

State of _____

NORTH CAROLINA NON-DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

This Non-Disclosure and Confidentiality Agreement (this "Agreement") is entered into as of _____, 20____ (the "Effective Date") by and between:

Disclosing Party: _____, as a(n) (Check one) Individual
 Corporation Limited Liability Company Partnership Limited Partnership Limited Liability Partnership ("Disclosing Party") and

Receiving Party: _____, as a(n) (Check one) Individual
 Corporation Limited Liability Company Partnership Limited Partnership Limited Liability Partnership ("Receiving Party")

Disclosing Party and Receiving Party have indicated an interest in exploring a potential business relationship relating to: _____

_____ (the "Transaction").

In connection with its respective evaluation of the Transaction, each party, their respective affiliates and their respective directors, officers, employees, agents or advisors (collectively, "Representatives") may provide or gain access to certain confidential and proprietary information. A party disclosing its Confidential Information to the other party is hereafter referred to as a "Disclosing Party." A party receiving the Confidential Information of a Disclosing Party is hereafter referred to as a "Receiving Party." In consideration for being furnished Confidential Information, Disclosing Party and Receiving Party agree as follows:

1. **Confidential Information.** Confidential information is: (Check one)

All information shared by Disclosing Party. "Confidential Information" shall mean (i) all information relating to Disclosing Party's products, business and operations including, but not limited to, financial documents and plans, customers, suppliers, manufacturing partners, marketing strategies, vendors, products, product development plans, technical product data, product samples, costs, sources, strategies, operations procedures, proprietary concepts, inventions, sales leads, sales data, customer lists, customer profiles, technical advice or knowledge, contractual agreements, price lists, supplier lists, sales estimates, product specifications, trade secrets, distribution methods, inventories, marketing strategies, source code, software, algorithms, data, drawings or schematics, blueprints, computer programs and systems and know-how or other intellectual property of Disclosing Party and its affiliates that may be at any time furnished, communicated or delivered by Disclosing Party to Receiving Party, whether in oral, tangible, electronic or other form; (ii) the terms of any agreement, including this Agreement, and the discussions, negotiations and proposals related to any agreement; (iii) information acquired during any tours of



Disclosing Party's facilities; and (iv) all other non-public information provided by Disclosing Party whosoever. All Confidential Information shall remain the property of Disclosing Party.

Only information marked 'Confidential.' "Confidential Information," exchanged by the parties and entitled to protection hereunder, shall be identified or marked as such by an appropriate stamp or marking on each document exchanged designating the information as confidential or proprietary.

Specific information. The term "Confidential Information" as used in this Agreement shall mean any data or information that is competitively sensitive material and not generally known to the public, including, but not limited to, information relating to any of the following, which Disclosing Party considers confidential: (Check all that apply)

'Accounting Information' which includes all books, tax returns, financial information, financial forecasts, pricing lists, purchasing lists and memos, pricing forecasts, purchase order information, supplier costs and discounts, or related financial or purchasing information.

'Business Operations' which includes all processes, proprietary information or data, ideas or the like, either in existence or contemplated related to Disclosing Party's daily and long-term plans for conducting Disclosing Party's business.

'Computer Technology' which includes all computer hardware, software or other tangible and intangible equipment or code either in existence or development.

'Customer Information' which includes the names of entities or individuals, including their affiliates and representatives, that Disclosing Party provides and sells its services or goods to, as well as any associated information, including but not limited to, leads, contact lists, sales plans and notes, shared and learned sales information such as pricing sheets, projections or plans, agreements, or such other data.

'Intellectual Property' which includes patents, trademarks, service marks, logos, trade names, internet or website domain names, rights in designs and schematics, copyrights (including rights in computer software), moral rights, database rights, in each case whether registered or unregistered and including applications for registration, in all rights or forms anywhere in the world.

'Marketing and Sales Information' which includes all customer leads, sales targets, sales markets, advertising materials, sales territories, sales goals and projections, sales and marketing processes or practices, training manuals or other documentation and materials related to the sales, marketing and promotional activities of the Disclosing Party and its products or services.

'Proprietary Rights' which includes any and all rights, whether registered or unregistered, in and with respect to patents, copyrights, trade names, domain names, logos, trademarks, service marks, confidential information, know-how, trade secrets, moral rights, contract or licensing rights, whether protected under contract or otherwise under law, and other similar rights or interests in intellectual property.



- 'Procedures and Specifications' which includes all procedures and other specifications, criteria, standards, methods, instructions, plans or other directions prescribed by Disclosing Party for the manufacture, preparation, packaging and labelling, and sale of its products or services.
- 'Product Information' which includes Disclosing Party's products which are being contemplated for sale, manufactured, marketed, listed, or sold, including any fixes, revisions, upgrades, or versions, of which consists of all data, software and documentation related thereto.
- 'Service Information' which means the services provided by Disclosing Party, including the method, details, means, skills and training, which consists of all data, software and documentation related thereto.
- 'Software Information' which means the proprietary computer programs of Disclosing Party, including all fixes, upgrades, new versions, new enhancements, modifications, edits, conversions, replacements, or the like, in machine readable form or documentation and materials, and all copies and translations of such computer programs, documentation and materials, regardless of the form or media of expression or storage.
- Other: _____

2. Exclusions from Confidential Information. The obligation of confidentiality with respect to Confidential Information will not apply to any information:

- a. If the information is or becomes publicly known and available other than as a result of prior unauthorized disclosure by Receiving Party or any of its Representatives;
- b. If the information is or was received by Receiving Party from a third party source which, to the best knowledge of Receiving Party or its Representatives, is or was not under a confidentiality obligation to Disclosing Party with regard to such information;
- c. If the information is disclosed by Receiving Party with the Disclosing Party's prior written permission and approval;
- d. If the information is independently developed by Receiving Party prior to disclosure by Disclosing Party and without the use and benefit of any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information; or
- e. If Receiving Party or any of its Representatives is legally compelled by applicable law, by any court, governmental agency or regulatory authority or by subpoena or discovery request in pending litigation but only if, to the extent lawful, Receiving Party or its Representatives give prompt written notice of that fact to Disclosing Party prior to disclosure so that Disclosing Party may request a protective order or other remedy to prevent or limit such disclosure and in the absence of such protective order or other remedy, Receiving Party or its Representatives may disclose only such portion of the Confidential Information which it is legally obligated to disclose.



3. **Obligation to Maintain Confidentiality.** With respect to Confidential Information:

- a. Receiving Party and its Representatives agree to retain the Confidential Information of the Disclosing Party in strict confidence, to protect the security, integrity and confidentiality of such information and to not permit unauthorized access to or unauthorized use, disclosure, publication or dissemination of Confidential Information except in conformity with this Agreement;
- b. Receiving Party and its Representatives shall adopt and/or maintain security processes and procedures to safeguard the confidentiality of all Confidential Information received by Disclosing Party using a reasonable degree of care, but not less than that degree of care used in safeguarding its own similar information or material;
- c. Upon the termination of this Agreement, Receiving Party will ensure that all documents, memoranda, notes and other writings or electronic records prepared by it that include or reflect any Confidential Information are returned or destroyed as directed by Disclosing Party;
- d. If there is an unauthorized disclosure or loss of any of the Confidential Information by Receiving Party or any of its Representatives, Receiving Party will promptly, at its own expense, notify Disclosing Party in writing and take all actions as may be necessary or reasonably requested by Disclosing Party to minimize any damage to the Disclosing Party or a third party as a result of the disclosure or loss; and
- e. The obligation not to disclose Confidential Information shall: (Check one)

- Survive the termination of this Agreement, and at no time will Receiving Party or any of its Representatives be permitted to disclose Confidential Information, except to the extent that such Confidential Information is excluded from the obligations of confidentiality under this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 2 above.
- Remain in effect until _____ (Check one) months years from the date hereof or until the Confidential Information ceases to be a trade secret, except to the extent that such Confidential Information is excluded from the obligations of confidentiality under this Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 2 above.

4. **Non-Disclosure of Transaction.** Without Disclosing Party's prior written consent, neither Receiving Party nor its Representatives shall disclose to any other person, except to the extent, the provisions of Paragraph 2 apply: (a) the fact that Confidential Information has been made available to it or that it has inspected any portion of the Confidential Information; (b) the fact that Disclosing Party and Receiving Party are having discussions or negotiation concerning the Transaction; or (c) any of the terms, conditions or other facts with respect to the Transaction.

5. **Non-Compete.** (Cross out if you do not want to include a non-compete clause)

Receiving Party agrees that at no time will Receiving Party engage in any business activity which is competitive with Disclosing Party, nor work for any company which competes with Disclosing party: (Check one)

- During the term of Receiving Party's relationship with Disclosing Party.
- From the date of this Agreement until _____, 20_____.



6. **Non-Solicitation.** (Cross out if you do not want to include a non-solicitation clause)

Receiving Party agrees not to solicit any employee or independent contractor of Disclosing Party on behalf of any other business enterprise, nor shall Receiving Party induce any employee or independent contractor associated with Disclosing Party to terminate or breach an employment, contractual or other relationship with Disclosing Party: (Check one)

- During the term of Receiving Party's relationship with Disclosing Party.
- From the date of this Agreement until _____, 20_____.

7. **Representatives.** Receiving Party will take reasonable steps to ensure that its Representatives adhere to the terms of this Agreement. Receiving Party will be responsible for any breach of this Agreement by any of its Representatives.

8. **Disclaimer.** There is no representation or warranty, express or implied, made by Disclosing Party as to the accuracy or completeness of any of its Confidential Information. Except for the matters set forth in this Agreement, neither party will be under any obligation with regard to the Transaction. Either party may, in its sole discretion: (a) reject any proposals made by the other party or its Representatives with respect to the Transaction; (b) terminate discussions and negotiations with the other party or its Representatives at any time and for any reason or for no reason; and (c) change the procedures relating to the consideration of the Transaction at any time without prior notice to the other party.

9. **Remedies.** Each party agrees that use or disclosure of any Confidential Information in a manner inconsistent with this Agreement will give rise to irreparable injury for which: (a) money damages may not be a sufficient remedy for any breach of this Agreement by such party; (b) the other party may be entitled to specific performance and injunction and other equitable relief with respect to any such breach; (c) such remedies will not be the exclusive remedies for any such breach, but will be in addition to all other remedies available at law or in equity; and (d) in the event of litigation relating to this Agreement, if a court of competent jurisdiction determines in a final non-appealable order that one party, or any of its Representatives, has breached this Agreement, such party will be liable for reasonable legal fees and expenses incurred by the other party in connection with such litigation, including, but not limited to, any appeals.

10. **Notices.** All notices given under this Agreement must be in writing. A notice is effective upon receipt and shall be sent via one of the following methods: delivery in person, overnight courier service, certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed to the party to be notified at the below address or by facsimile at the below facsimile number or in the case of either party, to such other party, address or facsimile number as such party may designate upon reasonable notice to the other party.

Disclosing Party

Name: _____

Representative name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____



Fax number: _____

Receiving Party

Name: _____

Representative name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Fax number: _____

11. **Termination.** This Agreement will terminate on the earlier of:

- (a) the written agreement of the parties to terminate this Agreement;
- (b) the consummation of the Transaction or
- (c) _____ (Check one) months years from the date hereof.

12. **Amendment.** This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a written agreement signed by both of the parties.

13. **Jurisdiction.** This Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of _____, without regard to the principles of conflict of laws. Each party consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts located in the State of _____ for any legal action, suit or proceeding arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. Each party further waives any objection to the laying of venue for any such suit, action or proceeding in such courts.

14. **Miscellaneous.** This Agreement will inure to the benefit of and be binding on the respective successors and permitted assigns of the parties. Neither party may assign its rights or delegate its duties under this Agreement without the other party's prior written consent. In the event that any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in whole or in part, the remaining provisions shall not be affected and shall continue to be valid, legal and enforceable as though the invalid, illegal or unenforceable parts had not been included in this Agreement. Neither party will be charged with any waiver of any provision of this Agreement, unless such waiver is evidenced by a writing signed by the party and any such waiver will be limited to the terms of such writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

Disclosing Party:

Disclosing Party Signature

Disclosing Party Full Name



Disclosing Party Representative
Signature

Disclosing Party Representative
Full Name and Title

Receiving Party:

Receiving Party Signature

Receiving Party Full Name

Receiving Party Representative
Signature

Receiving Party Representative
Full Name and Title

