ESTTA Tracking number: ESTTA24817
Filing date: 02/01/2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

Proceeding	92044118
Party	Defendant Power Tool Specialists, Inc. Power Tool Specialists, Inc. 3 Craftsman Road East Windsor, CT 06088
Correspondence Address	Power Tool Specialists, Inc. 3 Craftsman Road East Windsor, CT 06088
Submission	Motion to Suspend for Civil Action
Filer's Name	Kevin H. Vanderleeden, Esq.
Filer's e-mail	vanderleeden@ip-lawyers.com, mdionne@ip-lawyers.com
Signature	/Kevin H. Vanderleeden/
Date	02/01/2005
Attachments	5038-47 Motion to suspend.pdf (70 pages)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

)
WMH TOOL GROUP, INC.)
Petitioner,)
) Cancellation No. 92044118
V.)
) Mark: TRADESMAN
POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC.) Reg. No.: 2,205,373
D)
Registrant.)
)

REGISTRANT'S MOTION TO SUSPEND CANCELLATION BASED ON CO-PENDING CIVIL ACTION

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 2.117(a), Registrant Power Tool Specialists, Inc., ("PTS"), hereby requests that the Board suspend the pending cancellation based on a prior-filed, co-pending civil action. In support of its Motion to Suspend, PTS submits that:

- 1. On May 26, 2004, PTS filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, against Petitioner for, *inter alia*, trademark infringement, (the "Complaint"). The Complaint resulted in the initiation of Civil Action No. 04-30103 MAP, which is currently pending (the "Civil Action"). A copy of the Complaint is attached as Exhibit A.
- 2. On or about November 18, 2004, Petitioner filed an Amended Answer,
 Counterclaims and Third-Party Complaint in the Civil Action, (the "Answer"). A copy
 of the Answer is attached as Exhibit B.

3. Petitioner's Answer contains virtually identical allegations to those put forth in

the present cancellation proceeding. Petitioner's allegations in the pending Civil Action

could be dispositive of the registrability questions currently before the Board.

4. Additionally, PTS notes that the discovery period has not yet opened. In light of

the very early stage of the cancellation, suspension of the proceeding would not be

unfair or inequitable to either PTS or the Petitioner.

5. In light of the above, PTS respectfully requests that the Board suspend the

present cancellation pending final disposition of the Civil Action.

Dated: February 1, 2005 THE REGISTRANT,

By: /Kevin H. Vanderleeden/

Kevin H. Vanderleeden, Esq.

McCormick, Paulding & Huber, LLP

CityPlace II

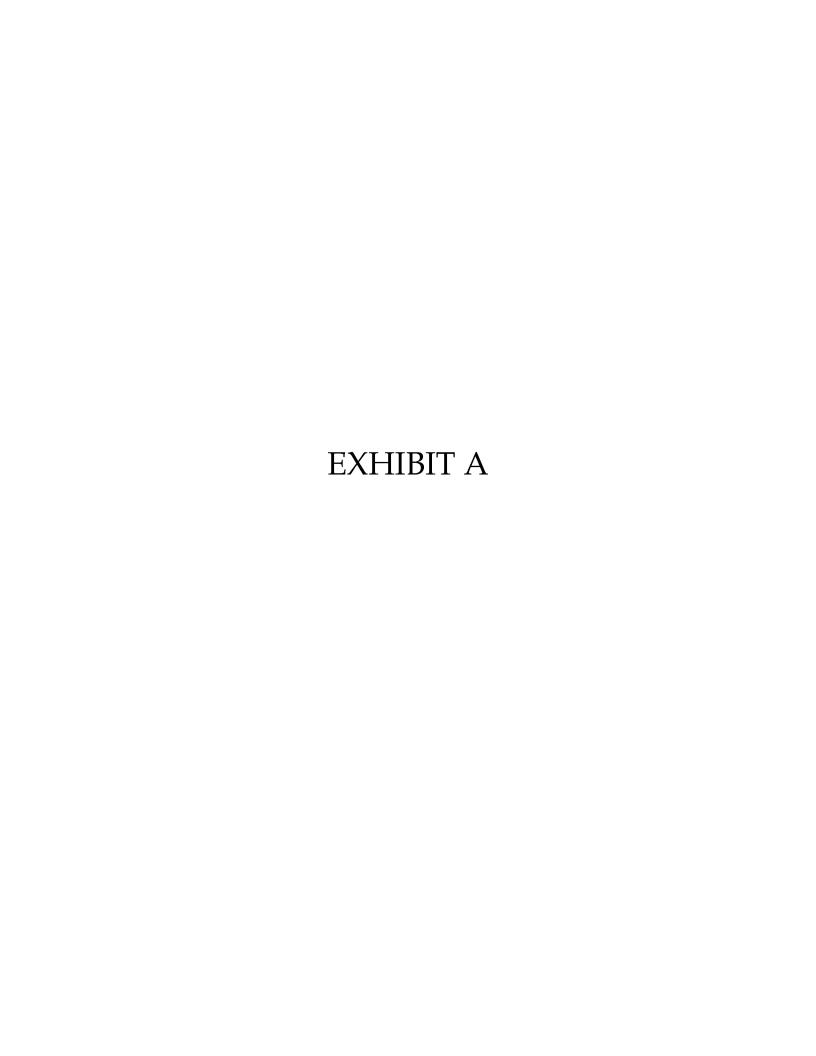
185 Asylum Street

Hartford, CT 06103-3402

(860) 549-5290

Attorney for Power Tool Specialists, Inc.

2



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CLERK'S OF FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

: LAT 1.5 A #: 26

POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC., Plaintiff, v.	U.S. DISTRICT COURT) OISTRICT OF MASS) Civil Action No. 0年 3670多 相称)
WMH TOOL GROUP, INC.,))) (Our Docket No. 5038-40)
Defendant.)))

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Power Tool Specialists, Inc. (hereinafter "Plaintiff") brings this Action for trademark infringement and unfair competition against Defendant WMH Tool Group, Inc. (hereinafter "Defendant). For its Complaint, Plaintiff alleges:

The Parties

- 1. Plaintiff is a corporation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and has a principal place of business at 3 Craftsman Road, East Windsor, Connecticut 06088.
- 2. Upon information and belief, Defendant (f/k/a Wilton Corporation) is a corporation of the State of Washington, and has a place of business at 300 South Hicks Road, Palatine, Illinois 60067-6900 and corporate headquarters at 2420 Vantage Drive, Elgin, Illinois 60123. Upon further information and belief, Defendant is a corporation by merger which included the former Wilton Corporation (hereinafter "Wilton"), a corporation of the state of Colorado having a principal place of business at 300 South Hicks Road, Palatine, Illinois 60067-6900.



Jurisdiction and Venue

- 3. Jurisdiction of this Court with respect to the claims set forth herein arises under the Trademark Laws of the United States, as set forth in Title 15, United States Code; and for the related claims of unfair competition, false designation of origin uncler Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)) and Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, § 1 *et seq.* This Court also has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1332, as the matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) and arises between an entity of this state and an entity of another state. The Court also has jurisdiction pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1121 and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a) and (b), and under the doctrine of supplemental and pendant jurisdiction.
 - 4. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(a).

Background Facts Common to All Counts

- 5. Plaintiff is, and has been at all times relevant to the matters alleged in this Complaint, engaged in the business of providing bench and stationary power tools marketed under the TRADESMAN Brand Name.
- 6. In recognition of the distinctive quality of the TRADESMAN trademark, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has granted United States Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 for the TRADESMAN trademark. (See Exhibit A).
- 7. In recognition of the distinctive quality of the TRADESMAN trademark. the United States Patent and Trademark Office has granted United States Trademark Registration No. 2,205,373 for the TRADESMAN trademark. (See Exhibit B).
- 8. U. S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 for TRADESMAN are in full force and effect, and Plaintiff is the owner of the trademarks, the registrations therefor and the goodwill associated therewith.

- 9. U.S. Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 has achieved incontestable status pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1065.
- 10. U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 survived Cancellation Proceedings No. 30,322 filed by Snap-On Tools Company on March 23, 2000.
- 11. Each of U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 is prima facie evidence of the validity of the registration, of Plaintiff's ownership of the TRADESMAN mark, and of Plaintiff's exclusive right to use the TRADESMAN mark in commerce on the types of goods identified in the Registrations, as provided in 15 U.S C §§ 1057(b) and 1115(a).
- 12. U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 are constructive notice of Plaintiff's claim of ownership of the TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1072.
- 13. PLAINTIFF also has pending trademark applications before the United States Patent and Trademark Office directed to the term "TRADESMAN". All of the foregoing marks, including the marks registered in U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373, are collectively referred to hereinafter as the "TRADESMAN mark".
- 14. Plaintiff has expended considerable time, money and effort in developing, advertising and promoting the TRADESMAN mark to acquire the goodwill associated therewith. Plaintiff has made such investment to cause consumers to recognize the TRADESMAN mark as distinctly designating Plaintiff's products as originating and otherwise being affiliated with Plaintiff in order to further develop and trade upon the goodwill associated with the TRADESMAN mark.
- 15. The TRADESMAN mark has acquired secondary meaning in the mind of the public which equates the mark with Plaintiff and Plaintiff's products.

- 16. Plaintiff has expended considerable time, money and effort in enforcing its rights in the TRADESMAN mark against other companies using, or attempting to use, the TRADESMAN mark in connection with goods and services identical to and/or confusingly similar to those goods with which Plaintiff uses its TRADESMAN mark.
- 17. Upon information and belief, Defendant is engaged in the business of manufacturing, marketing and distributing power tools and machines for use in application including drilling, tapping, milling, turning, sawing, abrasive finishing and surface grinding.
- 18. Defendant and/or its predecessor-in-interest Wilton have used, and upon information and belief, continue to use the TRADESMAN mark on their products, including "Mill/Drill Machines", "Power Feed Mill/Drill Machines", "Drilling Machines", "Drill Presses", "Belt Sanders", "Combination Belt & Disc Finishing Machines", "Combination Wood/Metal Vertical Band Saws", "Lathes", and "Vises".
- 19. Upon information and belief, Defendant primarily markets power tools and machines with the TRADESMAN mark for use in work shops, but does not restrict sales to such work shops, and as such markets and promotes power tools and machines for home workshop and commercial use generally.
- 20. Upon information and belief, Defendant's use of the TRADESMAN mark has not been continuous, and Defendant and/or Wilton has admitted that any use of the TRADESMAN mark by Defendant has not created any rights for Defendant in the mark. Upon further information and belief, Defendant and/or Wilton reinstituted use of the TRADESMAN mark after each period of abandoned use.
- 21. Neither Defendant nor its predecessor-in-interest Wilton has ever received authorization from Plaintiff to use the TRADESMAN mark.
- 22. Notwithstanding Plaintiff's continuous and exclusive use and promotion of the TRADESMAN mark, Defendant and/or Wilton appropriated for their own benefit and use the TRADESMAN mark in connection with products identical or

substantially identical to Plaintiff's products, including power tools, for sales and promotions which target the same class of customers.

- 23. On June 29, 1995, a letter was sent to Wilton by Plaintiff to notify Wilton of Plaintiff's rights under the trademark laws with respect to the TRADESMAN mark, and requesting Wilton to cease-and-desist use of the TRADESMAN mark. A copy of this letter is attached hereto as Exhibit C.
- 24. On August 3, 1995, a letter was sent to Wilton by Plaintiff requesting evidence to substantiate Wilton's claim of continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark, as well as examples of how Wilton was using the mark in connection with its products. A copy of this letter is attached hereto as Exhibit D. Wilton never provided any evidence of such continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark in response to Plaintiff's letter.
- 25. Plaintiff was not aware of Wilton use of the TRADESMAN mark for approximately ten years preceding 1995.
- 26. Upon information and belief, due to Wilton's failure to respond to Plaintiff's letters and prove continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark, Plaintiff understood that Wilton had abandoned use of the TRADESMAN mark for a period of time following Plaintiff's letters in 1995 up and until about 2001.
- 27. Upon information and belief, after a period of abandoned use of the TRADESMAN mark between about 1995 and about 2001, Wilton again began using the mark in about 2001 without permission from Plaintiff.
- 28. On October 15, 2001, a letter was sent to Wilton on behalf of Plaintiff to remind Wilton of Plaintiff's rights under the trademark laws with respect to the TRADESMAN mark, and again requesting Wilton to cease-and-desist use of the TRADESMAN mark. A copy of this letter is attached hereto as Exhibit E.
- 29. A December 7, 2001 letter, attached hereto as Exhibit F, confirms discussions between counsel for Plaintiff and Ernie Torkilsen of Wilton concerning the

TRADESMAN mark. It was Plaintiff's understanding at that time that Wilton had agreed via oral communications to terminate further use of the TRADESMAN mark in connection with power tools, including without limitation the "Tradesman Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Power Feed Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Drilling Machines"; "Tradesman Drill Presses"; "Tradesman Belt Sanders"; "Tradesman Combination Belt & Disc Finishing Machine"; and "Tradesman Combination Wood/Metal Vertical Band Saws". It was also Plaintiff's understanding that such agreement was subject to a mutually-agreeable phase out period during which Wilton would be permitted to transition to a different mark. It was further Plaintiff's understanding that Wilton would provide Plaintiff with evidence and documents evidencing any prior continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark in connection with vises.

- 30. Wilton never directly responded, in writing, to Plaintiff's December 7, 2001 letter and failed at that time to provide any evidence of prior continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark.
- 31. In about April 2004, Plaintiff became aware that Wilton, now owned by and associated with Defendant, was again using the TRADESMAN mark in connection with power tools and machines identical to and/or confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line, including, but not limited to promotion of products on a web site operated by Blue Ridge Machinery, "www.blueridge.dreamscape.com".
- 32. Conversations between Plaintiff and Defendant were again conducted in 2004, at which time, Defendant asserted that it did not plan to remove the TRADESMAN mark from its products. Defendant reasserted its position in a letter dated May 14, 2004 from its counsel addressed to Plaintiff. A copy of this letter is attached hereto as Exhibit G.
- 33. Defendant continues to use the TRADESMAN mark, including with respect to power tools identical and/or confusingly similar to Plaintiff's products, though Defendant asserts that it is not using the term "TRADESMAN" in a trademark sense and therefore is not alleging any rights to the TRADESMAN mark.

Count I

Federal Trademark Infringement

- 34. Plaintiff realleges each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-33 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.
- 35. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a product designation confusing y similar to Plaintiff's federally registered TRADESMAN trademarks, namely U.S. Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 (Exhibit A), in connection with products identical to or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception, as to the source or origin of the services, and as such infringes upon Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1114.
- 36. Upon information and belief, Defendant's use and misappropriation of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark in connection with products identical and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is part of a deliberate plan of Defendant to trade on the valuable goodwill and reputation established by Plaintiff in the TRADESMAN mark and, as such, the infringement is willful.
- 37. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin of the products provide by Defendant, and as such infringes Plaintiff's TRADESMAN pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114 and 1116.
- 38. As a result of Defendant's infringement of the TRADESMAN mark, Plaintiff has been damaged and will continue to be damaged in an amount that cannot be presently ascertained or adequately compensated for in money damages, and will suffer further injury and irreparable harm unless and until Defendant's acts of infringement are enjoined.

Count II

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Federal Trademark Infringement

- 39. Plaintiff realleges each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-38 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.
- 40. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a product designation confusingly similar to Plaintiff's federally registered TRADESMAN trademarks, namely U.S. Trademark Registration No. 2,205,373 (Exhibit B), in connection with products identical to or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception, as to the source or origin of the services, and as such infringes upon Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1114.
- 41. Upon information and belief, Defendant's use and misappropriation of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark in connection with products identical and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is part of a deliberate plan of Defendant to trade on the valuable goodwill and reputation established by Plaintiff in the TRADESMAN mark and, as such, the infringement is willful.
- 42. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin of the products provide by Defendant, and as such infringes Plaintiff's TRADESMAN pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114 and 1116.
- 43. As a result of Defendant's infringement of the TRADESMAN mark, Plaintiff has been damaged and will continue to be damaged in an amount that cannot be presently ascertained or adequately compensated for in money damages, and will suffer further injury and irreparable harm unless and until Defendant's acts of infringement are enjoined.

Count III

Lanham Act Violations - False Designation of Origin and False Advertising

- 44. Plaintiff realleges each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-43 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.
 - 45. This count arises under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)
- 46. Plaintiff has developed substantial goodwill and customer recognition in its TRADESMAN product line through extensive promotion and advertising.
- 47. Upon information and belief, Defendant and its predecessor-in-interest Wilton have had prior knowledge of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark. Defendant and Wilton were notified of the TRADESMAN mark by way of at least Plaintiff's letters demanding that Defendant's and Wilton's infringing activities cease. (See Exhibits C and E).
- 48. Defendant's use of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to identify Defendant's products is confusingly similar to use of the TRADESMAN mark by Plaintiff.
- 49. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin of the products provide by Defendant, and as such infringes Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a).
- 50. Due to confusion created by Defendant's use of the TRADESMAN mark, Defendant has unjustly received the benefit of Plaintiff's advertising and promotion of and goodwill in the TRADESMAN mark and product line.

- 51. The TRADESMAN mark is willfully and intentionally used by Defendant with the intent to trade on and benefit from the goodwill associated with Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark and product line in the minds of purchasers.
- 52. Defendant's use of the TRADESMAN mark to identify its products is likely to mislead and misrepresent the source or origin of Defendant's products, and results in a false belief by consumers that Defendant's business is associated with Plaintiff and is authorized to use the TRADESMAN mark.
- 53. As a result of Defendant's false or misleading representations, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that is unknown and cannot at the present time be ascertained.
- 54. Unless enjoined by this Court, Defendant will continue to make false or misleading representations, to Plaintiff's continuing and irreparable injury for which there is no adequate remedy at law.

COUNT IV

Unfair Competition

- 55. Plaintiff realleges each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-54 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.
- 56. By virtue of the foregoing acts, Defendant has used unfair methods of competition and unfair acts or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of a trade or commerce, all in violation of the Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, § 1 *et seq.* and the common law of unfair competition.
- 57. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin of the products provide by Defendant, and as such

is a violation of the common law of unfair competition and is an unfair trade practice under applicable law.

- 58. As a result of Defendant's unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that is unknown and cannot at the present time be ascertained.
- 59. Unless enjoined by this Court, Defendant will continue to use unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices, to Plaintiff's continuing and irreparable injury for which Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, as relief, Plaintiff prays that:

- 1. Defendant, its owners, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, affiliates and all others in active concert or participation with it, be preliminarily and permanently enjoined and restrained from (1) using Plaintiff's TRADESMAN trademarks, logos and other designations or indicia which are likely to cause confusion mistake, or deception with respect to Plaintiff's rights; and (2) otherwise infringing rights in Plaintiff's TRADESMAN trademarks, and competing unfairly with Plaintiff.
- 2. Defendant accounts for and pays to Plaintiff such damages, together with prejudgment interest thereon, as Plaintiff has sustained as a consequence of Defendant's infringement of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN marks, and account for and return to Plaint ff any money, profits and advantages wrongfully gained by Defendant because of such infringing actions.
- 3. Defendant accounts for and pays to Plaintiff such damages arising from Defendant's violations of the Lanham Act § 43(a), and Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, § 1 *et seq.*, and the common law of unfair competition.

- 4. Plaintiff be awarded treble damages due to Defendant's willful infringement.
- 5. Plaintiff be awarded its reasonable attorney's fees, costs, interest, and other expenses as allowed by 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a), Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, § 9, or any other applicable provision.
- 6. Plaintiff be awarded its damages for injury to goodwill and reputation caused by Defendant.
- 7. Defendant be ordered to post in a publication approved by Plaintiff an advertisement acknowledging ownership by Plaintiff of the TRADESMAN marks, or issue a retraction or apology by other such means as approved by Plaintiff.
- 8. Plaintiff be awarded such other and further relief as this Court may dee n just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC.

Plaintiff

Dated: Mas a

By J

J. Kevin Grogar (BBO635089)

Arthur F. Dionne (BBO125760)

McCormick, Paulding & Huber LLP

1350 Main Street

5th Floor

Springfield, MA 01103

Tel.: 860-549-5290 Fax: 860-527-0464

Attorney for the Plaintiff

Of Counsel:

Wm. Tucker Griffith McCormick, Paulding & Huber LLP CityPlace II, 185 Asylum Street Hartford, CT 06103-4102

Tel.: (860) 549-5290 Fax: (860) 527-0464 Int, CL: 7

Prior U.S. CL: 23

United States Patent and Trademark Office Corrected

Reg. No. 1,565,584 Registered Nov. 14, 1989 OG Date Aug. 6, 1996

TRADEMARK PRINCIPAL REGISTER

TRADESMAN

POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS INC (MASSACHUSETTS CORPORATION) 3 CRAFTSMAN ROAD EAST WINDSOR, CT 02/082

FOR STATIONARY/BUNCH BLEC-TRIC POWER TOOLS, NAMELY, TABLE SAWS, FLOOP DRICE, PRESSES MITTER SAWS FLOOR BAND SAWS, FLOOR POINTERS AND PARTS THEREFOR, IN CLASS 7 (U.S. CL. 23)

FIRST USE 2.6 1981, IN COMMUNICE 7.6 1985.

SER MOL 73 73 5976, 541 £ D 1 12 1960

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of The Patent and Indemork. Office to be affixed on Aug. 6, 1996.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS



Int Cl.: 7

Prior U.S. Cls.: 13, 19, 21, 23, 31, 34 and 35

Reg. No. 2,205,373

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Registered Nov. 24, 1998

TRADEMARK PRINCIPAL REGISTER

TRADESMAN

POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC. (MASSA-CHUSETTS CORPORATION) I CRAFTSMAN ROAD EAST WINDSOR, CT (6688

FOR: FOWER TOOLS, NAMELY, NAILERS, SANDERS, LATHES, SAWS, MORTISING MACHINES, DRILL PRESSES, SHAPERS, FLANERS, GRINUERS, TOINTERS, DUST COLLECTORS, AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREFOR, INCLUDING CHUCKS, BLADES, BITS, CHISELS, KNIVES, DISCS, DRUMS, WHEELS, BELTS, SLEEVES, ABRASIVE ATTACHMENTS, ARBORS, DADOS, MOULDING INSERTS, HEX KEYS, BRACKETS, PLATES, VISES, JAWS, CLAMPS, GUAGES, RIP

FENCES. GUIDES, EXTENSIONS. IIGS. BLOCKS, WORK SUPPORTS. ROLLERS, STANDS, CASTERS. TABLES. TOOL COLLECTORS. DUST CHUTES. VACUUM ATTACHMENTS, CONTROL. SWITCHES, CLEANERS. CHUCK, ADAPTORS, AND PUSH BLOCKS, IN CLASS J (U.S. CLS. 13, 19, 21, 21, 31, 34 AND 35). FIRST. USE 2-1-1987. IN COMMERCE 2-1-1987.

OWNER OF U.S. REG. NO. 1,565,594.

SER. NO. 75-345,996. FILED 4-25-1997.

GEOFFREY M. MCNUTT, EXAMINING ATTORNEY





POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC.

Corporate Headquarters
3 Craftsman Road East Windsor, CT 06088 U.S.A.
Tel: (203) 654-1761 Fax: (203) 654-1937

June 29, 1995

Band Sawi Drill Presses

Wilton Corporation Office Of The President 300 South Hicks Road Palatine, IL 60067-6941

Dear Sir

It has been brought to our attention that Wilton is using the trademarked name of "Tradesman" on some of their product.

Please be advised that the Tradesman name is a registered trademark for use on Power Tools and it is held by Power Tool Specialists, Inc.

Therefore, we respectfully ask at this time that you cease and desist from any further use of this brand name. Also, that any and all Rerature bearing the Tradesman name be scrapped.

Thank you for your - terstanding and we await your confirmation.

Sincerely

POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC.

Anthony J. Borgatti

AJB:sg

Endosure

cc Chapin, Neal & Dempsey, P.C., Jack Dempsey

EXHIBIT C

placed the se



POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC.

Corporate Headquarters
3 Craftsman Road East Windsor, CT 06088 U.S.A.
Tel: (203) 654-1761 Fax: (203) 654-1937

August 3, 1995

Mr. Ernie Torkilsen WILTON CORPORATION 300 South Hicks Road Palatine, IL 60067-6941

Dear Mr. Torkilsen

I am in receipt of a copy of your fax to Lawrence Chieng with regard to your using the Tradesman name. I am sorry you didn't address your correspondence directly to me as solicited in my letter.

As you might not be aware, we have used the **Tradesman** name for over twenty years. We decided to trademark the name and it was registered in 1989. Further, as you might not be aware, the trademark "**Tradesman**" became incontestable after five years of continued use in commerce and, therefore, provides conclusive evidence of ownership and the right to its exclusive use. In this connection, the mark's incontestable status limits the defenses afforded to an infringer.

If Wilton Corporation's use of the name is only to describe its goods and they have used the name in this capacity for twenty years, possibly some concessions can be reached. I would like to ask that you provide Power Tool Specialists and its attorneys with proof of Wilton's claims of its continuous use of the "Tradesman" mark over the past twenty years and also please furnish us with examples of how the mark was and is currently being used.

Mr. Torkilsen, please be advised this is not a Rexon issue and is in no way connected to them. As I said, I am sure we can come to an agreement and "drop this issue" with proof of your claims.

Sincerely

POWER TOOL SPECIALISTS, INC.

Anthony J. Borgatti

President

AJB:sg



CUMMINGS & LOCKWOOD

CityPlaco I 185 Asylum Street Hartford, CT 06103-3495 860.275.6700 Fox 860.724,3397 www.cl-law.com

Stamford Hartford Greenwich New Haven West Hartford Naples Bonita Springs

October 15, 2001

Mark D. Giarratana Also Admitted in New York 860-275-6719, Fax 860-560-5919 mgiarr@cl-law.com

Via Facsimile and Registered Mail/Return Receipt Requested

Wilton Corporation Attention: President 300 South Hicks Road Palatine. Illinois 60067-6730

Re:

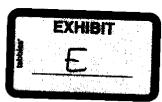
Infringement of the Trademark TRADESMAN® Owned by Power Tool

Specialists, Inc.

Dear Sirs:

We represent Power Tool Specialists, Inc. of Windsor, Connecticut, which manufactures and markets a variety of power tools, and accessories therefor, throughout the United States and elsewhere under the well-known trademark TRADESMAN®. The TRADESMAN® trademark is protected by United States trademark registration nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 (copies enclosed). Power Tool Specialists, Inc. has invested substantially in the development and use of the TRADESMAN® trademark, and views its intellectual property — particularly its TRADESMAN® trademark — as important and valuable corporate assets, and protects them to the fullest extent allowable by law.

We have recently become aware that your company is using and promoting the mark TRADESMAN for the same types of goods with which Power Tool Specialists, Inc. has long been using its TRADESMAN® mark. The infringing goods include, without limitation, the "Tradesman Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Power Feed Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Drilling Machines"; "Tradesman Drill Presses"; "Tradesman Belt Sanders"; "Tradesman Combination Belt & Disc Finishing Machine"; "Tradesman Combination Wood/Metal Vertical Band Saws"; and "Tradesman Vises". We have enclosed for your reference copies of exemplary advertisements published by your company and reflecting its infringement of the TRADESMAN mark. Please be advised that these activities constitute infringement of Power Tool Specialists, Inc.'s valuable trademark rights under federal, state and common law, and violate other applicable law, including unfair competition and unfair trade practices. Moreover, these activities may subject your company to substantial damages, penalties and injunctive remedies.



Accordingly, Power Tool Specialists, Inc. demands that your company, including any and all of its affiliates, immediately cease any and all display, manufacture, ordering, distribution, promotion, advertising, offering for sale, and/or sale of the foregoing power tools, vises and any other products under the TRADESMAN mark, or otherwise in connection with the TRADESMAN mark, and/or any confusingly or deceptively similar mark. Power Tools Specialists, Inc. also demands that your company account for and make available to us no later than October 31, 2001 exemplary samples or copies of all nameplates, labels, catalogs, advertisements and other promotional materials bearing the TRADESMAN mark, along with written assurance that your company will not further display, manufacture, have manufactured, order, distribute, promote, advertise, offer for sale, and/or sell any products under the TRADESMAN mark, and/or any confusingly or deceptively similar mark.

Nothing in this letter may be construed as a waiver of any rights or claims of Power Tool Specialists, Inc.

We will look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Giarratana

Enclosures .

cc.

Power Tool Specialists, Inca

.HrtLib1:377660.1 10/15/01

À l'arinership of Professional Corporations

CUMMINGS & LOCKWOOD

CityPlace | 186 Asylum Street | Harfford, CT 06103-3495 | 860.275.6700 | Fax 860.724.3397 | www.cl-law.com

Stamford Hartford Greenwich New Haven West Hartford Naples Bonito Springs

December 7, 2001

Mark D. Giarratona Also Admitted in New York 860-275-6719, Fax 860-560-5919 mgiarr@ol-low.com

Via Facsimile and Regular Mail

Mr. Ernie Torkilsen Wilton Machinery 300 S. Hicks Road Palentine, Illingis 60067

Re:

Inflingement of the Trademark TRADESMAN® Owned by Power Tool

Specialists, Inc.

Dear Brnie:

I am writing to confirm our recent discussions concerning the TRADESMAN® mark owned by Power Tool Specialists, Inc. ("PTS").

TRADESMAN mark in connection with power tools, including without limitation, the "Tradesman Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Power Feed Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Drilling Machines"; "Tradesman Drill Presses"; "Tradesman Belt Sanders"; "Tradesman Combination Belt & Disc Finishing Machine"; and "Tradesman Combination Wood/Metal Vertical Band Saws". I further understand that such agreement is subject to a mutually-agreeable phase out period during which Wilton may transition to a different mark.

Second, we understand that you assert that Wilton Corp. has been using the TRADESMAN mark in connection with vises since prior to PTS' first use of this mark. You had indicated that you would fax to me copies of documents that you might have evidencing such prior use. Accordingly, please fax and/or mail to me copies of any such documents that Wilton Corp. believes to establish a date of first use of the TRADESMAN mark prior to PTS' first use of the mark. We also request that you provide us with any evidence that you have establishing that any such use of the TRADESMAN mark by Wilton in connection with vises has been continuous since the date of first use.

Please note that it is important that we promptly resolve this matter. The TRADESMAN mark is an extremely valuable mark to PTS. In addition, we recently have been made aware of instances of consumer confusion arising from Wilton's use of the TRADESMAN mark. Please be advised



that PTS will take all reasonable steps necessary to protect and enforce its rights under the TRADESMAN mark.

I will look forward to your reply.

Very truly yours,

Want D. Timentina

Mark D. Giarratana

cc; Mr. Anthony J. Borgatti

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MORGAN L. FITCH, JR. FRANCID AL EVEN JULIUS TABIN

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STEVEN G. PARMELES

BRUSE & MANSFIELD

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HICHAEL A. MANZO"

SCOTT A. MENGHINI

NORMAN M. KUNITA

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May 14, 2004

EDWARD E. CLAIR JON A. BIRMINGHAM JOHN E. CTAUS STEVEN M. FREELAND DONNA C. BECKER MICHAEL O. VEANICAR BRIAN S. CLISE MARTIN R. BADER DEREK L. PRESTIN MARK A. BORBOS DAVID R. JAGLOWEKI TIMOTHY R. BAUMANN JEFFREY A. GHELSTROM NICHOLAS T. PETERS KENNETH C. PLOCHINGKI MEGAN J. REDMOND

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OF COUNSEL

GEDAGE W. DPELLMIRE, JR. GEODGE H. SPENCER, P.C.

TECHNICAL ADVISOR JOHN M. BROKK, PA.D.

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VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Bob James Sales & Marketing Manager REXON North America Power Tool Specialists, Inc. 3 Craftsman Road East Windsor, CT 06088

Re: Allegation of Infringement regarding the designation "WILTON TRADESMAN"

Dear Mr. James:

We represent WMH Tool Group, Inc. in Intellectual Property and other related matters. We are in receipt of and have reviewed an email dated April 16, 2004 to Blue Ridge Machine, which purports to originate from you. A copy of this email is attached hereto as Exhibit A. In the email, you allege that Blue Ridge is infringing your company's registered trademark TRADESMAN by its sales of WILTON branded goods in which the descriptive term "Tradesman" appears as identified by certain Order numbers and you demand that Blue Ridge immediately remove references to the goods from its website.

Please be advised that the allegedly infringing goods of which you complain originate from WMH Tool Group, Inc. or its predecessors (hereinafter collectively referred to as "WMH"). Thus, please direct all future communications concerning these goods to our firm. In light of the allegations set forth in your email of April 16, 2004, we further actvise you that your communications to WMH's dealers and distributors, such as Blue Ridge; constitutes a tortious interference with WMH's business relationship with its dealers and distributors, which is an actionable offense under the laws of the State of Illinois and others. WMH's ownership of the WILTON mark is well known within the power and hand tool industry; thus, you could have and



Mr. Bob James May 14, 2004 Page 2 of 3

should have directly addressed this matter with WMH, without seeking to disrupt the business of WMH's distributors and dealers. WMH expressly reserves its rights to seek injunction, monetary damages and other relief arising from your actions on behalf of Power Tool Specialists, Inc. ("PTS").

WMH strongly believes in protecting its own intellectual property rights and respecting those of others. However, we believe your claim is without merit because the use of the designation "Tradesman" by WMH and its dealers and distributors is purely a descriptive fair use of this term and, even if considered a trademark use, WMH's use of this term predates PTS by more than thirty years on tools. More particularly, we have reviewed the internet-based records of the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office in regard to PTS's alleged rights in the term TRADESMAN and note that PTS's first claim of use for this mark on power tools in International Class 7 is no earlier that 1987. As you likely already know, the term "Tradesman" originated in 1597 to describe "a worker in a skilled trade" or similar definition. In short, to the extent the term "Tradesman" can function as a trademark, PTS adopted a very weak trademark with a common and ongoing descriptive meaning that long predates PTS's claimed dates of first use.

WMH has been using the designation "Tradesman" in connection with its line of vises, which are and have been sold throughout the United States and elsewhere, from the mid 1950s on. Copies of some of WMH's catalogs evidencing such use during this time period are attached hereto as Exhibit B for your review. In each example, the designation "Tradesman" is used as a descriptive term to identify the general application or field of use for the goods. We also note that the term "Tradesman" is always used in close proximity to the mark WILTON. Thus, the use of the term "Tradesman" PTS is complaining about is merely a descriptive fair use of this term under U.S. Tradesmark Law. Alternatively, to the extent such use of the term "Tradesman" can even function as a trademark, WMH's use predates PTS's use and is thereby protected under U.S. Tradesmark Law.

Similarly, WMH has been using the designation "Tradesman" in connection with power tools, the same as or related to the equipment you identified by "Order number" in your email of April 16, 2004, from the early 1980s on. Copies of some of WMH's catalogs evidencing such use during this time period are attached hereto as Exhibit C. In each example, the designation "Tradesman" precedes the type of power tool and is a descriptive use of the term identifying the general application or field of use for the goods. Furthermore, in the specific instances you address in your April 16, 2004 email, each use of the designation "Tradesman" appears under the mark WILTON and only describes the general field of use for the item. Your own email even acknowledges this when you state "Your webiste [sic] has several entries under WILTON brand..." Thus, the use of the term "Tradesman" you complain of is a fair use only made to properly describe the general application or field of use for WMH's goods. Alternatively, to the extent WMH's use of the term "Tradesman" can even function as a trademark, WMH's use predates PTS's use and is thereby protected under U.S. Trademark Law.

Mr. Bob James May 14, 2004 Page 3 of 3

In addition to the above, the power tools that WMH sells under the Order numbers listed in your email are substantially items for use in industrial work shops by skilled machinists. The goods sold by PTS with the TRADESMAN mark are directed to the home user, or similar light-duty applications. For example, PTS's website states "TRADESMAN power tools are designed for home workshop craftsman and light commercial users ..." Thus, in light of the differences in commercial channels of trade between the goods, the purchasers of such goods exercise sufficient care to distinguish between PTS's TRADESMAN logo and WMH's descriptive fair use of the term in connection with its WILTON mark.

Furthermore, PTS's use of its term TRADESMAN is far from exclusive within the overall tool field, and in addition, various other descriptive uses of the term are apparent from a brief search of the internet for websites directed to consumers both in and outside the United States. At the same time, our research does not disclose PTS's designation TRADESMAN in prominent use on the internet in connection with power tools, but rather only appearing sporadically among other generic or descriptive uses of the term. Absent PTS's efforts to promote the term "Tradesman" as a source identifier, the scope of protection for the term as a mark must be narrow, and the prevalent use of the term in a descriptive sense, such as WMH's, understandable. The descriptive term used in close proximity to WMH's mark WILTON extinguishes the risk of confusion.

WMH strongly objects to the unfair and anti-competitive business tactics taken by PTS and you in seeking to disrupt WMH's business relationship with its dealers and distributors and demand that you cease all such activities. In view of the foregoing, however, will assume this addresses your concerns and will consider this matter closed. Notwithstanding the above, WMH hereby reserves all of its rights and other defenses to your allegations of infringement.

Very truly yours,

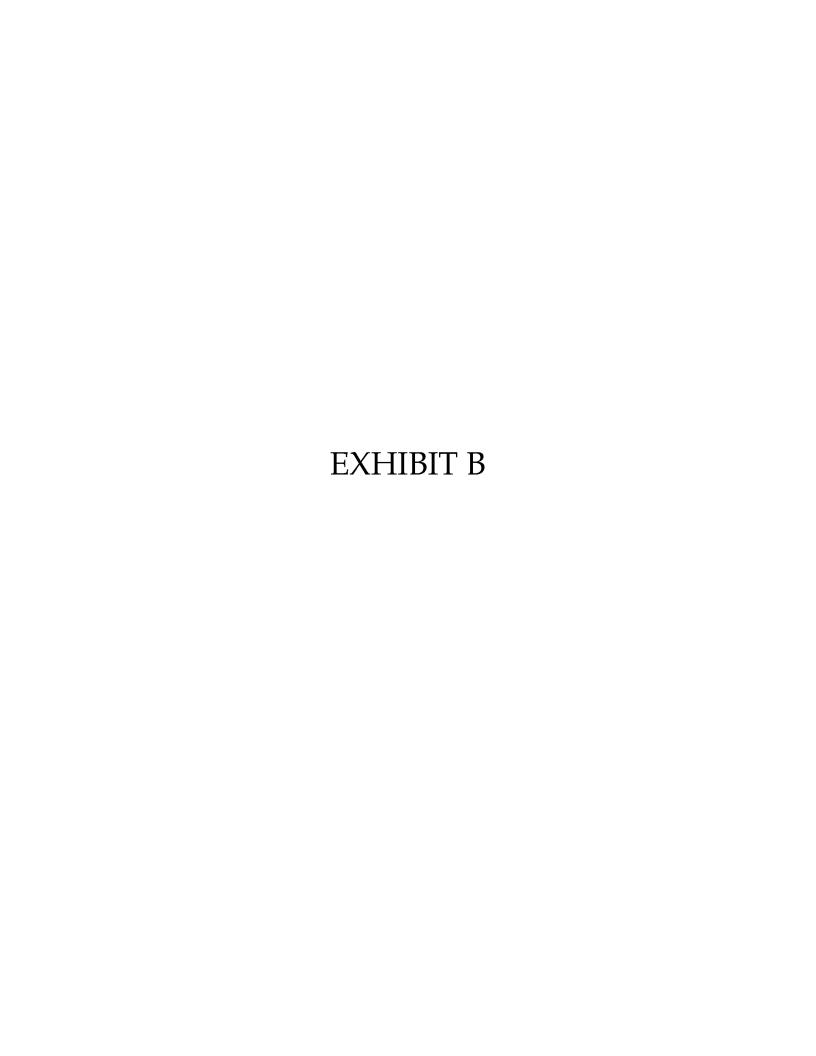
Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery

31 L/L -

Edward E. Clair

EEXC/340692

cc: Anthony Borgatti, President, Power Tool Specialists, Inc. Enclosures



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

	
POWER TOOL SPECIALIST, INC.,)
Plaintiff,) Civil Action No. 04-30103 MAP) (KPN)
V.	Judge Michael A. PonsorMagistrate Judge Kenneth P. Neiman
WMH TOOL GROUP, INC.,) Jury Trial Demanded
Defendant.)
)
WMH TOOL GROUP, INC.,)
Counter Plaintiff,)
v.)
POWER TOOL SPECIALIST, INC.,)
Counter Defendant,)
and)
REXON USA, CORP. d/b/a REXON NORTH AMERICA,)))
Third-Party Defendant,)
and)
REXON INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION, LTD.,)))
Third-Party Defendant.))

AMENDED ANSWER, COUNTERCLAIM & THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT

Defendant, WMH Tool Group, Inc. ("Defendant"), answers the Complaint of Plaintiff, Power Tool Specialists, Inc. ("Plaintiff"), as follows:

AMENDED ANSWER

The Parties

1. Plaintiff is a corporation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and has a principal place of business at 3 Craftsman Road, East Windsor, Connecticut 06088.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 1 and, therefore, denies the same.

2. Upon information and belief, Defendant (f/k/a Wilton Corporation) is a corporation of the State of Washington, and has a place of business at 300 South Hicks Road, Palatine, Illinois 60067-6900 and corporate headquarters at 2420 Vantage Drive, Elgin, Illinois 60123. Upon further information and belief, Defendant is a corporation by merger which included the former Wilton Corporation (hereinafter "Wilton"), a corporation of the state of Colorado having a principal place of business at 300 South Hicks Road, Palatine, Illinois 60067-6900.

ANSWER: Defendant is a corporation of the State of Washington with a place of business at 2420 Vantage Drive, Elgin, Illinois 60123, and did acquire and merge Wilton Corporation, a corporation of the State of Colorado, which had a principal place of business at 300 South Hicks Road, Palatine, Illinois 60067-6900, therewith; however, Defendant denies all remaining allegations contained in paragraph 2.

Jurisdiction and Venue

3. Jurisdiction of this Court with respect to the claims set forth herein arises under the Trademark Laws of the United States, as set forth in Title 15, United States Code; and for the related claims of unfair competition, false designation of origin under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)) and Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 et seq. This Court also has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1332, as the matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) and arises between an entity of this state and an entity of another state. The Court also has jurisdiction pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1121 and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a) and (b), and under the doctrine of supplemental and pendant jurisdiction.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation that the matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) and, therefore, denies same, but otherwise admits the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 3.

4. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(a).

ANSWER: Venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. §1391, but Defendant denies that venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a).

Background Facts Common to All Counts

5. Plaintiff is, and has been at all times relevant to the matters alleged in this Complaint, engaged in the business of providing bench and stationary power tools marketed under the TRADESMAN Brand Name.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 5 and, therefore, denies the same.

6. In recognition of the distinctive quality of the TRADESMAN trademark, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has granted United States Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 for the TRADESMAN trademark.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that the USPTO has granted United States Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 for the TRADESMAN trademark, but denies all other allegations contained in paragraph 6.

7. In recognition of the distinctive quality of the TRADESMAN trademark, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has granted United States Trademark Registration No. 2,205,383 for the TRADESMAN trademark.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that the USPTO has granted United States Trademark Registration No. 2,205,373 for the TRADESMAN trademark, but denies all other allegations contained in paragraph 7.

8. U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 for TRADESMAN are in full force and effect, and Plaintiff is the owner of the trademarks, the registrations therefor and the goodwill associated therewith.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 8 and, therefore, denies the same.

9. U.S. Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 has achieved incontestable status pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1065.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 9 and, therefore, denies the same.

10. U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 survived Cancellation Proceedings No. 30,322 filed by Snap-On Tools Company on March 23, 2000.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 10 and, therefore, denies the same.

11. Each of U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 is prima facie evidence of the validity of the registration, of Plaintiff's ownership of the TRADESMAN mark, and of Plaintiff's exclusive right to use the TRADESMAN mark in commerce on the types of goods identified in the Registrations, as provided in 15 U.S.C. §§ 1057(b) and 1115(a).

ANSWER: Defendant admits that trademark registrations, under 15 U.S.C. §§ 1057(b) and 1115(a), are prima facie evidence of the validity of the registered mark and of the registration of the mark, of the registrant's ownership of the mark, and of the registrant's exclusive right to use the registered mark in commerce on or in connection with the goods or services specified in the registration, but further clarifies that such prima facie evidence is subject to proof of infringement and to any legal or equitable defenses or defects.

12. U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 are constructive notice of Plaintiff's claim of ownership of the TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1072.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that registration of a mark on the principal register is constructive notice of the registrant's claim of ownership thereof, but denies all other allegations contained in paragraph 12.

13. Plaintiff also has pending trademark applications before the United States Patent and Trademark Office directed to the term "TRADESMAN". All of the foregoing marks, including the marks registered in U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373, are collectively referred to hereinafter as the "TRADESMAN mark".

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 13 and, therefore, denies the same. Accordingly, Defendant considers all references to the "TRADESMAN mark" as collectively referring only to U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373.

14. Plaintiff has expended considerable time, money and effort in developing advertising and promoting the TRADESMAN mark to acquire the goodwill associated therewith. Plaintiff has made such investment to cause consumers to recognize the TRADESMAN mark as distinctly designating Plaintiff's products as originating and otherwise being affiliated with Plaintiff in order to further develop and trade upon the goodwill associated with the TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 14 and, therefore, denies the same.

15. The TRADESMAN mark has acquired secondary meaning in the mind of the public which equates the mark with Plaintiff and Plaintiff's products.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 15.

16. Plaintiff has expended considerable time, money, and effort in enforcing its rights in the TRADESMAN mark against other companies using, or attempting to use, the

TRADESMAN mark in connection with goods and services identical to and/or confusingly similar to those goods with which Plaintiff uses its TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 16 and, therefore, denies the same.

17. Upon information and belief, Defendant is engaged in the business of manufacturing, marketing and distributing power tools and machines for use in application [sic] including drilling, tapping, milling, turning, sawing, abrasive finishing and surface grinding.

ANSWER: Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph 17.

18. Defendant and/or its predecessor-in-interest Wilton have used, and upon information and belief, continue to use the TRADESMAN mark on their products, including "Mill/Drill Machines", "Power Feed Mill/Drill Machines", "Drilling Machines", "Drill Presses", "Belt Sanders", "Combination Belt & Disc Finishing Machines", "Combination Wood/Metal Vertical Band Saws", "Lathes", and "Vises".

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it and/or its predecessors have used the term "Tradesman" on and in conjunction with products, including "Mill/Drill Machines", "Power Feed Mill/Drill Machines", "Drilling Machines", "Drill Presses", "Belt Sanders", "Combination Belt & Disc Finishing Machines", "Combination Wood/Metal Vertical Band Saws", "Lathes", and "Vises", but denies all other allegations contained in paragraph 18.

19. Upon information and belief, Defendant primarily markets power tools and machines with the TRADESMAN mark for use in work shops, but does not restrict sales to such work shops, and as such markets and promotes power tools and machines for home workshop and commercial use generally.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 19.

20. Upon information and belief, Defendant's use of the TRADESMAN mark has not been continuous, and Defendant and/or Wilton has admitted that any use of the TRADESMAN mark by Defendant has not created any rights for Defendant in the mark. Upon further information and belief, Defendant and/or Wilton reinstituted use of the TRADESMAN mark after each period of abandoned use.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 20.

21. Neither Defendant nor its predecessor-in-interest Wilton has ever received authorization from Plaintiff to use the TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it has not received authorization from Plaintiff to use the TRADESMAN mark, but further clarifies that it does not need authorization from Plaintiff to use the term TRADESMAN because it has been using this term in conjunction with tools decades before Plaintiff alleges it began use of the designation.

22. Notwithstanding Plaintiff's continuous and exclusive use and promotion of the TRADESMAN mark, Defendant and/or Wilton appropriated for their own benefit and use the TRADESMAN mark in connection with products identical or substantially identical to Plaintiff's products, including power tools, for sales and promotions which target the same class of customers.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 22.

23. On June 29, 1995, a letter was sent to Wilton by Plaintiff to notify Wilton of Plaintiff's rights under the trademark laws with respect to the TRADESMAN mark, and requesting Wilton to cease-and-desist use of the TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it received a letter dated June 29, 1995 from Plaintiff, the language of which speaks for itself, but denies all other allegations contained in paragraph 23.

24. On August 3, 1995, a letter was sent to Wilton by Plaintiff requesting evidence to substantiate Wilton's claim of continuous use of the TRAESMAN mark, as well as examples of how Wilton was using the mark in connection with its products. Wilton never provided any evidence of such continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark in response to Plaintiff's letter.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it received a letter dated August 3, 1995 from Plaintiff, the language of which speaks for itself, but denies all other allegations contained in paragraph 24.

25. Plaintiff was not aware of Wilton use of the TRADESMAN mark for approximately ten years preceding 1995.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 25 and, therefore, denies the same.

26. Upon information and belief, due to Wilton's failure to respond to Plaintiff's letters and prove continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark, Plaintiff understood that Wilton had abandoned use of the TRADESMAN mark for a period of time following Plaintiff's letters in 1995 up and until about 2001.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 26 and, therefore, denies the same.

27. Upon information and belief, after a period of abandoned use of the TRADESMAN mark between about 1995 and about 2001, Wilton again began using mark without permission from Plaintiff.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 27.

28. On October 15, 2001, a letter was sent to Wilton on behalf of Plaintiff to remind Wilton of Plaintiff's rights under the trademark laws with respect to the TRADESMAN mark, and again requesting Wilton to cease-and-desist use of the TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it received a letter dated October 15, 2001 from Plaintiff, the language of which speaks for itself, but denies all other allegations contained in paragraph 28.

29. A December 7, 2001 letter confirms discussions between counsel for Plaintiff and Ernie Torkilsen of Wilton concerning the TRADESMAN mark. It was Plaintiff's understanding at the time that Wilton had agreed via oral communications to terminate further use of the TRADESMAN mark in connection with power tools, including without limitation the "Tradesman Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Power Feed Mill/Drill Machine"; "Tradesman Drilling Machines"; "Tradesman Belt Sanders"; "Tradesman Combination Belt & Disc Finishing Machine"; and "Tradesman Combination Wood/Metal Vertical Band Saws". It was also Plaintiff's understanding that such agreement was subject to a mutually-agreeable phase out period during which Wilton would be permitted to transition to a

different mark. It was further Plaintiff's understanding that Wilton would provide Plaintiff with evidence and documents evidencing any prior continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark in connection with vises.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 29 and, therefore, denies the same.

30. Wilton never directly responded, in writing, to Plaintiff's December 7, 2001 letter and failed at the time to provide any evidence of prior continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it did not respond in writing to Plaintiff's December 7, 2001 letter and did not provide any evidence of prior continuous use of the TRADESMAN mark, but further notes that Defendant had no legal obligation to provide such evidence to Plaintiff.

31. In about April 2004, Plaintiff became aware that Wilton, now owned by and associated with Defendant, was again using the TRADESMAN mark in connection with power tools and machines identical to and/or confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line, including, but not limited to promotion of products on a web site operated by Blue Ridge Machinery, www.blueridge.dreamscape.com.

ANSWER: Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 31 and, therefore, denies the same.

32. Conversations between Plaintiff and Defendant were again conducted in 2004, at which time, Defendant asserted that it did not plan to remove the TRADESMAN mark from its products. Defendant reasserted its position in a letter dated May 14, 2004 from its counsel addressed to Plaintiff.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it had a conversation with and sent a letter dated May 14, 2004 to Plaintiff reconfirming Defendant's position that it would not stop using the term TRADESMAN because it has been using the term TRADESMAN far longer than Plaintiff, but denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 32.

33. Defendant continues to use the TRADESMAN mark, including with respect to power tools identical and/or confusingly similar to Plaintiff's products, though Defendant asserts that it is not using the term "TRADESMAN" in a trademark sense and therefore is not alleging any rights to the TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 33.

Count I

Federal Trademark Infringement

34. Plaintiff re-alleges each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-33 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.

ANSWER: Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference herein its responses set forth above to the allegations in Paragraphs 1 - 33 of the Complaint.

35. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a product designation confusingly similar to Plaintiff's federally registered TRADESMAN trademarks, namely U.S. Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 in connection with products identical to or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception, as to the source or origin of the services, and as such infringed upon Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1114.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 35.

36. Upon information and belief, Defendant's use and misappropriation of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark in connection with products identical and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is part of a deliberate plan of Defendant to trade on the valuable goodwill and reputation established by Plaintiff in the TRADESMAN mark and, as such, the infringement is willful.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 36.

37. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin

of the products provide by Defendant, and as such infringes Plaintiff's TRADESMAN pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114 and 1116.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 37.

38. As a result of Defendant's infringement of the TRADESMAN mark, Plaintiff has been damaged and will continue to be damaged in an amount that cannot be presently ascertained or adequately compensated for in money damages, and will suffer further injury and irreparable harm unless and until Defendant's acts of infringement are enjoined.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 38.

Count II

Federal Trademark Infringement

39. Plaintiff re-alleges each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-38 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.

ANSWER: Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference herein its responses set forth above to the allegations in Paragraphs 1 - 38 of the Complaint.

40. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a product designation confusingly similar to Plaintiff's federally registered TRADESMAN trademarks, namely U.S. Trademark Registration No. 2,205,373 in connection with products identical to or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is likely to cause confusion, mistake, or deception, as to the source or origin of the services, and as such infringed upon Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1114.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 40.

41. Upon information and belief, Defendant's use and misappropriation of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark in connection with products identical and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN product line is part of a deliberate plan of Defendant to trade on the valuable goodwill and reputation established by Plaintiff in the TRADESMAN mark and, as such, the infringement is willful.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 41.

42. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin of the products provide by Defendant, and as such infringes Plaintiff's TRADESMAN pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114 and 1116.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 42.

43. As a result of Defendant's infringement of the TRADESMAN mark, Plaintiff has been damaged and will continue to be damaged in an amount that cannot be presently ascertained or adequately compensated for in money damages, and will suffer further injury and irreparable harm unless and until Defendant's acts of infringement are enjoined.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 43.

Count III

<u>Lanham Act Violations – False Designation of Origin and False Advertising</u>

44. Plaintiff re-alleges each and ever allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-43 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.

ANSWER: Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference herein its responses set forth above to the allegations in Paragraphs 1 - 43 of the Complaint.

45. This count arises under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)).

ANSWER: Defendant agrees that this count purports to allege a claim under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, but denies any implication that Defendant's behavior falls within the scope of conduct considered actionable under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act.

46. Plaintiff has developed substantial goodwill and customer recognition in its TRADESMAN product line through extensive promotion and advertising.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 46.

47. Upon information and belief, Defendant and its predecessor-in-interest Wilton have had prior knowledge of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark. Defendant and Wilton were notified of the TRADESMAN mark by way of at least Plaintiff's letters demanding that Defendant's and Wilton's infringing activities cease.

ANSWER: Defendant admits that it has had knowledge of Plaintiff's alleged use of the TRADESMAN term since receiving Plaintiff's June 29, 1995 letter, but denies all remaining allegations contained in paragraph 47.

48. Defendant's use of Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to identify Defendant's products is confusingly similar to use of TRADESMAN mark by Plaintiff.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 48.

49. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin of the products provide by Defendant, and as such infringes Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a).

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 49.

50. Due to confusion created by Defendant's use of the TRADESMAN mark, Defendant has unjustly received the benefit of Plaintiff's advertising and promotion of and goodwill in the TRADESMAN mark and product line.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 50.

51. The TRADESMAN mark is willfully and intentionally used by Defendant with the intent to trade on and benefit from the goodwill associated with Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark and product line in the minds of purchasers.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 51.

52. Defendant's use of the TRADESMAN mark to identify its products is likely to mislead and misrepresent the source or origin of Defendant's products, and results in a false belief by consumers that Defendant's business is associated with Plaintiff and is authorized to use the TRADESMAN mark.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 52.

53. As a result of Defendant's false or misleading representations, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that is unknown and cannot at the present time be ascertained.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 53.

54. Unless enjoined by this Court, Defendant will continue to make false or misleading representations, to Plaintiff's continuing and irreparable injury for which there is no adequate remedy at law.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 54.

Count IV

Unfair Competition

55. Plaintiff re-alleges each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-54 inclusive, and incorporates those paragraphs by reference herein.

ANSWER: Defendant repeats and incorporates by reference herein its responses set forth above to the allegations in Paragraphs 1 - 54 of the Complaint.

56. By virtue of the foregoing acts, Defendant has used unfair methods of competition and unfair acts or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of a trade or commerce, all in violation of the Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A § 1 *et seq.* and the common law of unfair competition.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 56.

57. The unauthorized use by Defendant of a mark confusingly similar to Plaintiff's TRADESMAN mark to advertise and promote products identical to and/or substantially similar to

those of Plaintiff is likely to cause confusion, mistake, and/or deception as to the source or origin of the products provide by Defendant, and as such is a violation of the common law of unfair competition and is an unfair trade practice under applicable law.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 57.

58. As a result of Defendant's unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that is unknown and cannot at the present time be ascertained.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 58.

59. Unless enjoined by this Court, Defendant will continue to use unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices, to Plaintiff's continuing and irreparable injury for which Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

ANSWER: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 59.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Defendant, WMH Tool Group, Inc., asserts the following affirmative defenses:

- 60. WMH's use of the term "tradesman" has not, and does not, infringe PTS's rights to the mark TRADESMAN.
 - 61. This Court lacks personal jurisdiction over WMH Tool Group, Inc.
- 62. The Complaint filed by Plaintiff, Power Tool Specialists, Inc., and each and every claim for relief contained therein fails to adequately state a cause of action upon which relief may be granted.
- 63. Defendant's business conduct does not occur primarily and substantially in the State of Massachusetts, and therefore is not governed by Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A.

- 64. The Defendant's rights to use the term "tradesman" are superior to any rights of Plaintiff.
- 65. U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 do not qualify for incontestible status under 35 U.S.C. §1065 because Plaintiff's use of the trademark TADESMAN infringes a valid right of the Defendant acquired under common law by use of the term "tradesman" continuing from a date prior to the date of the aforementioned registrations and/or because the mark TRADESMAN is or has become generic and, is therefore, unable to be accorded trademark protection.
- 66. U.S. Trademark Registration No. 2,205,373 does not qualify for incontestible status under 35 U.S.C. §1065 because there is a proceeding involving the rights of this registration pending in the Patent and Trademark Office and/or in a court which has not been finally disposed of.
- 67. U.S. Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 is void *ab initio* because Plaintiff did not use the mark TRADESMAN as a trademark by January 17, 1989, the filing date of Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 68. U.S. Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504 is invalid because Plaintiff's registration of the mark TRADESMAN was a mutilation of the actual mark being used, which was VALUECRAFT 10" TRADESMAN.
- 69. U.S. Trademark Registration Nos. 1,565,504 and 2,205,373 are invalid and unenforceable due to Plaintiff's fraud in procuring these registrations by knowingly misstating the date of first use of the trademark TRADESMAN and/or knowingly applying for a mutilation of the actual mark in use and/or knowingly stating or implying that the mark TRADESMAN is a valid mark when Plaintiff knew of widespread generic and/or descriptive uses of that term in the industry, with the intention to induce the U.S. trademark Examiner to act or refrain from action in

reliance on the misrepresentations. The Examiner did indeed act or refrain from action in reliance on Plaintiff's misrepresentations, thereby, resulting in the public, including the Defendant, being damaged by the USPTO's improper registration of the TRADESMAN mark.

- 70. Plaintiff is barred from asserting any rights and/or recovering any relief for infringement of the mark TRADESMAN on the grounds of laches, estoppel and/or acquiescence.
- 71. Plaintiff is barred from asserting any rights and/or recovering any relief for infringement of the mark TRADESMAN on the grounds of unclean hands and inequitable conduct.
- 72. The mark TRADESMAN is or has become generic and, is therefore, unable to be accorded trademark protection.
- 73. The mark TRADESMAN is descriptive and/or has not acquired distinctiveness and, is therefore, unable to be accorded trademark protection.

WHEREFORE, WMH denies that PTS is entitled to the relief requested.

JURY DEMAND

WMH demands trial by jury of all issues so triable.

AMENDED COUNTERCLAIMS

For its counterclaims against Plaintiff, Power Tool Specialists, Inc, the Defendant, WMH Tool Group, Inc., states as follows:

THE PARTIES

- 74. Counterclaim Plaintiff, WMH Tool Group, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Washington with a place of business at 2420 Vantage Road, Elgin, Illinois 60123, and was formerly known as JET Equipment & Tools, Inc., a corporation of the State of Washington into which Wilton Corporation, a corporation of the State of Colorado, was merged on May 22, 2001 (all of the above corporations being collectively referred to hereinafter as "WMH").
- 75. Counterclaim Defendant, Power Tool Specialists, Inc. (hereinafter "PTS"), is a corporation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a principal place of business at 3 Craftsmen Road, East Windsor, Connecticut 06088.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- This Court has jurisdiction since the matter in controversy arises under the Trademark Laws of the United States, as set forth in Title 15, United States Code; and for related claims of unfair competition under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. §1125(a)) and Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq.* This Court also has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §\$1331 and 1332, as the matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs exceeds Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) and arises between an entity of Massachusetts and an entity of another state. This Court also has jurisdiction pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1121 and 28 U.S.C. §1338(a) and (b), and under the doctrine of supplemental and pendant jurisdiction.
 - 77. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§1391.

GENERAL FACTS

- 78. WMH received a letter from PTS dated June 29, 1995, in which PTS notified WMH that PTS claimed trademark rights to the mark TRADESMAN and requested that WMH cease and desist any further use of this mark.
- 79. PTS was informed shortly after the June 29, 1995 letter that WMH had been and was using the descriptive term "Tradesman" in conjunction with tools for decades and would not cease and desist use of this term due to WMH's prior rights.
- 80. WMH has used the term "Tradesman" in conjunction with tools since at least as early as 1954.
- 81. WMH received another letter from PTS dated August 3, 1995, requesting that WMH provide PTS and its attorneys with proof of WMH's claims of its continuous use of TRADESMAN over the past twenty years and examples of how the mark was and is currently used.
- 82. WMH did not respond to PTS's August 3, 1995 letter and considered this matter closed.
- 83. Over six years later, WMH received another letter from PTS dated October 15, 2001, again informing WMH that PTS considers the mark TRADESMAN a valuable trademark and demanding that WMH immediately cease any and all display, manufacture, ordering, distribution, promotion, advertising, offering for sale, and/or sale of specific power tools, vises and any other products under the TRADESMAN mark.
- 84. WMH contacted PTS shortly after receiving the October 15, 2001 letter to remind PTS that WMH had been using the term "Tradesman" in conjunction with tools well before PTS's

use, but further inquiring as to whether any amicable settlement could be reached between the parties in order to avoid further disputes over this matter.

- 85. WMH received another letter from PTS dated December 7, 2001, requesting that WMH provide PTS with copies of documents that evidence WMH's first date of use of the TRADESMAN mark prior to PTS's first use.
- 86. WMH did not respond to PTS's December 7, 2001 letter and again considered this matter closed.
- 87. In 2004, WMH was notified by one of its customers, Blue Ridge Machinery, that Rexon Group had contacted it and demanded that Blue Ridge Machinery immediately remove and cease use of the term "Tradesman" in conjunction with WMH's products.

COUNT I

UNFAIR COMPETITION UNDER THE LANHAM ACT §43(a)

- 88. Counterclaim Plaintiff, WMH, repeats and re-alleges the facts set forth in Paragraphs 1 87 above.
- 89. PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark are false and misleading.
- 90. PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were made in interstate commerce.
- 91. PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were made in connection with goods or services.

- 92. PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were initiated by a Sales & Marketing Manager of the PTS and therefore occurred in commercial advertising or promotion.
- 93. PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark misrepresent the nature or qualities of the goods, services, or commercial activities of another, in particular, WMH's products for the tradesman.
- 94. WMH is suffering damages and irreparable harm as a result of PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark, and will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless PTS is enjoined by this Court.
- 95. PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark violate the Lanham Act §43(a) (15 U.S.C. §1125(a))(2000).

COUNT II

UNFAIR COMPETITION UNDER MASSACHUSETTS' CHAPTER 93A

- 96. Counterclaim Plaintiff, WMH, repeats and re-alleges the facts set forth in Paragraphs 1 95 above.
- 97. PTS's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark are false, misleading and/or deceptive.
- 98. A reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery is likely to provide evidentiary support that PTS's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were made in bad faith and/or based on an inadequate infringement investigation.

- 99. PTS's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were published to at least one existing customer of WMH.
- 100. PTS's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark are causing WMH damages and irreparable harm to its business relationships, and will continue to do so unless this Court enjoins such activities.
- 101. PTS's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark violate Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq*.

COUNT III

TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH A CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP

- 102. Counterclaim Plaintiff, WMH, repeats and re-alleges the facts set forth in Paragraphs 1 101 above.
- 103. WMH reasonably expected to enter into valid business relationships and further contracts with at least Blue Ridge Machinery.
- 104. PTS knew of WMH's expectancy to enter into valid business relationships and further contracts with at least Blue Ridge Machinery.
- 105. PTS's misrepresentations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were purposeful interference intended to prevent WMH's legitimate expectancy from being fulfilled.
- 106. WMH is suffering damages and irreparable harm as a result of PTS's purposeful interference, and will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless PTS is enjoined by this Court.

107. PTS's conduct constitutes tortious interference with prospective contractual relationships.

COUNT IV

CANCELLATION OF U.S. TRADEMARK REGISTRATION NO. 1,565,504

- 108. Counterclaim Plaintiff, WMH, repeats and re-alleges the facts set forth in Paragraphs 1 107 above.
 - 109. On information and belief, PTS presently owns Registration 1,565,504.
- 110. On information and belief, PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504 for the mark TRADESMAN on January 17, 1989, and the Patent and Trademark Office issued Registration 1,565,504 on the Principal Register November 14, 1989.
- 111. In its Application for Registration No. 1,565,504, PTS claimed first use dates for the mark TRADESMAN anywhere and in commerce on the specified goods as early as February 1987.
- 112. The Patent and Trademark Office initially refused to register Registration No. 1,565,504 based on likelihood of confusion with Registration Nos. 1,460,651 and 1,262,851.
- 113. In response to this initial refusal, in a letter to the Patent and Trademark Office dated March 23, 1989, PTS submitted evidence claiming use of its mark as early as a time around March 23, 1981.
- 114. The Patent and Trademark Office thereafter withdrew its initial refusal and allowed the application for Registration No. 1,565,504 to proceed to registration.

- 115. WMH has used the term "tradesman" in connection with its goods, namely, tools since at least 1954, and has acquired rights in the term "tradesman" continuing from a date prior to the date of Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 116. PTS is using Registration No. 1,565,504 to enforce its alleged rights in the designation TRADESMAN against WMH.
- 117. In enforcing its alleged rights, PTS has not alleged or offered any evidence, despite WMH's repeated requests, purporting to show use of the mark TRADESMAN on the specified goods earlier than 1986, which date is substantially later than the claim of use submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the letter of March 23, 1989.
- 118. In enforcing its alleged rights, PTS has provided WMH with scant evidence, if any, supporting use of its designation TRADESMAN prior to filing the application for Registration No. 1,565,504, and has not alleged or offered any evidence, purporting to show use of the mark TRADESMAN on the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504, with the possible exception of power saws, at any time prior to the filing date of the application for Registration No. 1,565,504.

A. FRAUD ON THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 119. On information and belief, at the time PTS submitted the letter dated March 23, 1989 to the Patent and Trademark Office, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that it had not started to use the designation TRADESMAN on the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504 at a time around March 23, 1981, and that the statement was false.
- 120. On information and belief, the false claim of use of the mark was a material fact reasonably relied upon by the Patent and Trademark Office and intended by PTS to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 1,565,504.

121. On information and belief, by reason of PTS's fraud on the Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 1,565,504 was issued and maintained, and has and is causing damage to the WMH.

B. FRAUD ON THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 122. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, PTS was not using the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504, with the possible exception of power saws.
- 123. At the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, it knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that it had never used the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in its application, with the possible exception of power saws.
- 124. On information and belief, the false claim of use of the mark was a material fact reasonably relied upon by the Patent and Trademark Office and intended by PTS to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 125. On information and belief, by reason of PTS's fraud on the Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 1,565,504 was issued, and has and is causing damage to WMH.

C. FRAUD ON THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 126. On information and belief, PTS is a related company of, a subsidiary of, or otherwise associated with Rexon Industrial Corporation, Ltd.
- 127. On information and belief, during a period prior to PTS's use or adoption of the designation TRADESMAN, and certainly well before the filing date of its application, which resulted in the issuance of Registration No. 1,565,504, WMH had communications and placed orders for tools with Rexon Industrial Corporation, Ltd. in which WMH's use of the term "Tradesman" in commerce was disclosed and became known to PTS.

- 128. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, Registrant submitted a sworn statement that "to the best of his knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use said mark in commerce, either in identical form or in such near resemblance thereto as may be likely, when applied to the goods of such other corporation, to cause confusion or to cause mistake, or to deceive".
- 129. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that its sworn statement was a material false statement upon which the Patent and Trademark Office would reasonably rely, and PTS made the false statement with the intent to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 130. On information and belief, by reason of PTS's bad faith in the adoption of the designation TRADESMAN and fraud on the Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 1,565,504 was issued and maintained, and has and is causing damage to WMH.

D. NON-USE OF THE MARK

131. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, it had not used the mark TRADESMAN on the specified goods in commerce.

E. ABANDONMENT

- 132. PTS has not and did not use its mark TRADESMAN in commerce on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504 for a period of three (3) years, with the possible exception of power saws.
- 133. PTS abandoned its mark TRADESMAN with the intent not to resume use on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504, with the possible exception of power saws.

COUNT V

CANCELLATION OF U.S. TRADEMARK REGISTRATION NO. 2,205,373

- 134. On information and belief, PTS presently owns Registration 2,205,373 for the mark TRADESMAN, which specifies use of the mark in commerce on the goods "power tools, namely, nailers, sanders, lathes, saws, mortising machines, drill presses, shapers, planers, grinders, jointers, dust collectors, and parts and accessories therefor, including chucks, blades, bits, chisels, knives, discs, drums, wheels, belts, sleeves, abrasive attachments, arbors, dados, moulding inserts, hex keys, brackets, plates, vises, jaws, clamps, guages, rip fences, guides, extensions, jigs, blocks, work supports, rollers, stands, casters, tables, tool collectors, dust chutes, vacuum attachments, control switches, cleaners, chuck adaptors, and push blocks."
- 135. On information and belief, PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373 for the mark TRADESMAN on August 25, 1997, and the Patent and Trademark Office issued Registration 2,205,373 on the Principal Register November 24, 1998.
- 136. On information and belief, in its Application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS filed a sworn statement is which it claimed first use dates for the mark TRADESMAN anywhere and in commerce on all of the specified goods as early as February 1, 1987.

- 137. On information and belief, on August 10, 2004, PTS filed submissions with the Patent and Trademark Office under Section 8 and Section 15 of the Trademark Act to maintain Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 138. On information and belief, in its submission under Section 8 and Section 15 to maintain Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS filed a sworn statement is which it claimed continuing use of the mark TRADESMAN in commerce on all of the goods specified in Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 139. WMH has used the term "tradesman" in connection with its goods, namely, tools since at least 1954, and has acquired rights in the term "tradesman" continuing from a date prior to the dates set forth in Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 140. PTS is using Registration No. 2,205,373 to enforce its alleged rights in the designation TRADESMAN against WMH.
- 141. In enforcing its alleged rights, PTS has not provided evidence purporting to show use of the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 2,205,373, but rather only has presented evidence, which at best purports to show use of the mark on power saws at the time that the application for Registration No. 2,205,373 was filed.

A. FRAUD ON THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 142. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS was not using the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 2,205,373, with the possible exception of power saws.
- 143. At the time that PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that it had never used the mark

TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in its application, with the possible exception of power saws, and that the claim of use was false.

- 144. On information and belief, the false claim of use of the mark was a material fact reasonably relied upon by the Patent and Trademark Office and intended by PTS to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 145. On information and belief, by reason of PTS's fraud on the Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 2,205,373 was issued, and has and is causing damage to WMH.
- 146. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its submissions under Section 8 and Section 15 to maintain Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS was not using the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 147. On information and belief, at the time that PTS filed its submissions under Section 8 and Section 15 to maintain Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that it had never used the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 2,205,373, and that the declaration of continuing use was a false claim.
- 148. On information and belief, the false claim of continuing use of the mark was a material fact reasonably relied upon by the Patent and Trademark Office and intended by PTS to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to maintain Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 149. On information and belief, by reason of PTS's fraud on the Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 2,205,373 was maintained, and has and is causing damage to WMH.

B. FRAUD ON THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 150. On information and belief, PTS is a related company of, a subsidiary of, or otherwise associated with Rexon.
- 151. On information and belief, during a period prior to PTS's use or adoption of the designation TRADESMAN, and certainly well before the filing date of its application, which resulted in the issuance of Registration No. 2,205,373 or other registration, WMH had communications and placed orders for tools with Rexon in which WMH's use of the term "Tradesman" in commerce was disclosed and became known to PTS.
- 152. On information and belief, at the time that PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS submitted a sworn statement that to the best of his knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use said mark in commerce, either in identical form or in such near resemblance thereto as may be likely, when applied to the goods of such other corporation, to cause confusion or to cause mistake, or to deceive, or like sworn statement.
- 153. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that its sworn statement was a material false statement upon which the Patent and Trademark Office would reasonably rely, and that PTS made the false statement with the intent to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 154. On information and belief, by reason of PTS's bad faith in the adoption of the designation TRADESMAN and fraud on the Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 2,205,373 was issued and maintained, and has and is causing damage to WMH.

C. FRAUD ON THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

- 155. On information and belief, in its Application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS claimed ownership of Registration No. 1,565,504 as a prior registration for the mark TRADESMAN specifying the goods "stationary/bench electric power tools, namely; table saws, floor drill presses, miter saws, floor band saws, floor jointers and parts therefor."
- 156. On information and belief, PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504 for the mark TRADESMAN on January 17, 1989, and the Patent and Trademark Office issued Registration 1,565,504 on the Principal Register November 14, 1989.
- 157. In its Application for Registration No. 1,565,504, PTS claimed first use dates for the mark TRADESMAN anywhere and in commerce on the specified goods as early as February 1987.
- 158. The Patent and Trademark Office initially refused to register Registration No. 1,565,504 based on likelihood of confusion with Registration Nos. 1,460,651 and 1,262,851.
- 159. In response to this initial refusal, in a letter to the Patent and Trademark Office dated March 23, 1989, PTS submitted evidence claiming use of its mark as early as a time around March 23, 1981.
- 160. The Patent and Trademark Office thereafter withdrew its initial refusal and allowed the application for Registration No. 1,565,504 to proceed to registration.
- 161. WMH has used the term "tradesman" in connection with its goods, namely, tools since at least 1954, and has acquired rights in the term "tradesman" continuing from a date prior to the date of Registration No. 1,565,504.

- 162. PTS is using Registration No. 1,565,504 to enforce its alleged rights in the designation TRADESMAN against WMH.
- 163. In enforcing its alleged rights, PTS has not alleged or offered any evidence, despite WMH's repeated requests, purporting to show use of the mark TRADESMAN on the specified goods earlier than 1986, which date is substantially later than the claim of use submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the letter of March 23, 1989.
- 164. In enforcing its alleged rights, PTS has provided WMH with scant evidence supporting use of its mark prior to filing the application for Registration No. 1,565,504, and has not alleged or offered any evidence, purporting to show use of the mark TRADESMAN on the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504, with the possible exception of power saws, at any time prior to the filing date of the application for Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 165. On information and belief, at the time PTS submitted the letter dated March 23, 1989 to the Patent and Trademark Office, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that it had not started to use the designation TRADESMAN on the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504 at a time around March 23, 1981, and that the statement was false.
- 166. On information and belief, the false claim of use of the mark was a material fact reasonably relied upon by the Patent and Trademark Office and intended by PTS to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 167. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, PTS was not using the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 1,565,504, with the possible exception of power saws.
- 168. At the time that PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, it knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that it had never used the mark TRADESMAN on each of the goods specified in its application, with the possible exception of power saws.

- 169. On information and belief, the false claim of use of the mark was a material fact reasonably relied upon by the Patent and Trademark Office and intended by PTS to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 170. On information and belief, during a period prior to PTS's use or adoption of the designation TRADESMAN, and certainly well before the filing date of its application, which resulted in the issuance of Registration No. 1,565,504, WMH had communications and placed orders for tools with Rexon in which WMH's use of the term "Tradesman" in commerce was disclosed and became known to PTS.
- 171. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, PTS submitted a sworn statement that "to the best of his knowledge and belief no other person, firm, corporation, or association has the right to use said mark in commerce, either in identical form or in such near resemblance thereto as may be likely, when applied to the goods of such other corporation, to cause confusion or to cause mistake, or to deceive".
- 172. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 1,565,504, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that its sworn statement was a material false statement upon which the Patent and Trademark Office would reasonably rely, and that PTS made the false statement with the intent to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 1,565,504.
- 173. On information and belief, by reason of PTS's bad faith in the adoption of the designation TRADESMAN and fraud on the Patent and Trademark Office, Registration No. 1,565,504 was issued and maintained, and has and is causing damage to WMH.
- 174. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that Registration No. 1,565,504 was obtained by fraud, and maintained by fraud.

- 175. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS failed to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office that Registration No. 1,565,504 was obtained by fraud, and maintained by fraud, and the failure to disclose was material and made to induce the Patent and Trademark Office to issue Registration No. 2,205,373.
- 176. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, PTS knew, should have known, or had reason to believe that the Patent and Trademark Office would reasonably rely on the claim of ownership in Registration No. 1,565,504 to issue Registration No. 2,205,373.

D. NON-USE OF THE MARK

177. On information and belief, at the time PTS filed its application for Registration No. 2,205,373, it had not used the mark TRADESMAN on the specified goods in commerce, with the possible exception of power saws.

E. ABANDONMENT OF THE MARK

- 178. PTS has not and did not use its mark TRADESMAN in commerce on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 2,205,373 for a period of three (3) years, with the possible exception of power saws.
- 179. PTS abandoned its mark TRADESMAN with the intent not to resume use on each of the goods specified in Registration No. 2,205,373, with the possible exception of power saws.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, WMH requests relief on its Amended Counterclaims as follows:

- A. Judgment that the complaint be dismissed with prejudice;
- B. Judgment that this is an exceptional case pursuant to 25 U.S.C. §1117, and an award of costs and attorneys' fees for defendant, WMH;
 - C. Judgment canceling U.S. Trademark Registration No. 1,565,504.
 - D. Judgment canceling U.S. Trademark Registration No. 2,205,373.
- E. A temporary restraining order and preliminary and permanent injunction ordering Rexon Group and those acting in concert with it not to disparage WMH's products, violate the Lanham Act §43(a), and violate Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq.*, by falsely alleging that WMH's products infringe the TRADESMAN mark.
- F. Damages adequate to compensate WMH for Rexon Group's violations of the Lanham Act §43(a) and Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq*.
- G. For such other and further relief which this Court, in its discretion, may deem just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

WMH demands trial by jury of all issues so triable.

AMENDED THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT

For its complaint against Third-Party Defendants, Rexon USA, Corp. and Rexon Industrial Corporation, Ltd., the Third-Party Plaintiff, WMH Tool Group, Inc., states as follows:

THE PARTIES

- 180. Third-Party Plaintiff, WMH Tool Group, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Washington with a place of business at 2420 Vantage Road, Elgin, Illinois 60123, and was formerly known as JET Equipment & Tools, Inc., a corporation of the State of Washington into which Wilton Corporation, a corporation of the State of Colorado, was merged on May 22, 2001 (all of the above corporations being collectively referred to hereinafter as "WMH").
- 181. Counterclaim Defendant, Power Tool Specialists, Inc. (hereinafter "PTS"), is a corporation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a principal place of business at 3 Craftsmen Road, East Windsor, Connecticut 06088.
- 182. Third-Party Defendant, Rexon USA, Corp. (hereinafter "Rexon"), is a corporation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a principal place of business at 3 Craftsmen Road, East Windsor, Connecticut 06088, and is doing business as Rexon North America.
- 183. Third-Party Defendant, Rexon Industrial Corporation, Ltd. (hereinafter referred to individually as "Rexon" and collectively with Rexon USA and PTS as "Rexon Group") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Taiwan with its principal place of business at No. 261 Renhua Road, Taichung Hsien, Tali City, Taiwan.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- Trademark Laws of the United States, as set forth in Title 15, United States Code; and for related claims of unfair competition under Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. §1125(a)) and Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq.* This Court also has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §\$1331 and 1332, as the matter in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs exceeds Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) and arises between an entity of Massachusetts and an entity of another state. This Court also has jurisdiction pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1121 and 28 U.S.C. §1338(a) and (b), and under the doctrine of supplemental and pendant jurisdiction.
 - 185. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§1391.

GENERAL FACTS

- 186. WMH received a letter from PTS dated June 29, 1995, in which PTS notified WMH that PTS claimed trademark rights to the mark TRADESMAN and requested that WMH cease and desist any further use of this mark.
- 187. PTS was informed shortly after the June 29, 1995 letter that WMH had been and was using the descriptive term "Tradesman" in conjunction with tools for decades and would not cease and desist use of this term due to WMH's prior rights.
- 188. WMH has used the term "Tradesman" in conjunction with tools since at least as early as 1954.
- 189. WMH received another letter from PTS dated August 3, 1995, requesting that WMH provide PTS and its attorneys with proof of WMH's claims of its continuous use of TRADESMAN over the past twenty years and examples of how the mark was and is currently used.

- 190. WMH did not respond to PTS's August 3, 1995 letter and considered this matter closed.
- 191. Over six years later, WMH received another letter from PTS dated October 15, 2001, again informing WMH that PTS considers the mark TRADESMAN a valuable trademark and demanding that WMH immediately cease any and all display, manufacture, ordering, distribution, promotion, advertising, offering for sale, and/or sale of specific power tools, vises and any other products under the TRADESMAN mark.
- 192. WMH contacted PTS shortly after receiving the October 15, 2001 letter to remind PTS that WMH had been using the term "Tradesman" in conjunction with tools well before PTS's use, but further inquiring as to whether any amicable settlement could be reached between the parties in order to avoid further disputes over this matter.
- 193. WMH received another letter from PTS dated December 7, 2001, requesting that WMH provide PTS with copies of documents that evidence WMH's first date of use of the TRADESMAN mark prior to PTS's first use.
- 194. WMH did not respond to PTS's December 7, 2001 letter and again considered this matter closed.
- 195. In 2004, WMH was notified by one of its customers, Blue Ridge Machinery, that Rexon Group had contacted it and demanded that Blue Ridge Machinery immediately remove and cease use of the term "Tradesman" in conjunction with WMH's products.

COUNT I

UNFAIR COMPETITION UNDER THE LANHAM ACT §43(a)

- 196. Third-Party Plaintiff, WMH, repeats and re-alleges the facts set forth in Paragraphs 1 195 above.
- 197. Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark are false and misleading.
- 198. Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were made in interstate commerce.
- 199. Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were made in connection with goods or services.
- 200. Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were initiated by a Sales & Marketing Manager of the Rexon Group and therefore occurred in commercial advertising or promotion.
- 201. Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark misrepresent the nature or qualities of the goods, services, or commercial activities of another, in particular, WMH's products for the tradesman.
- 202. WMH is suffering damages and irreparable harm as a result of Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark, and will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless Rexon Group is enjoined by this Court.

203. Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark violate the Lanham Act §43(a) (15 U.S.C. §1125(a))(2000).

COUNT II

UNFAIR COMPETITION UNDER MASSACHUSETTS' CHAPTER 93A

- 204. Third-Party Plaintiff, WMH, repeats and re-alleges the facts set forth in Paragraphs 1 203 above.
- 205. Rexon Group's representations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark are false, misleading and/or deceptive.
- 206. A reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery is likely to provide evidentiary support that Rexon Group's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were made in bad faith and/or based on an inadequate infringement investigation.
- 207. Rexon Group's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were published to at least one existing customer of WMH.
- 208. Rexon Group's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark are causing WMH damages and irreparable harm to its business relationships, and will continue to do so unless this Court enjoins such activities.
- 209. Rexon Group's false, misleading and/or deceptive representations regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark violate Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq*.

COUNT III

TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH A CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP

- 210. Third-Party Plaintiff, WMH, repeats and re-alleges the facts set forth in Paragraphs 1 209 above.
- 211. WMH reasonably expected to enter into valid business relationships and further contracts with at least Blue Ridge Machinery.
- 212. Rexon Group knew of WMH's expectancy to enter into valid business relationships and further contracts with at least Blue Ridge Machinery.
- 213. Rexon Group's misrepresentations to at least Blue Ridge Machinery regarding WMH's alleged infringement of the TRADESMAN mark were purposeful interference intended to prevent WMH's legitimate expectancy from being fulfilled.
- 214. WMH is suffering damages and irreparable harm as a result of Rexon Group's purposeful interference, and will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless Rexon Group is enjoined by this Court.
- 215. Rexon Group's conduct constitutes tortious interference with prospective contractual relationships.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, WMH requests relief on its Amended Third Party Complaint as follows:

- A. Judgment that this is an exceptional case pursuant to 25 U.S.C. §1117, and an award of costs and attorneys' fees for Third-Party Plaintiff, WMH;
- B. A temporary restraining order and preliminary and permanent injunction ordering Rexon Group and those acting in concert with it not to disparage WMH's products, violate the Lanham Act §43(a), and violate Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq.*, by falsely alleging that WMH's products infringe the TRADESMAN mark.
- C. Damages adequate to compensate WMH for Rexon Group's violations of the Lanham Act §43(a) and Mass. Gen. Laws c. 93A, §1 *et seq*.
- D. For such other and further relief which this Court, in its discretion, may deem just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

WMH demands trial by jury of all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Eben A. Krim

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