SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement (Agreement) is entered into by and between the California Air Resources Board (ARB), with its principal office at 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California, and Wipe New, LLC (Wipe New) with its principal place of business at PO Box 2607, Virginia Beach, VA.

RECITALS

- California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 17, section 94509(a)
 (17 CCR § 94509(a)) specifies that the Consumer Product Regulation applies to any person who sells, supplies, offers for sale, or manufactures for sale in California, any consumer product containing volatile organic compounds (VOC).
- 2. 17 CCR § 94509(a) sets forth in the Table of Standards the percentage by weight for Rubber/Vinyl Protectant: non aerosols sold after January 1, 2003. Rubber/Vinyl Protectant: non aerosols must meet the 3 percent standard.
- 3. 17 CCR § 94509(a) sets forth in the Table of Standards the percentage by weight for Metal Polish or Cleanser: non aerosols sold after December 31, 2012. Metal Polish or Cleanser: non aerosols must meet the 3 percent standard.
- 4. 17 CCR § 94512 (b) Product Dating requires that "each manufacturer of a consumer product subject to § 94509 shall clearly display on each consumer product container or package, the day, month, and year on which the product was manufactured, or a code indicating such date."
- 5. Failure to comply with the Consumer Products Regulation is a violation of State Law resulting in penalties. Among other penalties, Health and Safety Code (H&SC) sections 42400-42403 (H&SC §§ 42400-42403) authorize strict liability penalties up to \$10,000.00 for each day that the violation occurs.
- 6. ARB alleges that between July 1, 2012 and October 31, 2015, Wipe New sold, supplied, and offered for sale in California, Wipe New, Wipe New Tires, and Wipe New Home and Outdoor which are subject to the VOC limit for Rubber/Vinyl Protectant: non aerosol in 17 CCR § 94509(a).
- 7. ARB alleges that the Wipe New, Wipe New Tires, and Wipe New Home and Outdoor referenced in Recitals paragraph 6 contained concentrations of VOCs exceeding the 3 percent VOC limit for the Rubber/Vinyl Protectant: non aerosol category specified in 17 CCR § 94509(a).
- 8. ARB alleges that between July 1, 2012 and October 31, 2015, Wipe New sold, supplied, and offered for sale in California, Wipe New Wheels which is subject to the VOC limit for Metal Polish or Cleanser: non aerosol in 17 CCR § 94509(a).

- ARB alleges that the Wipe New Wheels referenced in Recitals paragraph 8
 contained concentrations of VOCs exceeding the 3 percent VOC limit for the
 Metal Polish or Cleanser: non aerosol category specified in 17 CCR § 94509(a).
- 10. ARB alleges that Wipe New failed to provide a date of manufacture, or a compliant code indicating the date of manufacture on the products referenced in Recitals paragraphs 6 and 8 as required in 17 CCR § 94512(b).
- 11. ARB alleges that if the allegations described in Recitals paragraphs 7, 9, and 10 were proven, civil penalties could be imposed against Wipe New as provided in H&SC § 42402, et seg. for each and every unit involved in the violations.
- 12. Wipe New admits the allegations described in Recitals paragraphs 6 through 10 but denies any liability resulting from said allegations.
- 13. In consideration of the foregoing, and of the promises and facts set forth herein, the Parties desire to settle and resolve all claims, disputes, and obligations relating to the above-listed alleged violations and voluntarily agree to resolve this matter by means of this Agreement, without the need for formal litigation. Wipe New has taken, or agrees to take, the actions enumerated below within the Terms and Conditions. ARB accepts this Agreement in termination and full settlement of this matter.

AGREEMENT

In consideration of ARB not filing a legal action against Wipe New and releasing Wipe New from any claim or liability related to the violations referred to above, ARB and Wipe New agree as follows:

- 14. Wipe New shall not manufacture, sell, supply, or offer for sale for use in California, any consumer products in violation of ARB consumer products regulations set forth in 17 CCR § 94500, et seq.; the terms of this Agreement will remain valid and enforceable notwithstanding any future violations that may occur.
 - 15. Wipe New in settlement of the above-described violations of 17 CCR § 94509(a) agrees to pay a penalty to ARB in the amount of forty-nine thousand five hundred dollars (\$49,500.00) payable to the California Air Pollution Control Fund,in such amounts and at such times as set forth in the document entitled "Settlement Agreement and Payment Transmittal Instructions," attached as Exhibit A ("Transmittal Instructions"). Payment and the signed Agreement shall be mailed to the address specified on the Transmittal Instructions.
- 16. This Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon Wipe New and its officers, directors, receivers, trustees, employees, successors and assignees, subsidiary and parent corporations and upon ARB and any successor agency that may have responsibility for and jurisdiction over the subject matter of this settlement.

- 17. The parties stipulate that this Agreement shall be the full and final resolution of ARB claims regarding the above-described violations and shall have the same res judicate effect as a judgment in terms of acting as a bar to any civil action by ARB against Wipe New, its officers, directors, receivers, trustees, employees, successors and assignees, subsidiary and parent corporations. This Agreement shall be deemed the recovery of civil penalties for purposes of precluding subsequent criminal action as provided in H&SC § 42400.7(a).
- 18. This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California, without regard to California's choice of law rules.
- 19. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between ARB and Wipe New concerning the claims and settlement in this Agreement. This Agreement fully supersedes and replaces any and all prior negotiations and agreements of any kind or nature, whether written or oral, between ARB and Wipe New concerning these claims.
- 20. The effective date of this Agreement shall be the date upon which this Agreement is fully executed.
- 21. This Agreement is deemed to have been drafted equally by ARB and Wipe New; it will not be interpreted for or against either Party on the ground that said Party drafted it.
- 22. No agreement to modify, amend, extend, supersede, terminate, or discharge this Agreement, or any portion thereof, shall be valid or enforceable unless it is in writing and signed by all parties to this Agreement.
- 23. This Agreement shall further serve to toll any statute of limitation until all terms and conditions of this Agreement have been fulfilled.
- 24. Senate Bill 1402 (SB 1402) Statement.

H&SC § 39619.7 requires ARB to provide information on the basis for the penalties it seeks. This Agreement includes this information, which is also summarized here.

The provision of law the penalty is being assessed under and why that provision is most appropriate for that violation.

The penalty provision being applied in this case is H&SC § 42402, et seq. because Wipe New is alleged to have sold, supplied, offered for sale, or manufactured for sale consumer products for commerce in California, in violation of the Consumer Products Regulations (17 CCR § 94507, et seq.). The penalty provisions of H&SC § 42402, et seq. apply to violations of the Consumer

Products Regulations because the regulations were adopted under authority of H&SC § 41712 which is in Part 4 of Division 26.

The manner in which the penalty amount was determined, including aggravating and mitigating factors and per unit or per vehicle basis for the penalty.

H&SC § 42402, et seq. provides strict liability penalties of \$1,000.00 per day for violations of the Consumer Product Regulations with each day being a separate violation. In cases like this, involving unintentional violations of the Consumer Products Regulations where the violator cooperates with the investigation, ARB has obtained penalties based on the excess emissions of VOCs. Administrative penalties are also obtained in some cases.

In this case the total penalty is \$49,500.00, and there were 2.7 tons of excess VOC emissions attributable to the alleged violation. The penalty in this case was reduced because this was a strict liability first time violation and Wipe New made diligent efforts to comply and to cooperate with the investigation. Penalties in future cases might be higher or lower on a per ton or per day basis.

Is the penalty being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollution at a specified level, and, if so a quantification of excess emissions, if it is practicable to do so.

The Consumer Product Regulations do not prohibit emissions above a specified level, but they do limit the concentration of VOCs in regulated products. In this case a quantification of the excess emissions attributable to the violations was practicable because Wipe New made the product formulation and sales data necessary to make this quantification available to ARB. Based upon this information (which Wipe New has designated as confidential), the violations were calculated to have 2.7 tons of excess VOC emissions emitted in California.

Final penalties were determined based on the unique circumstances of this matter, considered together with the need to remove any economic benefit from noncompliance the goal of deterring future violations and obtaining swift compliance, the consideration of past penalties in similar negotiated cases, and the potential cost and risk associated with litigating these particular violations. The penalty reflects violations extending over a number of days resulting in quantifiable harm to the environment considered together with the complete circumstances of this case. Penalties in future cases might be smaller or larger on a per ton basis.

The final penalty in this case was based in part on confidential financial information or confidential business information provided by Wipe New that is not retained by ARB in the ordinary course of business. The penalty in this case was also based on confidential settlement communications between ARB and Wipe

New that ARB does not retain in the ordinary course of business. The penalty also reflects ARB's assessment of the relative strength of its case against Wipe New, the desire to avoid the uncertainty, burden and expense of litigation, obtain swift compliance with the law and remove any unfair advantage that Wipe New may have secured from its actions. The penalty in this case was reduced because Wipe New, upon learning that their products were not in compliance, quickly changed the formulations of their products to reduce VOCs and added compliant date codes to their labeling.

- 25. Each provision of this Agreement is severable, and in the event that any provision of this Agreement is held to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, the remainder of this Agreement remains in full force and effect.
- 26. The undersigned represent that they have full power and authority to enter into this Agreement.

ACKNOWLEDGED AND ACCEPTED BY:

California Air Resources Board

Name: Ellen M. Peter

Title: Chief Counsel

Date:

Wipe New, LLC

Name: FLO

Title:

Date: