

TRANSACTION GRANTED EARLY TERMINATION—Continued

ET date	Transaction No.	ET req status	Party name	
02-Dec-98	19990560	G	Johnson Controls, Inc.	
		G	Megatech Engineering, Inc.	
		G	Affiliated Managers Group, Inc.	
		G	Mr. Edward C. Rorer.	
		G	Edward C. Rorer & Co.	
	19990570	G	Genuine Part Company.	
		G	Johnson Industries, Inc.	
		G	Johnson Industries, Inc.	
	19990573	G	Stonach Trust.	
		G	Meditrust Operating Company.	
		G	Santa Anita Enterprises, Inc.	
		G	Los Angeles Turf Club, Inc.	
	19990576	G	George T. Holden.	
		G	Advance Voting Trust.	
		G	Advance Direct, Inc.	
	19990581	G	Richard Marconi.	
		G	Micelle Laboratories, Inc.	
		G	Micelle Laboratories, Inc.	
	19990591	G	Lillie Heinrich.	
		G	Republic Industries, Inc.	
		G	Desert GMC-East, Inc.	
	02-Dec-98	19990349	G	INSpire Insurance Solutions, Inc.
			G	Patrick J. Kilkenny.
		19990420	G	Arrow Claims Management, Inc.
			G	Arrowhead General Insurance Agency, Inc.
G			Medical Inter-Insurance Exchange of New Jersey.	
19990436		G	Medical Society of New Jersey.	
		G	New Jersey State Medical Underwriters.	
		G	Alcatel.	
19990487		G	Packet Engines Incorporated.	
		G	Packet Engines Incorporated.	
		G	DQE, Inc.	
19990497		G	41/75 Corp.	
	G	Rotunda West Utility Corporation.		
	G	Kjell Inge Rokke.		
19990584	G	Constructor-Dexion plc.		
	G	Constructor-Dexion plc.		
	G	Charming Shoppes, Inc.		
03-Dec-98	19990107	G	Warburg, Pincus Ventures, L.P.	
		G	Petrie Retail, Inc.	
	19990471	G	Associated Wholesale Grocers Inc.	
		G	Fred Meyers, Inc.	
		G	Ralphs Grocery Company, Falley's Inc.	
	19990479	G	R&G Financial Corporation.	
		G	Banco Santander, S.A.	
		G	Santander Mortgage Corporation.	
	19990578	G	Frederick W. Field.	
		G	The Seagram Company Ltd.	
G		Interscope TVT JV.		
19990598	G	Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Group plc.		
	G	Pitney Bowes, Inc.		
	G	Financial Structures Limited.		
		G	Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company.	
		G	Universal Bonding Holding Company, Inc.	
		G	Universal Bonding Holding Company, Inc.	

By Direction of the Commission.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Sandra M. Peay or Parcellena P.
Fielding, Contact Representatives,
Federal Trade Commission, Premerger
Notification Office, Bureau of
Competition, Room 303, Washington,
DC 20580 (202) 326-3100.

Donald S. Clark,*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-34227 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750-01-M

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

[File No. 9723063]

General Signal Power Systems, Inc.;
Analysis To Aid Public Comment**AGENCY:** Federal Trade Commission.**ACTION:** Proposed Consent Agreement.**SUMMARY:** The consent agreement in this
matter settles alleged violations of
federal law prohibiting unfair or

deceptive acts or practices of unfair methods of competition. The attached Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes both the allegations in the draft complaint that accompanies the consent agreement—that would settle these allegations.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before February 26, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be directed to: FTC/Office of the Secretary, Room 159, 600 Pa. Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Matthew D. Gold or Linda K. Badger, San Francisco Regional Office, Federal Trade Commission, 901 Market Street, Suite 570, San Francisco, California 94103, (415) 356-5270.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 6(f) of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 38 Stat. 721, 15 U.S.C. 46 and Section 2.34 of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 2.34), notice is hereby given that the above-captioned consent agreement containing a consent order to cease and desist, having been filed with and accepted, subject to final approval, by the Commission, has been placed on the public record for a period of sixty (60) days. The following Analysis to Aid Public Comment describes the terms of the consent agreement, and the allegations in the complaint. An electronic copy of the full text of the consent agreement package can be obtained from the FTC Home Page (for December 21, 1998), on the World Wide Web, at "http://www.ftc.gov/os/actions97.htm." A paper copy can be obtained from the FTC Public Reference Room, Room H-130, 600 Pennsylvania, NW, Washington, DC 20580, either in person or by calling (202) 326-3627. Public comment is invited. Such comments or reviews will be considered by the Commission and will be available for inspection and copying at its principal office in accordance with Section 4.9(b)(6)(ii) of the Commission's Rules of Practice (16 CFR 4.9(b)(6)(ii)).

Analysis of Proposed Consent Order To Aid Public Comment

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted an agreement, subject to final approval, to a proposed consent order from General Signal Power Systems, Inc., a Wisconsin corporation.

The proposed consent order has been placed on the public record for sixty (60) days for reception of comments by interested persons. Comments received during this period will become part of the public record. After sixty (60) days, the Commission will again review the agreement and the comments received

and will decide whether it should withdraw from the agreement or make final the agreement's proposed order.

General Signal Power Systems, Inc. ("GSPS"), through its division, Best Power, manufactures and markets computer-related products, including the "Patriot" and "Fortress" uninterruptible power systems ("UPS"). Uninterruptible power systems are devices that protect consumer appliances, such as personal computers, from damage resulting from power disturbances or power failures.

The Commission's complaint charges the GSPS's advertising contained false and unsubstantiated claims regarding the extent to which these devices can reduce a consumer's computer problems. Specifically, the complaint alleges that GSPS made unsubstantiated claims that: (1) Best Power products can reduce computer problems, such as crashed networks, crashed hard drives, faulty data transmissions, read/write errors, premature failure of components, system lockups, corrupted or lost data, by up to 80%; (2) Best Power products can reduce computer and network downtime up to 80%; (3) 80% of a typical computer's downtime is due to power problems, rather than to hardware or software problems; and (4) a Patriot or Fortress UPS can reduce the number of calls for computer service by 82%.

The Commission's complaint also alleges that GSPS made a false claim that a five-year power quality study showed that the number of calls for computer service dropped 82% after installation of a UPS. In fact, the complaint states that the 82% figure cited in the advertisements was taken from a one-time customer survey. Moreover, the complaint alleges that the underlying consumer survey offered to support the claim that consumers experienced an 82% reduction in computer problems after the installation of a Patriot or Fortress UPS was not competent and reliable. As an example, the complaint alleges that this consumer survey only considered the experience of purchasers of UPSs which feature a "ferroresonant transformer." UPSs which include this feature provide a higher degree of protection from power disturbances than do the Patriot or Fortress models shown in the advertisements at issue.

The proposed consent order contains provisions designed to remedy the violations charged and to prevent the respondent from engaging in similar acts and practices in the future. Part I of the proposed order would prevent GSPS from making any representations regarding UPSs, or any substantially

similar product, about: (1) The ability of any such product to reduce computer and network downtime; or (2) The extent to which any such product reduces the number of calls for computer service, unless it possesses and relies upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representations.

To remedy GSPS's misrepresentations regarding the consumer survey, part II of the proposed order prohibits GSPS from misrepresenting, in any manner, expressly or by implication, the existence, contents, validity, results, conclusions or interpretations of any test, study, or research regarding any product. As fencing-in relief, Part III of the proposed order would require the company to possess and rely upon competent and reliable evidence to substantiate any claim regarding the benefits, performance, or efficacy of any computer-related product.

Finally, the proposed order requires the respondent to maintain materials relied upon to substantiate claims covered by the order; to provide copies of the order to certain personnel of the respondent; to notify the Commission of any changes in corporate structure that might affect compliance with the order; and to file one or more reports detailing compliance with the order.

The purpose of this analysis is to facilitate public comment on the proposed order. It is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the agreement and proposed order or to modify in any way their terms.

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-34226 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Request for Applications Under the Office of Community Services' Fiscal Year 1999 Combined Program Announcement No. OCS.99.01

AGENCY: Office of Community Services, ACF, DHHS.

ACTION: Announcement of availability of funds and request for applications under the Office of Community Services' Fiscal Year (FY) 1999 Combined Program Announcement No. OCS.99.01.

SUMMARY: The Office of Community Services (OCS) invites eligible entities