

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—National Fluid Power Association (“NFPA”)**

Notice is hereby given that, on August 30, 2004, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (“the Act”), National Fluid Power Association (“NFPA”) has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization and (2) the nature and scope of its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act’s provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act, the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization is National Fluid Power Association, Milwaukee, WI. The nature and scope of the NFPA’s standards development activities are to develop, plan, establish, and coordinate voluntary consensus standards applicable to the fluid power industry on industry (NEPA), national (American National Standards), and international (ISO) levels. NFPA develops industry and national standard, and coordinates international standards. In order to: Simplify the use of fluid power; help to assure system integrity and safety in the application of fluid power; help educated users on how to correctly size and apply products; determine uniform methods for testing products and expressing their performance, allowing comparison; communicate needs in a commonly understood language; help to improve efficiency of fluid power products and systems; simplify and variety of products and sizes in the marketplace; and encourage new product development. NFPA’s standards for fluid power products and systems fall into three basic categories—communicate standards, design standards and performance standards. NFPA develops industry and national standards in the field of fluid power, specifically hydraulic and pneumatic components and systems for application in both industrial (stationary) and mobile equipment. Components covered include, but are not limited to: accumulators, conductors (rigid and flexible), cylinders, electrohydraulic

and electropneumatic components and systems, connectors, fluid devices, hose fittings and assemblies, filters and separators, fluids, hydraulic pumps, motors, moving-part fluid-controls, pneumatic lubricators, regulators, quick-action couplings, reservoirs, sealing devices and valves. NFPA is actively involved in coordinating and administering fluid power standards on an international level in the field of fluid power systems and components, comprising terminology, construction, principal dimensions, safety requirements and testing and inspection methods. Covered components include, but are not limited to: Accumulators, compressed air dryers, conductors (rigid and flexible), cylinders, electrohydraulic and electropneumatic components and systems, fittings, fluidic devices, hose fittings and assemblies, filters and separators, fluids, hydraulic pumps, motors, moving-part fluid controls, pneumatic lubricators, regulators, quick-action couplings, reservoirs, sealing devices, and valves.

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 04–22156 Filed 10–01–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410–11–M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Portland Cement Association**

Notice is hereby given that, on August 18, 2004, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (“the Act”), the Portland Cement Association has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization and (2) the nature and scope of its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act’s provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act, the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization is: Portland Cement Association, Skokie, IL. The nature and scope of Portland Cement Association’s standards development activities are for the design and construction of assemblies using

cement, cement-based products, and associated products.

Additional information concerning the Portland Cement Association may be obtained from Stephen Szoke, P.E., Director, Codes and Standards, Portland Cement Association, 5420 Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077.

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 04–22162 Filed 10–1–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—PXI Systems Alliance, Inc.**

Notice is hereby given that, on August 31, 2004, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (“the Act”), PXI Systems Alliance, Inc. has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership status. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act’s provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Amplicon Liveline Ltd., Brighton, East Sussex, UNITED KINGDOM; Mapsuka Industries Co., Ltd., Taipei Hsien, TAIWAN; and PXIdirect GmbH, Ilgen, GERMANY have been added as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Memberships in this group research project remains open, and PXI Systems Alliance, Inc. intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On November 22, 2000, PXI Systems Alliance, Inc. filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on March 8, 2000 (66 FR 13971).

The last notification was filed with the Department on June 2, 2004. A notice was published in the **Federal**

Register pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on June 22, 2004 (69 FR 34693).

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 04-22166 Filed 10-1-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association

Notice is hereby given that, on August 18, 2004, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("Act"), the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA) has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization and (2) the nature and scope of its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act, the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization is: Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA), Chantilly, VA. The nature and scope of SMACNA's standards development activities are to promulgate industry standards to the general public and to initiate, promote and document studies directed toward the solution of present and future problems in the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) industry and all facets of the sheet metal industry.

Additional information concerning SMACNA may be obtained from Sue Baker at (703) 803-2980.

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 04-22161 Filed 10-1-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—the Society for Biomolecular Screening, Inc. ("SBS")

Notice is hereby given that, on September 1, 2004, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), The Society for Biomolecular Screening, Inc. ("SBS") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization and (2) the nature and scope of its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act, the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization is: The Society for Biomolecular Screening, Inc. Danbury, CT. The nature and scope of SBS' standard development activities are: Many science-based industries have implemented a High Throughput Screening (HTS) approach for discovery activities. HTS requires that automated devices and full robotic systems be used for this work. These devices and systems cost from tens of thousands of dollars to millions of dollars. The basic tool for this work is the microtiter plate (MTP) and as such, it is economically critical that these devices/systems work in a seamless manner with this tool as supplied by different manufacturers. However, each manufacturer had originally developed MTPs with slightly different dimensions and features to the extent that these plates performed poorly with automation. Laboratory users found it frustrating to try to use different plates with their equipment and often experienced significant financial losses when doing so. Manufacturers of automated devices tried to build in features that allowed for defining different plates from different manufacturers but there was only so much variation that could be accommodated and these changes were driving costs upwards. In 1995, The Society for Biomolecular Screening, Inc. formed a working group that brought together all of the interested parties, (manufacturers of MTPs, automated device manufacturers and users) to establish standards for microtiter plates

that would provide reliable use with all automated equipment and robotics. These standards need to address the various densities of the MTP including 96, 384, and 1536 since it would be expected that the same equipment could work with various formats but not necessarily all formats to contains costs.

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Tree Care Industry Association ("TCIA")

Notice is hereby given that, on September 8, 2004, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Tree Care Industry Association ("TCIA") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization and (2) the nature and scope of its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act, the name and principal place of business of the standards development organization is Tree Care Industry Association, Inc., Manchester, NH. The nature and scope of the TCIA's standards development activities are to serve as the secretariat and SDO for the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A300 standards for tree, shrub, and other woody plant maintenance operations. The ANSI-accredited Standards Committee (ASC) A300 is the committee that writes the standards. TCIA currently has developed four performance standards addressing tree, shrub, and other woody plant maintenance operations: ANSI A300 Part 1-2001 Pruning; ANSI A300 Part-2004 Fertilization; ANSI A300 Part 3-2000 Support Systems; and ANSI A300 Part 4-2002 Lightning Protection Systems. TCIA also has three standards in development: BSR A300 Part 5-200x Management of Trees and Shrubs during Site Planning, Site Development, and Construction; BSR A300 Part 6-200x