



April 29, 2004

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Greetings:

This office and the Mateel Environmental Justice Foundation ("Mateel") hereby give you notice that the private businesses on the attached service list are in violation of Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6. This office and Mateel are both private enforcers of Proposition 65, both organizations may be reached at the below listed address and telephone number, I may be considered a "responsible individual" at both organizations, and I may be contacted at the same address and telephone number. The above referenced violations occur when California residents come into contact with thermoset/thermoplastic-coated wires, cables, and/or cords/cord sets, including PVC-coated wires, cords/cord sets, plugs and connectors, and both SPT and HPN cords/cord sets (hereinafter collectively "Cords"). These businesses market products with, or that are themselves, Cords. Some examples of the products that incorporate Cords are those listed in the attached Appendix A. Handling of, and contact with, these Cords exposes people to acrylonitrile, antimony trioxide, arsenic, 1,3 butadiene, carbon tetrachloride, carbon black extracts, chlorinated paraffins, chloroform, ethyl acrylate, ethylene thiourea, nickel, toluene, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, vinyl chloride, lead and lead compounds, lead acetate, lead phosphate, lead subacetate, and di(2ethylhexyl) phthalate. Handling Cords causes these chemicals to come off the coating of the Cords and to be transferred to the skin of the person handling the Cords. These chemicals are then ingested through hand-to-mouth contact and hand-to-food-to-mouth and hand-to-cigarette-to-mouth behavior. These chemicals are also absorbed through the skin, through mucous membranes and enter the body through cuts, punctures and abrasions. Smokers also inhale those chemicals transferred from hands to cigarettes. People are thus exposed to these chemicals via the ingestion, inhalation, dermal absorption, mucous membrane absorption and subcutaneous routes. These exposures (and resulting violations) occur occupationally, environmentally, and as the result of the sale of consumer products and services. In occupational settings, the type of work that is done during which the above-referenced exposures occur is the handling of, and contact with, Cords, including during the manufacture, installation, maintenance, handling and/or use of electrical equipment to which these Cords are attached. As described above, the exposures that are the subject of this notice occur via the dermal absorption, inhalation, ingestion and subcutaneous routes. These violations have occurred every day since at least April 29, 2000 and will continue every day until reasonable warnings are given to those people exposed. Environmental exposure violations occur in every county of the State and occur both on and off the property of the aforementioned private businesses.

## **APPENDIX A**

Ultra-Mini 4-Port USB Hub, Input/Output Series, Model #PA055U

USB Charge Sync Cable Model #PA275U

USB PS/2 Optical Mini Mouse Model #PAUM0003U

### CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

I, William Verick, hereby declare: This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notices have violated Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings. I am the attorney for the noticing party. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the person(s) consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: April 29, 2004

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This notice alleges the violation of Proposition 65 with respect to occupational exposures governed by the California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health. The State Plan incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed certain conditions on Proposition 65, including that it does not apply to the conduct of manufacturers occurring outside the State of California. The approval also provides that an employer may use the means of compliances in the general hazard communication requirements to comply with Proposition 65. It also requires that supplemental enforcement is subject to the supervision of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Accordingly, any settlement, civil complaint, or substantive court orders in this matter must be submitted to the Attorney General.

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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Alison Nichols declare:

If called, I could and would testify as follows: I am over eighteen. My business address is 424 First Street, Eureka, California, 95501. On April 29, 2004, I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER, or a letter identical in substance, to be served by U.S. Mail on those public enforcement agencies listed on the attached SERVICE LIST; in addition on the same date and by U.S. Mail I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER and PROPOSITION 65: A SUMMARY to be sent by Certified U.S. Mail to the private business entities also listed on the attached SERVICE LIST. I deposited copies of these documents in envelopes, postage pre-paid, with the U.S. Postal Service on the day on which the mail is collected. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on April 29, 2004, at Eureka, California.

# SERVICE LIST

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OROVILLE, CA 95965

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