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, and Valspar (Valspar) with its principal place of business at 901 3rd Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

RECITALS

1. ARB alleges that from at August 2010 to October 2013, Deere & Company, sold, supplied, and offered for sale in California quantities of "*John Deere Paint and Decal Remover*" subject to the volatile organic compound (VOC) limit for the Adhesive Removers: General Purpose category, title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 94509(a). This product was manufactured by Valspar.

2. ARB alleges that the products referenced in recital paragraph 1, manufactured by Valspar, contained concentrations of VOCs exceeding the 20 percent VOC limit for the Adhesive Removers: General Purpose category categories specified in title 17, 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 as provided in Health and Safety Code sections 42402, et seq. for each and every unit involved in the violations.

4. Valspar admits the allegations described in recital paragraphs 1 and 2, but denies any liability 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. Valspar shall not sell, supply or offer for sale for use 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. Valspar in settlement of the above-described violations of title17, CCR, section 94509(a) agrees to pay a penalty to ARB in the amount of $9000.00 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 Valspar its 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 Valspar, Deere & Company, their 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, and Valspar 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 the ARB, and Valspar 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 Valspar manufactured, and Deere & Company sold, supplied, offered for sale, or manufactured for sale consumer products for 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.

HSC section 42402, et seq. provides strict liability penalties of $1,000 per day for violations of the Consumer Product Regulations. In cases like this, involving unintentional second violations of the Consumer Products Regulations, the ARB has sought and obtained penalties of approximately 3 times the rate of the settlement of the first violations. However, in similar cases with extremely small amounts of excess emissions, ARB has historically obtained penalties that reflect that the violations occurred on at least three days (the day the product was purchased by ARB, the day it was supplied to the retailer, and the day it was manufactured for sale). The total penalty in this case amounted to $9,000.

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 specified 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 the product formulation and sales data necessary to make this quantification was available to the ARB. Based upon this information (which has been designated as confidential), the violations were calculated to have caused 0.02 tons of excess emissions of volatile organic chemicals to be emitted to the atmosphere in California.

10. Valspar 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 has considered and determined that this penalty is not being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollutants at a specified level.

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. 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 Valspar and Deere & Company 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, Valspar and Deere & Company that ARB does not retain in the ordinary course of business. The penalty reflects ARB's assessment of the relative strength of its case against Valspar, the desire to avoid the uncertainty, burden and expense of litigation, obtain swift compliance with the law and remove any unfair advantage that Valspar may have secured from its actions.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Dated: 3/21/14

By: _____
James R. Ryden, Chief
Enforcement Division

VALSPAR

Dated: 3/13/14

By: _____
Jeff Hayward
Environmental and Regulatory
Counsel