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8 9 10	KELLER & HECKMAN LLP 3 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1420 San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone: (415) 948-2800 castillo@khlaw.com			
11	Attorneys for Defendant DESCO INDUSTRIES, INC.			
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13	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO			
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15	UNLIMITED CIVIL JURISDICTION			
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17	BLUE SKY FOREVER,	Case No. CGC-24-617754		
18	Plaintiff,			
19	v.	[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT		
20	DESCO INDUSTRIES, INC.; and DOES 1-	(Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq. and		
21	30, inclusive,	Code of Civil Procedure § 664.6)		
22	Defendants.			
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- 1	CONSENT JUDGMENT			

1. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

This Consent Judgment is entered into by and between plaintiff Blue Sky Forever ("BSF") and defendant Desco Industries, Inc. ("Desco"), with BSF and Desco each individually referred to as a "Party" and collectively, as the "Parties," to resolve the allegations in the June 25, 2024, 60-Day Notice of Violation in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 et seq. ("Proposition 65").

1.1 The Parties

BSF is a California-based non-profit organization 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. Desco is a person in the course of doing business for purposes of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.11(b).

1.2 Consumer Product Description

BSF alleges that Desco manufactures, imports, sells, or distributes for sale in California vinyl/PVC badge holders containing diisononyl phthalate ("DINP") including, but not limited to, Menda Badge Holder, Blue, Zipper, Vertical Format, 3" x 5" OD, Hisco #: 35019-34174, Mfg #: 35019, without providing the health hazard warning BSF alleges is required by California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq. ("Proposition 65"). All such vinyl/PVC badge holders are referred to hereinafter 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 June 25, 2024, BSF served Desco, the California Attorney General, and the requisite public enforcement agencies with a 60-Day Notice of Violation ("Notice"), alleging Desco 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 August 30, 2024, BSF commenced the instant action ("Complaint"), naming Desco as a defendant for the alleged violations of Proposition 65 that are the subject of the Notice.

1.5 No Admission

Desco denies the material, factual and legal allegations contained in the Notice and Complaint and maintains that all products it sold or distributed for sale in California, including the Products, have been, and are, in compliance with all laws. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be construed as, nor shall compliance with this Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as, an admission by Desco of any fact, finding, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law. This section shall not, however, diminish or otherwise affect Desco's obligations, responsibilities, and duties under this Consent Judgment. Desco maintains that it has not knowingly manufactured or caused to be manufactured the Products for sale in California in violation of Proposition 65.

1.6 Jurisdiction

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

1.7 Effective Date

The term "Effective Date" means the date on which the Court approves this Consent Judgment and enters Judgment pursuant to its terms.

2. <u>INJUNCTIVE RELIEF: REFORMULATION OR WARNINGS</u>

2.1 Commitment to Reformulate or Warn

Commencing 30 days following the Effective Date (hereafter referred to as the "Compliance Date") and continuing thereafter, all Products Desco manufactures, imports, sells, ships, or distributes for sale, in or into California, directly or through one or more third party retailers or e-commerce marketplaces, shall meet the Reformulation Standard for 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 Defined

For purposes of this Consent Judgment, "Reformulated Products" are defined as Products which, if they contain disononyl phthalate ("DINP"), contain such chemical in a maximum concentration of less than 0.1 percent (1,000 parts per million) when analyzed by a laboratory certified or accredited by the State of California, the United States Food and Drug Administration/Environmental Protection Agency, the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, or a member accreditation body of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation ("ILAC").

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. ("Reformulation Standard")

2.3 Clear and Reasonable Warnings

No later than the Compliance Date, Desco shall provide clear and reasonable warnings for all Products, that are not Reformulated Products, provided for sale to customers in California in accordance with this Section pursuant to Title 27 California Code of Regulations § 25600, et seq. Desco shall provide one of the following warning statements, pursuant to Cal. Code Regs. tit. 27 § 25603, as it exists as of the date of execution of this Agreement, or as it may be amended in the future.

(a) Warnings

Option 1:

<u>AWARNING</u> [or] CA WARNING [or] CALIFORNIA 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.

OR

Option 2:

AWARNING [or] CA WARNING [or] CALIFORNIA WARNING: Cancer risk from exposure to diisononyl phthalate (DINP). See www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

OR

Option 3:

<u>AWARNING</u> [or] **CA WARNING** [or] **CALIFORNIA WARNING**: Can expose you to diisononyl phthalate (DINP), a carcinogen. See <u>www.P65Warnings.ca.gov</u>.

OR

Option 4: The following warning statement may be used on Products manufactured and labeled prior to January 1, 2028:

AWARNING: Cancer - www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

The warning requirements set forth herein are recognized by the Parties as not being the exclusive manner of providing a warning for the Products. Warnings may be provided as specified in the Prop. 65 regulations, in effect as of the Effective Date and/or as amended in the future. 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.

(b) Foreign Language Requirement.

Where a consumer product sign, label or shelf tag used to provide a warning includes consumer information in language(s) other than English, the warning must also be provided in the other language(s) in addition to English.

(c) On-Product Warnings.

Desco shall affix a warning to the Product label or otherwise directly on Products provided for sale to consumers located in California and to customers with retail outlets in California, or e-commerce platforms with sales to consumers in California. For the purpose of this agreement, "Product label" means a display of written, printed, or graphic material printed on or affixed to each of the Products or its immediate container or wrapper. A warning provided pursuant to section 2.3(a) must print the one of the following warning phrases in all capital letters and in bold font:

WARNING [or] CA WARNING [or] CALIFORNIA WARNING. The warning symbol to the left

of the warning phrase must be a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a black outline, except if the labeling does not use the color yellow, the symbol may be in black and white.

The entire warning shall be set off from other surrounding information, enclosed in a box and appear in at least 6-point type.

(d) Internet Warnings.

For all Products sold in or into California through third-party websites over which Desco has the ability to control the application of warnings, Desco shall additionally prominently display the warning to customers on the internet website prior to purchase or during the checkout process such that the consumer does not have to seek out the information being provided. The warning or a clearly marked hyperlink to the warning using the warning phrase WARNING [or] CA WARNING [or] CALIFORNIA WARNING and given in conjunction with the sale of the Products via the internet, shall appear either: (a) on the same web page 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.

Where Desco sells, ships, or distributes Products to third-party retailers or e-commerce marketplaces, Desco will advise them of the internet warning requirements under this Agreement as a condition of sale of the Products.

3. MONETARY SETTLEMENT TERMS

3.1 Civil Penalty

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(b), Desco agrees to pay a civil penalty of \$3,000 within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date. Desco's civil penalty payment will be allocated according to Health and Safety Code § 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 BSF. Desco shall issue its payment in two checks made payable to: (a) "OEHHA" in the amount of \$2,250; and (b) "Seven Hills LLP in Trust for BSF" in the amount of \$750. BSF's counsel shall deliver to OEHHA and BSF their respective portions of the penalty payment. Desco shall deliver its civil penalty payments to the address listed in Section 3.3, below.

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3.2 Reimbursement of Attorneys' Fees and Costs

BSF 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. Shortly after the Parties finalized the other material settlement terms, they negotiated and reached an accord on the amount of reimbursement to be paid to BSF's counsel, under general contract principles and the private attorney general doctrine, codified at California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, for all work performed through the mutual execution and reporting of this Consent Judgment to the Office of the California Attorney General 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, Desco shall issue a check in the amount of \$26,000 and made payable to "Seven Hills LLP" for all agreed upon fees and other costs incurred investigating, bringing this matter to Desco'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 California Attorney General. Desco shall deliver its payment to the address listed in Section 3.3.

3.3 Payments

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

> Seven Hills LLP Attn: Laralei Paras 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400 San Francisco, CA 94111

CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED

4.1 **BSF'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 BSF arising out of the allegations in the Notice and in the Complaint. BSF, acting on its own behalf, in the public interest, and on behalf of its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors and assignees releases Desco, its past and present parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities under common ownership, directors, officers, employees, attorneys, and each entity to whom Desco directly or indirectly distributes or sells the Products including, but not limited to its downstream distributors, wholesalers, marketplace hosts, customers, retailers, franchisee,

cooperative members and licensees ("Releasees") based on the failure to provide a clear and reasonable warning under Proposition 65 about alleged exposures to DINP contained in the Products that were 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.

The Parties further understand and agree that this Section 4.1 release shall neither extend (a) to upstream entities that manufactured the Products or any component parts thereof, or any distributors or suppliers who sold the Products or any component parts thereof to Desco nor (b) to Releasees who have been instructed by Desco pursuant to Section 2.3, to provide a warning on Products that are not Reformulated Products and have failed to do so.

4.2 BSF's Individual Release of Claims

In further consideration of the promises and agreements herein contained, BSF, acting in its individual capacity only and *not* in the public interest, and on behalf of its past and current agents, representatives, attorneys, successors, and/or assignees, hereby waives all rights to institute or participate in, directly or indirectly, any form of legal action and releases Releasees from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, claims, demands, rights, suites, obligations, debts, contracts, agreements, promises, liabilities, damages, charges, losses, costs, expenses, and attorneys' fees, of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, in law or equity, fixed or contingent, now or in the future, with respect to any alleged violations of Proposition 65 related to or arising from the Products sold in or into California prior to the Compliance Date.

4.3 Desco's Release of BSF

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

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5. COURT APPROVAL

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(f)(4), BSF 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 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 any third-party objection, and appearing at the hearing before the Court, if so requested.

6. <u>SEVERABILITY</u>

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. In the event Proposition 65 is repealed, preempted, or is otherwise rendered inapplicable, by reason of law, generally, as to the Products or as to DINP, then Desco may seek to modify this Consent Judgment pursuant to Section 12. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall be interpreted to relieve Desco from its obligation to comply with any pertinent state or federal law or regulation.

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 Desco:

For BSF:

Sophia Castillo, Esq. Keller & Heckman LLP 3 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1420 San Francisco, CA 94111

Laralei Paras, Partner Seven Hills LLP 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400 San Francisco, CA 94111

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.

. <u>COUNTERPARTS AND PDF SIGNATURES</u>

This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts and by portable document format (pdf) signature, 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

BSF 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 any and all prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, or understandings related thereto, if any, are hereby merged herein and therein. There are no warranties, representations, or other agreements between the Parties except as expressly set forth herein. No representations, 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 agreements not specifically contained or referenced herein, oral or otherwise, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties hereto.

12. MODIFICATION

This Consent Judgment may be modified only by: (i) a written agreement of the Parties 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. In the event the Parties or either Party seek(s) modification of this Consent Judgment by written 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 reporting the revised agreement to the OAG or the date of any hearing by the Court on a motion for such modification.

	II.			
1	13. <u>AUTHORIZATION</u>			
2	The undersigned are author	orized to execu	te this Consent Judgment on behalf of their respec	ctive
3	Parties and have read, understood,	, and agreed to	all the terms and conditions of this Consent Judgm	nent.
4	AGREED TO:	ē	AGREED TO:	
5	Date: 4/11/2025	<i>u</i>	Date: 2025-04-10	
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7	By: Anthony Nguyen, CEO Blue Sky Forever	·	By: John Brake, CEO Desco Industries, Inc.	
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