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9	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
10	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION		
11 12 13	IN RE CAPACITORS ANTITRUST LITIGATION	MDL Case No. 17-md-0281-JD  Case No. 3:14-cv-03264-JD	
14 15 16	This Document Relates to: ALL INDIRECT PURCHASER ACTIONS	DECLARATION OF ERIC SCHACHTER REGARDING DISSEMINATION OF NOTICE OF SETTLEMENTS	
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	DECLARATION OF ERIC SCHACHTER REGARDING DISSEMINATION OF NOTICE OF SETTLEMENTS; MASTER FILE NO. 14-cv-03264-JD_		

I, Eric Schachter, declare as follows:

- 1. I am a Vice President of A.B. Data, Ltd.'s Class Action Administration Company ("A.B. Data"), whose principal offices are in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- 2. I submit this Declaration in connection with the class action notice administration proceedings related to the above-captioned action (the "Action") per the terms of this Court's Order Granting IPPs' Motion for Approval of Class Notice Program dated May 25, 2018 (the "Notice Program Approval Order"). ECF No. 2152. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein and, if called as a witness, could and would testify competently thereto.
- 3. This Declaration details the steps that were taken to implement notice of the class settlements per the terms of the Notice Program Approval Order. Those steps included the following:
  - a. Mailing the Short-Form Notice via U.S. Mail to potential members of the Settlement Classes;
  - b. Publishing the Short-Form Notice via print and digital media;
  - c. Providing email notice through email "blasts";
  - d. Advertising through "banner" ads on designated websites;
  - e. Updating the case-specific website, <u>www.capacitorsindirectcse.com</u> (the "Website"), for the Settlements<sup>1</sup>; and
  - f. Disseminating a news release via Business Wire to announce the proposed Settlements.

## DISSEMINATION OF DIRECT-MAIL NOTICE

4. Pursuant to the Notice Program Approval Order, A.B. Data was responsible for providing direct notice of the Settlements to all members of the Settlement Classes who could be reasonably identified.

As further described in my Declaration Regarding Dissemination of Notice of Settlements, dated June 26, 2017, ECF 1706 (the "First Round of Settlements Notice Declaration"), A.B. Data initially established the Website, on April 3, 2017, in connection with the Notice Program for Settlement Agreements reached with Defendants NEC TOKIN, Nitsuko, and Okaya (the "First Round of Settlements Notice Program").

5.	As further described in the First Round of Settlements Notice Declaration, A.B.		
Data established a mailing list of 488,072 potential members of the Settlement Classes who were			
mailed notice on April 3, 2017. After removing 85,658 records for which the mailing address			
proved to be invalid with no updated address available, a mailing list of 402,414 potential			
members of	f the Settlement Classes was created.		

- 6. On June 25, 2018, A.B. Data caused the Short-Form Notice, formatted as a postcard, to be mailed via First-Class Mail, postage prepaid, to 402,414 potential members of the Settlement Classes. A true and correct copy of the Short-Form Notice postcard is attached to this Declaration as Exhibit A.
- 7. The First Round of Settlements Notice Program established a portal on the case-specific website, <a href="www.capacitorsindirectcase.com">www.capacitorsindirectcase.com</a> (the "Website"), to allow potential members of the Settlement Classes to register with the Notice Administrator by providing their contact information in order to receive additional notices and updates about the Settlements and the Action. In connection with the First Round of Settlements Notice Program A.B. Data received 10,556 registrations.
- 8. On June 25, 2018, A.B. Data caused the Short-Form Notice postcard to be mailed via First-Class Mail, postage prepaid to the 10,556 registered potential Settlement Class members.
- 9. In total, on June 25, 2018, A.B. Data caused 412,970 Short-Form Notice postcards to be mailed to potential members of the Settlement Classes.

### **PUBLICATION OF THE SHORT-FORM NOTICE**

10. Pursuant to the Notice Program Approval Order, A.B. Data caused a full color print advertisement of the Short-Form Notice to publish in *The Wall Street Journal* on July 9, 2018. Proof of this publication is attached to this Declaration as Exhibit B.

#### **EMAIL BLASTS**

11. Pursuant to the Notice Program Approval Order, A.B. Data was to provide notice through email blasts to the "opt-in" subscribers of Penton Publications and EE Times.

12. A.B. Data effectuated two email blasts that were disseminated to approximately 50,000 opt-in subscribers to Penton Publications and approximately 41,000 opt-in subscribers to EE Times.

## **BANNER ADS CAMPAIGN**

- 13. Pursuant to the Notice Program Approval Order, A.B. Data coordinated for banner ads to appear in e-newsletters issued by *Nuts and Volts* and *Electronic Design TODAY*.

  Dissemination of the *Nuts and Volts* e-newsletters occurred on July 11, 18, 25, and August 21, 2018. Dissemination of the *Electronic Design* e-newsletters occurred on July 13, 20, 25, and 30, 2018. Proof of these e-newsletter banner ads are attached to this Declaration as <u>Exhibits C-1 and</u> C-2.
- 14. Beginning on July 9, 2018, and running through August 8, 2018, A.B. Data coordinated for internet banner ads to appear on the following websites: <a href="machinedesign.com">machinedesign.com</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">sourceesb.com</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">muscom</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">powerelectronics.com</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">sourcetoday.com</a>; <a href="hydraulicspneumatics.com">hydraulicspneumatics.com</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">nutsvolts.com</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">eetimes.com</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">ebnonline.com</a>; <a href="machinedesign.com">and globalpurchasing.com</a>. Banner ads for electronicdesign.com ran beginning on July 1, 2018 and running through July 31, 2018. Banner ads were also placed through the Google Display network, targeting consumers who are most likely to be purchasers of capacitors. A sample of these internet banner ads is attached to this Declaration as <a href="machinedesign.com">Exhibit D</a>.
- 15. More than 20 million banner views (or digital impressions) were generated during the banner ads campaign.

# **DISSEMINATION OF NEWS RELEASE**

16. Pursuant to the Notice Program Approval Order, A.B. Data, on July 9, 2018, disseminated, via Business Wire, a nationwide news release announcing the proposed Settlements. Proof of this dissemination is attached as <a href="Exhibit E">Exhibit E</a>.

# MAINTENANCE OF THE SETTLEMENT WEBSITE

17. As noted above, A.B. Data established the Website on April 3, 2017, in connection with the First Round of Settlements Notice Program.

- 18. On June 25, 2018, A.B. Data updated the Website to include information regarding the current round of Settlements and posted the Long-Form Notice for viewing and download. The Website also provides general information about the current Settlements and also allows visitors to view and download the Hitachi Settlement Agreement, the Holystone Settlement Agreement, the NCC/UCC Settlement Agreement, the Rubycon Settlement Agreement, the Soshin Settlement Agreement, the Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlements with Defendants Hitachi Chemical and Soshin, the Order Granting Indirect Purchaser Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlements with HolyStone, NCC/UCC, and Rubycon and for Approval of the Plan of Allocation; the Notice Program Approval Order; and various pleadings and filings related to the First Round of Settlements.
- 19. The Website continues to allow potential members of the Settlement Classes to register with the Notice Administrator by providing their names, email addresses, and mailing addresses in order to receive additional notices and updates about the Settlements and the Action. Since June 25, 2018, there have been 4,323 new registrations received.

#### TELEPHONE HOTLINE

- 20. In connection with the First Round of Settlements Notice Program, on April 3, 2017, A.B. Data established a case-specific toll-free number, 1-866-217-4245, with an interactive voice response ("IVR") system and live operators. The automated attendant answers calls and presents callers with a series of choices in response to basic questions. If callers require further assistance, they have the option of transferring their calls to a live operator during business hours.
- 21. On June 25, 2018, A.B. Data updated the IVR system and automated attendant to include information for the current Settlements Notice Program.

#### **EXCLUSION REQUESTS RECEIVED**

22. Potential Settlement Class members had the opportunity to request exclusion from, or opt out of, any or all of the Settlement Classes in connection with the Notice Program Approval Order. The deadline to submit a request for exclusion was August 28, 2018.

- 23. Attached hereto as <u>Exhibit F</u> is the list of persons and entities that have requested exclusion, including identification of the specific Settlement Classes for which the requestor is opting out of. To date, a total of 73 persons or entities submitted requests to opt out of Settlement Classes included with the Notice Program. Plexus Corporation, and its subsidiaries, and Microsoft Corporation, and its subsidiaries, account for 65 of the 73 opted-out entities (approximately 89%). In total, only 7 distinct requests for exclusion were received by A.B. Data: 3 from individuals and 4 from collective entities.
- 24. The Notice Program also provided instruction for potential members of the Settlement Classes to submit objections to or comments about any aspect of the Settlements. The instructions directed potential members of the Settlement Classes to submit their objection to the Court, by mail or in person, and to Class Counsel, by mail, no later than August 28, 2018. To date, A.B. Data has not received an objection from any potential Settlement Class members.

#### **CONCLUSION**

- 25. The Notice Program as directed by Class Counsel and ordered by the Court was carefully crafted with multiple layers of notice including: significant Direct Mail Notice; publication of the notice in publications designed to reach class members; email blasts and internet banner advertisements; outreach through earned media and a settlement website.
- 26. It is my opinion that the reach of the target audience and the number of exposure opportunities to the notice information are adequate and reasonable under the circumstances. The overall Notice Program adheres to the standards employed by A.B. Data for such programs to effectively reach members of settlement groups or classes. It is my opinion that the notice program and the notice provided to the classes was the best notice practicable under the circumstances; that it fully complied with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and provided constitutionally sufficient notice to the Classes.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is

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