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United States Trademark Maintenance Service

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ATTENTION:

Trademark Owner

REGARDING:

Elective Trademark Monitoring

THE UNITED STATES TRADE MARKS ACT DIRECTS:

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) may grant trademarks that could be confused with other trademarks.

The trademark owner retains sole responsibility for the protection of trademarks registered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the enforcement of the statutory rights associated with it.

Businesses have become increasingly aware of the benefits of registration of a trademark. The number of applications for registration has increased to over 200,000 per year, resulting in an increased potential for confusion between similar marks. Using sophisticated computer software, the electronic database maintained by the USPTO for trademark applications and registration, may be accessed, enabling detection of potentially conflicting trademark applications. Trademark applications are entered into the USPTO's database when received. The United States Trademark Maintenance Service (USTMS) monitors this database, seeking possible conflicts for trademark owners. Identified conflicts allow the trademark owner or their legal counsel to file a "letter of protest" with the USTPO, outlining why the application should not move forward.

Once a prospective mark is approved by a USPTO Examiner, it is published each week in the USPTO's "Trademark Official Gazette". The purpose of the publication is to give those who believe that the registration of the prospective mark will be damaging 30 days from publication to file a Notice of Opposition with the USPTO, or seek an extension of time to oppose. If this deadline is not met, the right of opposition is lost, and the application can proceed. All the aggrieved party can do after registration of the objected-to mark is commence a legal action by way of a Petitic n filed with the USPTO seeking the cancellation of the registration, a proceeding which is complex.

USTMS monitors and reports on applications for trademarks at the USPTO, so you may bring opposition proceedings in a timely fashion, if you so choose.

We are a private entity and do not give legal advice relating to trademarks or such proceedings. For more information please visit www.ustmservice.com. To ensure that you receive notification within the 30 day opposition time period we will notify y(u of potentially confusing trademarks by email and you may review the results on our secure website at www.ustmservice.com

To subscribe to weekly monitoring of the Trademark(s) listed above for one year, complete the required sections below and return to the United States Trademark Maintenance Service.

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