SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement (Agreement) is entered into by and between the California Air Resources Board (ARB), with its principal office at 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California, Ace Hardware Corporation (ACE) with its principal place of business at 2200 Kensington Court, Oak Brook, Illinois, and United Industries Corporation (UIC) with its principal place of business at One Rider Trail Plaza Drive, Suite 300, Earth City, Missouri.

RECITALS

1. ARB alleges that from 2009 to 2013, ACE sold, supplied, and offered for sale in California containers of **Ace Flying Insect Killer** that was manufactured and supplied by UIC as a private label for ACE that was subject to the volatile organic compound (VOC) limit for "Insecticide : Aerosol Crawling Bug Insecticide" category in Title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 94509(a) due to representations made on the label that the product was suitable for use to kill crawling insects.

2. ARB alleges that **Ace Flying Insect Killer** referenced in recital paragraphs 1 and 2 contained concentrations of VOCs exceeding the 15 percent VOC limit for "Insecticide : Aerosol Crawling Bug Insecticide" specified in Title17, CCR, section 94509(a).

3. ARB alleges that if the allegations described in recital paragraphs 1 and 2 were proven, civil penalties could be imposed against ACE and UIC as provided in Health and Safety Code Sections 42402 et seq. for each and every unit involved in the violations.

4. ACE and UIC admit the allegations described in recital paragraphs 1 and 2, but deny any liabilities resulting from said allegations.

5. The parties agree to resolve this matter completely by means of this Agreement, without the need for formal litigation.

Therefore, the parties agree as follows:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. ACE and UIC shall not manufacture for sale, sell, supply or offer for sale in California any consumer products in violation of ARB consumer products regulations set forth in Title 17, CCR, Section 94500 et seq. however, the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement will remain valid and enforceable notwithstanding any future violations that may occur.

2. ACE and UIC, in full settlement of the above-described violations of Title17, CCR, section 94513(a) agrees to pay a penalty in the amount of $26,600.00

payable to the California Air Pollution Control Fund, concurrent with the execution of this Agreement.

3. This settlement shall apply to and be binding upon ACE and UIC and their respective officers, directors, receivers, trustees, employees, successors and assignees, subsidiary and parent corporations and upon ARB and any successor agency that may have responsibility for and jurisdiction over the subject matter of this settlement.

4. The parties stipulate that this Agreement shall be the final resolution of ARB claims regarding the above-described violations and shall have the same res judicata effect as a judgment in terms of acting as bar to any civil action by ARB against ACE and UIC and their respective officers, directors, receivers, trustees, employees, successors and assignees, subsidiary and parent corporations. This Agreement shall be deemed the recovery of civil penalties for purposes of precluding subsequent criminal action as provided in Health and Safety Code section 42400.7(a).

5. This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California, without regard to California's choice of law rules.

6. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between ARB, ACE and UIC concerning the claims and settlement in this Agreement, and this Agreement fully supersedes and replaces any and all prior negotiations and agreement of any kind or nature, whether written or oral, between ARB, ACE and UIC concerning these claims.

7. No agreement to modify, amend, extend, supersede, terminate, or discharge this Agreement, or any portion thereof, shall be valid or enforceable unless it is in writing and signed by all parties to this Agreement.

8. Each of the undersigned represents and warrants that he or she has full power and authority to enter into this Agreement.

9. **SB 1402 Statement**. California Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 39619.7 (Senate Bill 1402 - Dutton, Chapter 413, statutes of 2010) requires ARB to provide information on the basis for the penalties it seeks. This Settlement Agreement includes this information, which is also summarized here.

   The provision of law the penalty is being assessed under and why that provision is most appropriate for that violation.

   The penalty provision being applied is this case is HSC section 42402, et seq. because UIC and ACE manufactured for sale, supplied and sold consumer products into commerce in California in violation of the Consumer Products Regulations (Title 17 California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 94507, et

seq.). The penalty provisions of HSC section 42402, et seq. apply to violations of the Consumer Products Regulations because the regulations were adopted under authority of HSC section 41712 which is in Part 4 of Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code. The penalty provisions of HSC section 42402, et seq. apply to requirements adopted pursuant to Part 4.

The manner in which the penalty amount was determined, including aggravating and mitigating factors and per unit or per vehicle basis for the penalty.

Penalties must be set at levels sufficient to discourage violations. ARB considered all relevant circumstances in determining penalties, including the eight factors specified in HSC section 42403.

Under HSC section 42402, et seq. the penalty for strict liability violations of the Consumer Product Regulations are a maximum of $1,000 per day violation, with each day being a separate violation. In cases like this involving unintentional first time violations of Consumer Product Regulations, ARB has sought and obtained penalties of approximately $17,000 per ton of excess emissions of volatile organic compounds attributable to the violation. This represents an average cost to retire a ton of volatile organic compound emission credits to comply with the Consumer Product Regulations. The penalty in this case is $26,600 and there were 1.55 tons of excess VOC attributable to the violation. This represents a penalty of approximately $17,000 per ton of excess emissions after the inclusion of investigative costs. Penalties in future cases might be higher or larger on a per unit basis.

Is the penalty being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollution at a specified level, and, if so a quantification of the excess emissions, if it is practicable to do so.

The Consumer Product Regulations do not prohibit emissions above a specific level, but they do limit the concentration of VOCs in regulated products. In this case a quantification of the excess emissions attributable to the violations was practicable because ACE and UIC made the product formulation and sales data necessary to make this quantification available to ARB. Based upon this information (which ACE and UIC have designated as confidential), the violations were calculated to have caused 1.55 tons of excess emissions of volatile organic compounds to be emitted to the atmosphere in California.

10. ACE and UIC acknowledges that ARB has complied with SB1402 in investigating and settling this case. Specifically, ARB has considered all relevant facts, including those listed at HSC section 42403, has explained the manner in which the penalty amount was calculated, has identified the provision of law under which the penalty amount is being assessed and had considered and determined that while this penalty is not being assessed a provision of law that

prohibits the emission of pollutants at a specified level, it is practicable for ARB to quantify the excess emissions from the alleged violations, has done so and has included this information in this Settlement Agreement.

11. Final penalties were determined based on the unique circumstances of this matter, considered together with the need to remove any economic benefit from noncompliance the goal of deterring future violations and obtaining swift compliance, the consideration of past penalties in similar negotiated cases, and the potential costs and risk associated with litigating these particular violations. The penalty reflects violations extending over a number of days resulting in quantifiable harm to the environment considered together with the complete circumstances of this case listed above. The penalty was discounted in this matter based on the factors described. Penalties in future cases might be smaller or larger on a per ton basis.

12. The final penalty in this case was based in part on confidential business information provided by ACE and UIC that is not retained by ARB in the ordinary course of business. The penalty in this case was also based on confidential settlement communications between ARB and ACE and UIC that ARB does not retain in the ordinary course of business either. The penalty also, reflects ARB's assessment of the relative strength of its case against ACE and UIC, the desire to avoid the uncertainty, burden and expense of litigation, obtain swift compliance with the law and remove any unfair advantage that ACE and UIC may have secured from its actions.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Dated: 5/9/2014

By: _____
Ellen M. Peter
Chief Counsel

ACE HARDWARE CORPORATION

Dated: 4/25/14

By: _____

Name: John Surane

Title: Executive Vice President

UNITED INDUSTRIES CORPORATION

Dated: _____

By: _____

Name: Michael G. Pfefferkorn

Title: Secretary