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# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR THE DISTRIC OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENAS

Plaintiff,

VS.

RAPOWER-3, LLC, INTERNATIONAL AUTOMATED SYSTEMS, INC., et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:15-CV-0828 DN

Judge: Honorable David Nuffer

Defendants, RAPOWER-3, LLC; INTERNATIONAL AUTOMATED SYSTEMS, INC.; LTB1, LLC; and NELDON JOHNSON (collectively "Defendants"); by and through their attorney of record, Justin D. Heideman of the law firm of Heideman and Associates, and pursuant to DUCivR 7-1 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 45, request this Court quash or, in the alternative, modify the following subpoenas:

- Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects or to Permit Inspection of Premises in a Civil Action to Bank of American Fork.
- 2. Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects or to Permit Inspection of

- Premises in a Civil Action to Zions Bank.
- 3. Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects or to Permit Inspection of Premises in a Civil Action.
- 4. Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects or to Permit Inspection of Premises in a Civil Action to JPMorgan Chase Bank.
- 5. Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects or to Permit Inspection of Premises in a Civil Action Key Bank, N.A.
- 6. Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects or to Permit Inspection of Premises in a Civil Action to Cyprus Credit Union.
- 7. Subpoena to Produce Documents, Information, or Objects or to Permit Inspection of Premises in a Civil Action to Millard County Credit Union.

(collectively the "Subpoenas").

All of the aforementioned Subpoenas were issued on June 20, 2016 and production is required by July 22, 2016.

#### **ARGUMENT**

# I. THIS COURT SHOULD QUASH THE SUBPOENA BECAUSE THE INFORMATION DEFENDANTS ARE COMMANDED TO PRODUCE ARE CONFIDENTIAL PURSUANT TO FED. R. CIV. P. 45(D)(3)(B).

A court may quash or modify a subpoena that requires the disclosure of trade secrets or confidential research, development, or commercial information. See *Innovative Therapies, Inc. v. Meents*, 302 F.R.D. 364, 380 (D. Md. 2014). Rule 45(d)(3)(b) of The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure states, "[t]o protect a person subject to or affected by a subpoena, the court for the

district where compliance is required may, on motion, quash or modify the subpoena if it requires: (i) disclosing a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information . . ." Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(d)(3)(b).

The 10th Circuit has defined a trade secret as "commercial information relating to business which is secret of value, and which the owner has treated confidentially." See R&D Business Sys. V. Xerox Corp., 152 F.R.D. 195, 197 (D. Colo. 1993). Furthermore, in making a determination on whether to quash or modify, "the court must balance the need for confidential information against the possible injury resulting from disclosure." See *Fanjoy v. Calico Brands, Inc.*, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 55158 at 7. "If [the court finds] disclosure of confidential research is absolutely necessary to the litigation, then the subpoenaed party must comply but protection may be implemented to ameliorate potentially harmful effects.

In *Centurion Industries v. Warren Steurer and Associates*, 665 F.2d 323 (10th Cir. N.M. 1981), a subpoena was issued for computer software trade secrets so experts could adequately form an opinion regarding patent infringement and to rebut any assertions of non-infringement in the action. The court held the information outweighed potential injury but issued a protective order protecting the trade secrets from those outside of the litigation. *Id*.

Here, the information requested by the Subpoena falls squarely within 45(d)(3)(b). The essence of the information requested is directly related to the "lenses" as well as confidential and commercial communications and actions undertaken by Defendants. Similar to *Centurion*, the Subpoena requests information that if produced will expose sensitive financial information associated with Defendants' trade secrets and confidential information. Furthermore, disclosure

by Defendants will expose confidential and commercial communications. However, unlike in *Centurion*, the requested documents are not directly related to understanding the technology of the lenses. Therefore, information involving the details of Defendants technology should receive a higher degree of protection then those documents in *Centurion*, and in *Centurion*, the documents were subject to a protective order.

Here, the documents requested contain highly sensitive and confidential information regarding the technology and costs associated with such as used by Defendants. The harm Defendants would suffer if the trade secrets were disclosed far outweighs the benefits received from such information. If this Court, however, finds the information "absolutely necessary to the litigation," Defendant should at least maintain the protective order of such disclosed information to protect the information from making its way outside the litigation. *Fanjoy*, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 55158 at 7; see also *Industries*, 665 F.2d 323.

Defendant requests that if this Court determines not to quash the Subpoenas, that this Court modify the Subpoenas to allow Defendants to produce the requested documents following the July 27, 2016, hearing on the standard protective order. Because the information requested involves highly confidential as well trade secret information, Defendants believe that modification of the Subpoenas, in the very least, is reasonable given the hearing on the standard protective order is only a few short weeks away.

II. PURSUANT TO THE STANDARD PROTECTIVE ORDER, DEFENDANTS SHOULD BE GRANTED ADDITIONAL TIME TO REVIEW AND DESIGNATE

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

Even in the event this Court finds the costs and expenditures associated with the

confidential, sensitive information are not protected by Rule 45(d)(3)(b), Defendants should be

granted additional time to respond. Pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil

Procedure, this Court has ordered the Standard Protective Order ("Protective Order") which

governs any designated record of information produced pursuant to required disclosures under

any federal rule. Pursuant to the Protective Order, "Documents and things produced or furnished

during the course of this action shall be designated as containing [Confidential Information] by

placing on each page . . . ]." Pursuant to this, if this Court denies quashing or modifying the

Subpoenas, Defendants should be granted additional time, or at least until this Court holds a

hearing on the Protective Order, to review and properly designate the documents and information

in Defendants' possession.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, Defendants request this Court quash or modify the Subpoeanas to

allow production to occur after the hearing on the standard protective order and with enough

time following such to provide accurate, complete responses.

DATED and SIGNED July 15, 2016.

**HEIDEMAN & ASSOCIATES** 

/s/ Justin D. Heideman

Attorney for RAPower-3, LLC; International Automated

Systems, Inc.; LTB1, LLC; and Neldon Johnson

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 2016, I hereby certify a true and correct copy of the forgoing **MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENAS** was served on the following:

Party/Attorney	Method
Former Attorneys for Defendants	
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### **HEIDEMAN & ASSOCIATES**

/s/ Suzanne Peterson
Suzanne Peterson, Legal Assistant