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EPSON FILES ITC ACTION TO PROTECT AGAINST UNFAIR COMPETITION

Epson's Complaint filed with International Trade Commission Seeks a General Exclusion Order Prohibiting all Imports of Ink Cartridges that Infringe Epson's Ink Cartridge Patents

LONG BEACH, Calif. – Dec. 23, 2014 – Epson announced that it filed a complaint today with the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) that alleges that nineteen companies manufacture, import or distribute aftermarket ink cartridges in the United States that infringe one or more of five Epson patents. The complaint was filed by Epson Portland Inc., Epson America Inc., and Seiko Epson Corp., and requests the ITC to issue a General Exclusion Order prohibiting these companies and all others from importing the infringing cartridges into the United States.

Epson obtained a General Exclusion Order in an ITC action filed in 2006 that is still enforced regarding a broad range of on-carriage cartridges for Epson consumer and business ink jet printers. (On-carriage cartridges are installed immediately behind the print head of ink jet printers). The current ITC complaint alleges infringement of five additional patents that relate to the functionality of IC chips on many of the same on-carriage cartridges covered by the General Exclusion Order from 2006, and also on many off-carriage cartridges for current Epson business and professional large format ink jet printers. (Off-carriage cartridges are larger capacity cartridges installed to the side of the printer carriage and connected to the print head with ink supply tubes.)

The patents at issue in the action are U. S. Patents 8,366,233; 8,454,116; 8,794,749; 8,801,163 and 8,882,513. The following companies are named as respondents: Zhuhai Nano Digital Technology Co., Ltd.; Nano Business & Technology, Inc.; Zhuhai National Resources & Jingjie Imaging Products Co. Ltd.; Huebon Co., Ltd.; Chancen Co. Ltd.; Zhuhai Rich Imaging Technology Co., Ltd.; Shanghai Orink Infotech International Co.Ltd.; Orink Infotech International Co. Ltd.; Zinyaw LLC; Yotat Group Co., Ltd.; Yotat (Zhuhai) Technology Co. Ltd.; Ourway Image Co. Ltd.; Kingway Image Co. Ltd.; Zhuhai Chinamate Technology Co. Ltd.; InkPro2day, LLC; Dongguan Ocbestjet Printer Consumables Co. Ltd.; Ocbestjet Printer Consumables (HK) Co. Ltd.; Aomya Printer Consumables (Zhuhai) Co.

Ltd.; and Zhuhai Richeng Development Co. Ltd. (A public version of the complaint is posted by the ITC at <https://edis.usitc.gov/edis3-external/app>).

Epson has made continuous worldwide investments in R&D and large investments in manufacturing in the United States to produce high quality, innovative cartridges. These ITC actions are part of Epson's worldwide efforts to protect the company and its customers from unfair competition of all types, including the sale of patent-infringing ink cartridges.

About Epson

Epson is a global innovation leader dedicated to exceeding expectations with solutions for markets as diverse as the office, home, commerce, and industry. Epson's lineup ranges from inkjet printers, printing systems and 3LCD projectors to industrial robots, smart glasses and sensing systems and is based on original compact, energy-saving and high-precision technologies.

Led by the Japan-based Seiko Epson Corporation, the Epson Group comprises more than 72,000 employees in 94 companies around the world, and is proud of its ongoing contributions to the global environment and the communities in which it operates. Epson America, Inc. based in Long Beach, Calif. is Epson's regional headquarters for the U.S., Canada, and Latin America. Epson Portland Inc. is Epson's U.S. manufacturing subsidiary that manufactures ink cartridges, ink for Epson cartridges, performs precision injection molding of proprietary plastic parts, and provides specialized engineering services. To learn more about Epson, please visit: www.Epson.com.

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