NANCY J. MARVEL Regional Counsel

MARGARET ALKON Assistant Regional Counsel

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105 (415) 972-3950

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX 75 HAWTHORNE STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

)

In the Matter of:

Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc. Respondent. ) Docket No. EPCRA-09-2013- 0005

) CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL
) ORDER PURSUANT TO 40 C.F.R.
) §§ 22.13 and 22.18

# I. <u>CONSENT AGREEMENT</u>

Complainant, the Director of the Communities and Ecosystem Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX ("EPA"), and Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc. ("Respondent") agree to settle this matter and consent to the entry of this Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO"), which simultaneously commences and concludes this matter in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b).

# A. AUTHORITY AND PARTIES

1. This is a civil administrative penalty action instituted against Respondent pursuant to Section 325(c) of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11001 <u>et seq.</u>, also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (hereinafter "EPCRA"), the regulation promulgated thereunder at 40 C.F.R. Part 372, and the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, *In re: Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc., 2013 EPCRA section 313, page 1* 

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US EPA - REGION IX HEARING CLERK 40 C.F.R. Part 22, for violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023 and 40 C.F.R. Part 372.

2. Complainant is the Director, Communities and Ecosystems Division, EPA Region IX. The Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency has delegated the authority to file this action and to sign a consent agreement settling this action under EPCRA to the Regional Administrator Region IX by EPA Delegation Order Number 22-3-A, dated May 11, 1994. The Regional Administrator, Region IX has further delegated this authority to the Director of the Communities and Ecosystems Division by EPA Regional Order Number R1260.14B.

Respondent is a Delaware corporation with a facility located at 2201 Rosecrans
 Ave, El Segundo, California.

## B. APPLICABLE STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

4. Pursuant to Sections 313 and 328 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11023 and 11048, EPA promulgated the Toxic Chemical Release Reporting: Community Right-to-Know Rule at 40 C.F.R. Part 372.

5. Section 313(b) of EPCRA and 40 C.F.R. § 372.22 provide that the requirements of Section 313(a) and 40 C.F.R. § 372.30 apply to an owner and operator of a facility that has 10 or more full-time employees; that is in North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) sector code 311 – Food Manufacturing; and that manufactures, processes, or otherwise uses one or more toxic chemicals listed under Section 313(c) of EPCRA and 40 C.F.R. § 372.65 in quantities exceeding the applicable thresholds established under EPCRA Section 313(f) and 40 C.F.R. § 372.25 and § 372.28.

6. Section 313(a) of EPCRA, as implemented by 40 C.F.R. § 372.30, provides that an owner or operator of a facility that meets the criteria set forth in EPCRA Section 313(b) and 40 C.F.R. § 372.22, is required to submit annually to the Administrator of EPA and to the State in which the facility is located, no later than July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, a Toxic Chemical Release Inventory reporting form (hereinafter "**Form R**") for each toxic chemical listed under 40 C.F.R. § 372.65 that was manufactured, processed or otherwise used at the facility during the preceding calendar year in quantities exceeding the thresholds established under EPCRA Section 313(f) and 40 C.F.R. § 372.25 and § 372.28.

7. Section 325(c) of EPCRA and 40 C.F.R. Part 19 authorizes EPA to assess a penalty of up to \$32,500 for each violation of Section 313 of EPCRA that occurred after March 15, 2004 and on or before January 12, 2009 and \$37,500 for each violation of Section 313 of EPCRA that occurred after January 12, 2009.

### C. ALLEGATIONS

8. Respondent is a "person" as that term is defined by Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(7). At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent was an owner and operator of a "facility," as that term is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 372.3, pursuant to Section 329(4) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(4), which is located at 2201 Rosecrans Ave, El Segundo, California (hereinafter the "Facility"). At all times relevant to this matter, the Facility had 10 or more "fulltime employees," as that term is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 372.3, and total corporate entity sales of over 10 million dollars.

9. The Facility is classified in NAICS Code 334417 which falls under the general category of NAICS Code 334 - Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing.

10. During the calendar year 2007, Respondent manufactured approximately 162,258 pounds of copper and 2,470 pounds of lead, which are listed under 40 C.F.R. § 372.65. During the calendar year 2008, Respondent manufactured approximately 181,396 pounds of copper and 2,762 pounds of lead. During the calendar year 2009, Respondent manufactured approximately 97,076 pounds of copper and 1,458 pounds of lead. Respondent manufactured copper in amounts

over the threshold of 25,000 pounds set forth at 40 C.F.R. § 372.25(a). Respondent manufactured lead in amounts over the threshold of 100 pounds set forth at 40 C.F.R. § 372.28.

11. Respondent failed to submit timely and accurate Form Rs for copper and lead to the EPA Administrator and the State of California on or before July 1, 2010 for the calendar year 2009, on or before July 1, 2009 for the calendar year 2008, and on or before July 1, 2008 for the calendar year 2007, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 372.22, pursuant to Subsection 313(b) of EPCRA. Each of Respondent's failure to submit a timely and accurate Form R for copper and lead that Respondent manufactured at the Facility during the calendar years 2007, 2008, and 2009 constitutes a violation of 40 C.F.R. Part 372, pursuant to Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023.

### D. RESPONDENT'S ADMISSIONS

12. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2) and for the purpose of this proceeding, Respondent (i) admits that EPA has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this CAFO and over Respondent; (ii) neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in Section I.C of this CAFO; (iii) consents to any and all conditions specified in this CAFO and to the assessment of the civil administrative penalty under Section I.F of this CAFO; (iv) waives any right to contest the allegations contained in Section I.C of this CAFO; and (v) waives the right to appeal the proposed final order contained in this CAFO.

### E. <u>RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION</u>

13. In executing this CAFO, Respondent certifies that (1) it has now fully completed and submitted to EPA all of the required toxic chemical release inventory reporting forms in compliance with Section 313 of EPCRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and (2) it has complied with all other EPCRA requirements at all facilities under its control.

# F. <u>CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY, RETENTION OF RIGHTS, AND</u> BINDING EFFECT

The EPA Enforcement Response Policy for EPCRA Section 313 dated August 10,
 1992 provides for a penalty of NINETY THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED dollars (\$90,700)
 for the violations alleged in Section I.C. of this CAFO.

15. EPA's final policy statement on Incentives for Self-Policing: Discovery, Disclosure, Correction and Prevention of Violations, 65 Fed. Reg. 19617 (April 11, 2000) ("Audit Policy") has several important goals, including encouraging greater compliance with the laws and regulations which protect human health and the environment and reducing transaction costs associated with violations of the laws EPA is charged with administering. If certain specified criteria are met, reductions in gravity-based penalties of up to 100% are available under the Audit Policy. These criteria are (1) discovery of the violation(s) through an environmental audit or due diligence; (2) voluntary disclosure; (3) prompt disclosure; (4) discovery and disclosure independent of government or third party plaintiff; (5) correction and remediation; (6) prevent recurrence; (7) no repeat violations; (8) other violations excluded; and (9) cooperation.

16. Complainant has determined that Respondent has satisfied all of the criteria under the Audit Policy and thus qualifies for the elimination of civil penalties in this matter.

### Accordingly, the civil penalty assessed in this matter is zero (\$0) dollars.

17. Complainant's finding that Respondent has satisfied the criteria of the Audit Policy is based upon documentation that Respondent has provided to establish that it satisfies these criteria. Complainant and Respondent agree that, should any material fact upon which Complainant relied in making its finding subsequently prove to be other than as represented by Respondent, this CAFO may be voided in whole or in part.

18. The terms of this CAFO constitute a full settlement of the civil administrative matter filed under the docket number above. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), this CAFO only resolves Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts specifically alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO. Nothing in this CAFO is intended to or shall be construed to resolve (i) any civil liability for violations of any provision of any federal, state, or local law, statute, regulation, rule, ordinance, or permit not specifically alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO; or (ii) any criminal liability. EPA specifically reserves any and all authorities, rights, and remedies available to it (including, but not limited to, injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions) to address any violation of this CAFO or any violation not specifically alleged in Section I.C of this CAFO.

19. This CAFO does not exempt, relieve, modify, or affect in any way Respondent's duty to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, rules, ordinances, and permits.

20. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18(b)(3) and 22.31(b), this CAFO shall be effective on the date that the final order contained in this CAFO, having been approved and issued by either the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator, is filed.

21. The undersigned representative of Complainant and the undersigned representative of Respondent each certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and to bind the party he or she represents to this CAFO.

22. The provisions of this CAFO shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, employees, agents, trustees, servants, authorized representatives, successors, and assigns. Respondent's obligations under this Consent Agreement, if any, shall end when Respondent has performed all of the terms of the Consent Agreement in accordance

with the Final Order. Complainant and Respondent consent to the entry of the CAFO without further notice.

FOR RESPONDENT, TRI-STAR ELECTRONICS INTERNATIONAL, INC.:

Name: Micitater Rollergoni 2012

Title: UNEPRESTRESS ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL ASSISTANT SECRETARING

FOR COMPLAINANT, EPA REGION IX:

2013

Enrique Manzanilla Director Communities and Ecosystems Division U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, **REGION IX** 

### II. FINAL ORDER

Complainant EPA Region 9 and Respondent Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc.

having entered into the foregoing Consent Agreement,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this Consent Agreement and Final Order Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13 and 22.18 (Docket No.EPCRA-09-2013- $\mathfrak{G}_{\mathfrak{P}}$ ) be entered. This CAFO shall become effective upon filing.

02/08/13

STEVEN L. JAWGIEL

Regional Judicial Officer U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the original of the fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order in the matter of Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc. (Docket #: EPCRA-09-2013-0005) was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, and that a true and correct copy of the same was sent to the following parties:

A copy was mailed via CERTIFIED MAIL to:

Michael L. Roberson Vice President & Assistant General Counsel Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc. 2201 Rosecrans Avenue El Segundo, CA 90245

**CERTIFIED MAIL NUMBER:** 7001 0320 0002 4540 4976

A copy was hand-delivered to the following U.S. EPA case attorney:

Margaret Alkon, Esq. Office of Regional Counsel U.S. EPA, Region IX 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

... h Horstein

Bryan K. Goodwin Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA, Region IX

2/8/13



# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX 75 Hawthome Street San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Certified Mail No. 7001 0320 0002 4540 4976 Return Receipt Requested

# FEB 7 2013

Re: EPCRA-09-2013- 0005

Michael L. Roberson Vice President & Assistant General Counsel **Tri-Star Electronics International, Inc.** 2201 Rosecrans Avenue El Segundo, CA 90245

Dear Mr. Roberson:

Enclosed please find your copy of the fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Sections 22.13 and 22.18, which contains the terms of the settlement reached with the EPA Region IX Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Program. Your completion of all actions enumerated in the Consent Agreement and Final Order will close this case.

If you have any questions, please contact Russ Frazer at (415) 947-4220 or have your attorney contact Margaret Alkon at (415) 972-3890.

Enrique Manzanilla, Director Communities and Ecosystems Division

Enclosure