



# Klamath

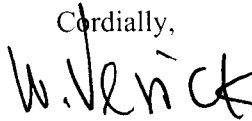
June 27, 2005

EDWARD G. WEIL  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
P.O. BOX 70550  
OAKLAND CA 94612-0550

Greetings:

This office and the Mateel Environmental Justice Foundation (“Mateel”) give you notice that the private businesses on the attached service list are in violation of Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6. Both this office and Mateel are private enforcers of Proposition 65, both may be contacted at the below listed address and telephone number, and I am a responsible individual for both Mateel and this office. The above referenced violations occur when California residents come into contact with hand tools, the handles of which are coated with thermoplastic. Examples of these tools are listed on the attached Product List. Though a specific model or SKU or product number is given as an example, this notice pertains to all models, and all variations, of the specific type of product of which the named model is an example. The plastic on the handles of these tools contains high levels of lead and lead compounds (“lead”), chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm. These companies either make or market these hand tools. People are exposed to lead at work or elsewhere when they use these tools and their skin thus comes into contact with the plastic in the handles. Lead is transferred from the tools to the hands of the people using these products. The lead then enters their bodies when it is absorbed directly through the skin, through mucous membranes, or through cuts and/or abrasions, or when they touch their hands to their mouths and other mucous membranes, or when they touch cigarettes or food and then smoke the cigarettes or ingest the food. These exposures thus occur via the dermal absorption, mucous membrane, subcutaneous, inhalation and ingestion routes. The listed companies did not and do not provide people with clear and reasonable warnings before they expose them to lead. The above referenced violations have occurred every day since at least June 27, 2002 and will continue every day until the lead is taken out of these products or until warnings are given. These violations are alleged for occupational exposures as well as for consumer and environmental exposures. We do not, however, allege occupational exposure violations as to any of these products the listed businesses make outside of California, except as to workplaces the businesses maintain in California. Exposures constituting Proposition 65 environmental exposure violations occur both on and off the property of the businesses and in each of California’s 58 counties.

Cordially,



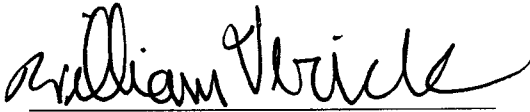
William Verick

2005 JUN 29 A 10:35

**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: June 27, 2005

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Verick

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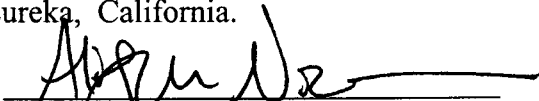
This notice alleges the violation of Proposition 65 with respect to occupational exposures governed by the California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health. The State Plan incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed 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 June 27, 2005, 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 June 27, 2005, at Eureka, California.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ALISON NICHOLS

## SERVICE LIST

EDWARD G. WEIL  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL  
P.O. BOX 70550  
OAKLAND CA 94612-0550

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
CITY OF OAKLAND  
505 14TH ST 12TH FLOOR  
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
CITY HALL ROOM 206  
400 VAN NESS  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
980 9th Street, 10th Floor  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
CITY OF SAN JOSE  
151 W. MISSION ST.  
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
200 N. MAIN ST.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
202 C ST. FLOOR 3  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA  
225 FALLON ST. #9  
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF ALPINE  
P.O. BOX 248  
MARKLEEVILLE, CA 96120

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF AMADOR  
108 COURT ST. SUITE 202  
JACKSON, CA 95642.

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF BUTTE  
25 COUNTY CENTER DR.  
OROVILLE, CA 95965

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF CALAVERAS  
GOVERNMENT CENTER  
891 MOUNTAIN RANCH ROAD  
SAN ANDREAS, CA 95249

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF COLUSA  
547 MARKET ST.  
COLUSA, CA 95932

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA  
P.O. BOX 670  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF DEL NORTE  
450 H ST #171  
CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF EL DORADO  
515 MAIN ST.  
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF FRESNO  
2220 TULARE ST #1000  
FRESNO, CA 93721

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF GLENN  
P.O. BOX 430  
WILLOWS, CA 95988

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT  
825 5TH ST.  
EUREKA, CA 95501

COUNTY OF IMPERIAL  
COURTHOUSE, FLOOR 2  
939 W. MAIN ST  
EL CENTRO, CA 92243

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF INYO  
P.O. DRAWER D  
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF KERN  
1215 TRUXTUN AVE. FLOOR 4  
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF KINGS  
1400 W. LACEY BLVD.  
HANFORD, CA 93230

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF LAKE  
255 N. FORBES ST # 424  
LAKEPORT, CA 95453

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF LASSEN  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION  
BUILDING  
707 NEVADA ST.  
SUSANVILLE, CA 96130

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
18000 CRIMINAL COURTS  
BUILDING  
210 W. TEMPLE ST.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MADERA  
209 W. YOSEMITE AVE.  
MADERA, CA 93637

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MARIN  
HALL OF JUSTICE #183  
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MARIPOSA  
P.O. BOX 748  
MARIPOSA, CA 95338

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO  
301 S. STATE ST.  
UKIAH, CA 95482

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MERCED  
2222 H ST.  
MERCED, CA 95340

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MODOC  
P.O. BOX 1171  
ALTURAS, CA 9610

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MONO  
P.O. BOX 617  
BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY  
240 CHURCH ST.  
P.O. BOX 180  
SALINAS, CA 93902

COUNTY OF NAPA  
931 PARKWAY MALL  
P.O. BOX 720  
NAPA, CA 94559-0720

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF NEVADA  
COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
NEVADA CITY, CA 95959

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF ORANGE  
400 CIVIC CENTER DR WEST  
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF PLACER  
11562 B AVE  
AUBURN, CA 95603-2687

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF PLUMAS  
P.O. BOX 10716  
QUINCY, CA 95971

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
4075 MAIN ST.  
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
P.O. BOX 749  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95804

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SAN BENITO  
419 4TH ST  
HOLLISTER, CA 95023

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
316 MT. VIEW AVE.  
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0004

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
101 W. BROADWAY #1440  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
850 BRYANT ST #322  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN  
222 E. WEBER AVE #202  
STOCKTON, CA 95202

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER #450  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93408

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS  
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
1105 SANTA BARBARA ST.  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
70 W. HEDDING ST.  
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ  
701 OCEAN ST. #200  
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SHASTA  
1525 COURT ST.  
REDDING, CA 96001

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SIERRA  
P.O. BOX 457  
DOWNIEVILLE, CA 95936

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SISKIYOU  
P.O. BOX 986  
YREKA, CA 96097

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SOLANO  
600 UNION AVE  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SONOMA  
600 ADMINISTRATION DR. #212J  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
1100 I ST. #200  
MODESTO, CA 95354

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF SUTTER  
1160 CIVIC CENTER BLVD. #A  
YUBA CITY, CA 95993

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF TEHAMA  
P.O. BOX 519  
REDBLUFF, CA 96080

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF TRINITY  
P.O. BOX 310  
WEAVERVILLE, CA 96093

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF TULARE  
COURTHOUSE #224  
VISALIA, CA 93291

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE  
2 S. GREEN ST.  
SONORA, CA 95370

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT  
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
c/o GREGORY BROSE D.D.A.  
4245 MARKET ST. #205  
VENTURA, CA 93003

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF YOLO  
204 4TH ST  
P.O. BOX 1247  
WOODLAND, CA 95695

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF YUBA  
215 5TH ST.  
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901

C. Michael Jacobi, President  
Katy Industries  
765 Straits Turnpike Ste. 2000  
Middlebury, CT 06762

Roger Eagle, CEO  
G.C. Thorson, Inc.  
1801 Morgan St.  
Rockford, IL 61102-2690

H. Lee Scott, Jr. President  
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.  
702 SW 8th St.  
Bentonville, AR 72716-8095

## **PRODUCT LIST**

### **KATY INDUSTRIES, G.C. THORSON, INC.**

GOLD SERIES THORSEN 4 PIECE PLIERS AND WRENCH SET #33884 Uniform Product Code Number: 033197 338847 This product description pertains not only to the specific model of the product listed, but also for all units of all models of Pliers and Wrench Sets.

### **WAL-MART STORES, INC.**

HEAVY DUTY CUTTER #1099, COMPACT FLORAL TOOL SET #4933, LONG NECKED PLIERS #1097 This product description pertains not only to the specific model of the product listed, but also for all units of all models of Cutters, Tool Sets, and Pliers. (All listed products are imported or manufactured by Fibre-Craft Materials Corp.)

