlink to the warning using the word "WARNING" given in conjunction with the sale of the Products via the internet shall appear either: (a) on the same web page on which the Products are displayed; (b) on the same web page as the virtual cart displaying the Products; (c) on the same page as the price for the Products; or (d) on one or more web pages displayed to a purchaser during the checkout process. The warning shall appear in any of the above instances adjacent to or immediately following the display, description or price of the Products for which it is given in the same type size or larger than other consumer information provided for the Products. The internet warning may use the Short-Form Warning content described in Section 2.3(b) if the warning provided on the Product label also uses the Short-Form Warning content. For third-party websites, as a condition of sale, Comtop shall notify the sellers the Products must be accompanied by a warning, prior to and as a condition of sale, in or into California, and shall supply the warning requirements, as detailed above.

3. MONETARY SETTLEMENT TERMS

3.1 Civil Penalty

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b), Comtop agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$4,000 within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date. Comtop's civil penalty payment will be allocated according to Health and Safety Code section 25249.12(c)(1) and (d), with seventy-five percent (75%) of the penalty paid to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA"), and the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) retained by Nguyen. Comtop shall issue its payment in two checks made payable to: (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$3,000; and (b) My Nguyen in the amount of \$1,000. Nguyen's counsel shall deliver to OEHHA and Nguyen their respective portions of the penalty payment.

3.2 Reimbursement of Attorneys' Fees and Costs

Nguyen and its counsel offered to resolve the allegations in the Notice and Complaint without reaching terms on the amount of reimbursement of attorneys' fees and costs. After the Parties finalized all other material settlement terms, they negotiated the reimbursement to be paid to Nguyen's counsel, under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine, codified at California Code of Civil Procedure section 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual execution and reporting of this Consent Judgment to the OAG and entry of Judgment pursuant its terms, but exclusive of fees and costs on appeal, if any. Within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date, Comtop shall issue a check in the amount of \$30,500 payable to "Seven Hills LLP" for the fees and costs incurred investigating, bringing this matter to Comtop's attention, litigating, negotiating a settlement in the public interest, obtaining the Court's approval of its terms pursuant to Section 5, and reporting to the OAG.

3.3 Payments

All payments payable and due under this Consent Judgment shall be delivered to Nguyen's counsel at the following address:

Seven Hills LLP c/o Laralei Paras 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400 San Francisco, CA 94111

Nguyen shall provide a W-9 to Comtop to facilitate payment.

4. <u>CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED</u>

4.1 Nguyen's Release of Proposition 65 Claims

This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution of the claims that were or could have been asserted by Nguyen arising out of the allegations in the Notice and in the Complaint. Nguyen, acting on his own behalf, in the public interest, and on behalf of his past and current agents, shareholders, employees, predecessors, representatives, attorneys, successors and assignees ("Releasors") releases Comtop, and its respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, suppliers, franchisees, licensees, customers (including, without limitation, Link Depot), distributors, online marketplaces (including, without limitation, Amazon.com and Cablesonline.com), wholesalers, retailers, and all other downstream entities in the distribution chain of any of the Products, and the predecessors, successors, and assigns of any of them (collectively, "Released Parties") based on the alleged or actual failure to provide a clear and reasonable warning under Proposition 65 about exposures to DINP in Products manufactured, processed, distributed, sold and/or offered for sale in California before the Compliance Date, as set forth in the Notice and Complaint. The Parties further agree that compliance with Section 2 of this Consent Judgment shall be deemed compliance with Proposition 65 with respect to alleged exposures to DINP in the Products.

In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, Nguyen in his individual capacity only and not on behalf of the public in California, and on behalf of his past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, hereby waives all rights he has or may have to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases all claims including, without limitation, all actions, and causes of action, in law or in equity, suits, liabilities, demands, obligations, damages, costs, fines, penalties, losses, or expenses, investigation fees, expert fees, and attorneys' fees arising under Proposition 65 with respect to DINP in Products manufactured, distributed, sold and/or offered for by Comtop prior to the Compliance Date (collectively, "Claims"), against Comtop and Releasees. The Parties further understand and agree that this Section 4.1 release shall not extend upstream to any entity that manufactured the Products or any

component parts thereof, or any distributor or supplier who sold the Products or any component parts thereof to Comtop, nor shall this Section 4.1 Release extend downstream to any Releasee who has been instructed by Comtop to provide a warning pursuant to Section 2.6, above, and who fails to so. Nothing in this Section affects Nguyen's right to commence or prosecute an action under Proposition 65 against a Releasee that does not involve Comtop's Products.

4.2 Comtop's Release of Nguyen

Comtop, on its own behalf and on behalf of its past and current officers, agents, shareholders, employees, predecessors, representatives, attorneys, successors, and assignees, hereby waives any and all claims against Nguyen and his attorneys and other representatives, for any action taken or statement made (or those that could have been taken or made) by Nguyen and his attorneys and other representatives, whether in the course of investigating claims or otherwise seeking to enforce Proposition 65 against Comtop in this matter with respect to the Products.

4.3 Mutual Waiver of California Civil Code § 1542

Nguyen, on his own behalf in his individual capacity, and *not* in the public interest, on the one hand, and Comtop, on the other hand, each acknowledge that the claims in this Consent Judgment include all known and unknown claims pertaining to the failure to warn of exposures to DINP in Products sold in California before the Compliance Date, and each waives the provisions of California Civil Code section 1542 as to any unknown claims pertaining to the failure to warn of exposures to DINP in the Products sold in California that may have existed prior to and including the Compliance Date, California Civil Code section 1542 reads as follows:

A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY.

The Parties acknowledge and understand the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code section 1542 and agree to waive the same as well as any statute of similar import or meaning of any other jurisdiction.

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5. **COURT APPROVAL**

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Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(f)(4), Nguyen shall file a noticed motion for judicial approval of this Consent Judgment. The Parties agree to mutually employ their best efforts, and those of their counsel, to support the entry of a judgment pursuant to the terms of this Consent Judgment, and to obtain judicial approval of their settlement in a timely manner. For purposes of this section, "best efforts" shall include, at a minimum, supporting the motion for approval, responding to third-party objections, if any, and appearing at the hearing before the Court if so requested.

6. **SEVERABILITY**

If, subsequent to the Court's approval and entry of this Consent Judgment as a judgment, any provision of this Consent Judgment is deemed by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be adversely affected.

7. **GOVERNING LAW**

The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State of California and apply within California. If Proposition 65 is repealed, preempted, or otherwise rendered inapplicable by reason of law generally, or as to the Products or DINP, then Comtop may seek a modification of this Consent Judgment pursuant to Section 12, below. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be interpreted to relieve Comtop from its obligation to comply with any pertinent state or federal law or regulation. This Court shall retain jurisdiction over this matter to enforce, modify, or terminate this Consent Judgment pursuant to the Parties' agreement and Code of Civil Procedure section 664.6.

8. NOTICE

Unless specified herein, all correspondence and notice required by this Consent Judgment shall be in writing and sent by: (i) first-class registered or certified mail, return receipt requested; or (ii) a recognized overnight courier to any Party by the other at the following addresses:

For Comtop:

Howie Tseng, Vice President Comtop Connectivity Solutions Inc.

15181 Fairfield Ranch Road, #100 Chino Hills, CA 91709

For Nguyen: Laralei Paras, Esq.

SEVEN HILLS LLP 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400 San Francisco, CA 94111

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With a copy to:

Sherry E. Jackman, Esq.; Sedina Banks, Esq. GREENBERG GLUSKER LLP 2049 Century Park East, Suite 2600 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Any Party may, from time to time, specify in writing to the other Party a change of address to which all notices and other communications shall be sent.

9. <u>COUNTERPARTS AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES</u>

This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts and electronic signature(s), each of which shall be deemed an original and, all of which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document.

10. COMPLIANCE WITH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Nguyen and its counsel agree to comply with the reporting form requirements referenced in California Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(f).

11. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof, and all prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, or understandings related hereto, if any, are hereby merged herein. No warranty, representation, or other agreement between the Parties exists except as expressly set forth herein. No representation, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those specifically referred to in this Consent Judgment have been made by any Party hereto. No other agreement not specifically contained herein shall be deemed to exist or to bind either of the Parties hereto.

12. <u>MODIFICATION</u>

This Consent Judgment may be modified only by: (i) a written agreement of the Parties (which agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld) and the entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court thereon; or (ii) upon a successful motion of any party and the entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court thereon. No Party shall seek modification of this Consent Judgment without first providing written notice to the other Party of the basis for the modification sought, and meeting and conferring in good faith prior to moving the Court for an order modifying the Consent Judgment.

1 In the event the Parties or either Party seek(s) modification of this Consent Judgment by written 2 agreement or on noticed motion by the Court, the Party or Parties shall provide the OAG with no less than 45 days' notice of their intended revision(s) to the Consent Judgment prior to any hearing by the 3 4 Court on a motion for approval of such modification. 5 13. **AUTHORIZATION** 6 The undersigned are authorized to execute this Consent Judgment on behalf of their respective 7 Parties and have read, understood, and agreed to all the terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment. 8 **AGREED TO: AGREED TO:** 9 Date: 7/24/24 Date: 7/24/24 10 By: 11 My Nguyen, CEO KEEP AMERICA SAFE AND 12 **BEAUTIFUL** COMTOP CONNECTIVITY SOLUTIONS INC. 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 12

CONSENT JUDGMENT