PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: C05-03649 JW

1	Printing and Howard Stern summary judgment on liability of their claims against Defendant for
2	violation of California Business and Professions Code §17200 et seq., violation of California
3	Business and Profession Code § 17500 et seq., unjust enrichment, and injunctive relief.
4	Plaintiffs make this motion for partial summary judgment as there is no material issue of
5	fact as to how Defendant promoted its AdWords program, nor as to Defendant's actual billing
6	practices thereunder. There is only the legal issue of whether these conflicting practices are
7	permissible. As Defendant's business practices are false or misleading and as Defendant is
8	continuing this conduct, Plaintiffs seek an Order determining liability and enjoining Defendant
9	from continuing its improper business practices.
10	Plaintiffs' motion is based on this Notice of Motion, the Memorandum of Points and
11	Authorities, the Declarations of CLRB Hanson Industries, LLC, Howard Stern and Michele F.
12	Raphael, submitted herewith, and such other matters and arguments as may be presented to the
13	Court prior to, or at, the hearing on the motion.
14	
15	Dated: September 29, 2006
16	WOLE BORDED LLD
17	WOLF POPPER LLP
18	
19	By: /s/ Michele F. Raphael (Admitted Pro Hac Vice)
20	Lester L. Levy (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) 845 Third Avenue
21	New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600
22	Facsimile: 212.486.2093
23	ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456)
24	Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600
25	San Jose, CA 95112 Telephone: 408.289.1776
26	Facsimile: 408.287.1776
27	Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Class
28	

Case 5:05-cv-03649-JW Document 80 Filed 09/29/2006 Page 2 of 23

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: C05-03649 JW

1		TABLE OF CONTENTS
2	TABLE OF AUTHORIT	IES ii
3	MEMORANDUM OF PO	OINTS AND AUTHORITIES
4	INTRODUCTION	
5	FACTUAL BACKGROU	JND1
6	STATEMENT OF UND	SPUTED FACTS
7	Advertisers Sign	Up for the AdWords Advertising Program over the Internet
8	Google Promotes to Control What T	AdWords as Allowing Advertisers to Set a Daily Budget They Pay Per Day and Without a Minimum Commitment
9	Google Promotes Pause Their Ad an	AdWords as Allowing Advertisers to and Not be Charged While Their Ad is Paused
11	Google Bills Adv and Converts The	ertisers More Than Their Daily Budget ir Daily Budget Into a Monthly Budget
12	Plaintiff Howard	Stern was Charged More Than His Daily Budget and More
13	Campaign was Ac	udget Multiplied by the Number of Days in a Month His etive
1415	Than it Daily Buc	anson was Charged More Than its Daily Budget and More lget Multiplied by the Number of Days in a Month its
16		tive
17		JMMARY JUDGMENT STANDARD11
18		
19		AINTIFFS ARE ENTITLED TO SUMMARY JUDGMENT 5 TO LIABILITY
20	A.	The Undisputed Facts Demonstrate That Google Violated Business & Professions Code §§ 17500 And 17200, et seq 12
21		1. Google's Promotion of its AdWords
22		Program was False or Misleading
23		2. Google Violated Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code §17200 14
24		3. The FAQs Do Not Cure Google's Misleading Conduct . 16
25	В.	The Undisputed Facts Demonstrate That Google Has Been Unjustly Enriched At Plaintiffs' Expense
26	CONCLUSION	
27		
28		
	PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION Case No: C05-03649 JW	N AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT \dot{i}

1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
2	<u>CASES</u>
3	AccuImage Diagnostics Corp v. Terarecon, Inc., 260 F. Supp. 2d 941 (N.D. Cal. 2003)
4	Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.,
5	477 U.S. 242 (1986)
6	Barnes v. United States, No. C 97-1361 SC, 1998 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19615 (C.D. Cal. 1998)
7	
8	<u>Blakemore v. Superior Court,</u> 129 Cal. App. 4th 36, 27 Cal. Rptr. 877 (2005)
9	<u>Celotex Corp. v. Catrett,</u> 477 U.S. 317 (1986)
10	Colgan v. Leatherman Tool Group, Inc.,
11	135 Cal. App. 4th 663, 38 Cal. Rptr. 3d 36 (Cal. Ct. App. 2006)
12	Digital Theater Sys. V. Mintek Digital Inc., No. SA CV 02-902 CJC (Anx), 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16832
13	(C.D. Cal. May 25, 2004)
14	Intel Corp. v. Hartford Accident & Indem. Co., 952 F.2d 1551 (9th Cir. 1991)
15	Lectrodryer v. SeoulBank,
16	77 Cal. App. 4th 723, 91 Cal. Rptr. 2d 881 (2000)
17	Matsushita Elec. Industrial Co. v. Zenith Radio, 475 U.S. 574 (1986)
18	McKell v. Washington Mutual, Inc.,
19	No. B176377, 2006 Cal. App. LEXIS 1436 (Cal. App. Sept. 18, 2006)
20	Microsoft Corp. v. Suncrest Enter.,
21	N. C 03-5424 (HRL), 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32824 (N.D. Cal. May 16, 2006) 14
22	Nagel v. Twin Laboratories, Inc., 109 Cal. App. 4th 39, 134 Cal. Rptr. 2d 420 (2003)
23	Netscape v. Fed. Ins. Co.,
24	No. C 06-00198 JW, 2006 U.S. Dist LEXIS 9569 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 22, 2006)
25	<u>Sebastian Int'l, Inc. v. Russolillo,</u> 186 F. Supp. 2d 1055 (C.D. Cal 2000)
26	United States v. St. Luke's Subacute Hosp. & Nursing Ctr., Inc.,
27	No. C 00-1976 MHP, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 25380 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 15, 2004) 11
28	
20	
	PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: C05-03649 JW ii

	Case 5:05-cv-03649-Jvv Document 80 Filed 09/29/2006 Page 5 of 23
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5	Weaver v. City & County of San Francisco, Piled 09/29/2006 Page 5 of 23 Weaver v. City & County of San Francisco, No. C 03-1589 SI, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 62650 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 18, 2006) 11 STATUTES Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200 et seq. 12, 14, 15, 18 Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17500 et seq. 12, 13, 14, 15, 18 Fed. R. Civ. P. 56 11 Restatement (First) of Restitution § 1 (1937) 17
.6 .7 .8 .9	
20 21 22	
23 24 25	
26 27 28	
	DI AINTHEES! NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR RAPITAL SUMMARY HIDOMENT

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT iii

Case No: C05-03649 JW

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

There is no dispute that Google, Inc. ("Google") offered Plaintiffs Howard Stern and CLRB Hanson Industries LLC, d/b/a/ Industrial Printing ("CLRB Hanson") an advertising program wherein they would have a "daily budget." There is no dispute that Google exceeded each Plaintiff's daily budget on multiple days and that it is Google's policy and practice to do so. There is no dispute that the daily budget is not a daily budget, but a number used to calculate an advertiser's monthly budget and that such monthly budget does not take into account the days an ad is paused. The legal dispute remaining is whether Google's conduct is deceptive, misleading and caused Google to be unjustly enriched. Plaintiffs submit that it is and ask this Court to so find.

FACTUAL BACKROUND

Advertisers use Google's AdWords to have a link to their website appear as a sponsored link on a Google search results page. As promoted by Google, the key feature of Adwords is that it allows advertisers to control their own advertising costs by setting their own daily budget - the amount they are willing to pay for advertising each day. (Advertisers are charged each time an internet user clicks through to their site.) Google also represents AdWords as permitting advertisers to pause their ads and not to incur charges while their ads are paused, allowing them to control their costs as well as the demand for their products/services. As per Google, "Ad system ensures you never pay more than your daily budget multiplied by the number of days in a month your campaign was active." This is not what happens.

The daily budget is a sham. Instead of giving effect to a daily budget, Google uses the daily budget to calculate a monthly budget (daily budget times 30/31) and bills advertisers up to said monthly amount for that "month" even if the ad did not run everyday. Under this "monthly"

¹ <u>See</u> Exhibit A to the Declaration of Howard Stern submitted in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Partial Summary Judgment ("Stern Decl.") and Exhibit A to the Declaration of CLRB Hanson Industries, LLC submitted in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Partial Summary Judgment ("CLRB Hanson Decl.").

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

budget, Google exceeds a daily budget on the days an ad runs and uses the paused days (including weekends and holidays when ads are often paused) as well as those days the ad ran, but did not reach its daily budget (i.e., low click throughs or intraday pausing) to absorb the excess charges. For example, if an advertiser with a daily budget of \$100 ran its ad only five days in a 30 day period and Google delivered the ad so as to bill it \$110 each day, Google will charge \$550, because it is within the \$3000 "monthly" budget - albeit making the "daily" budget, the right to pause without charge, and its assurance that charges will not exceed the daily budget times the number of days the ad is active, false, misleading, deceptive and meaningless.

As Plaintiff Stern complained to Google, "My understanding of a 'daily budget' of \$10 is very simple: daily cost not to exceed \$10. I don't expect to pay more on some days to compensate for days that had costs less than \$10. I'm not trying to meet a monthly target, rather a daily target. The extra traffic I might get from spending more than \$10/day results in not being able to meet the extra demand. That's why I set the budget to \$10... I was overcharged every day that my account exceeded my \$10 daily budget. It's that simple. The way Adwords bills is a misrepresentation of the daily budget that prominently appears on the Campaign management screen and the set up screens that request budget information. The Adwords home page promises that: 'You have total control over every aspect of your campaign.' Apparently not." See Statement of Undisputed Facts, infra, ¶22

STATEMENT OF UNDISPUTED FACTS

Advertisers Sign Up for the AdWords Advertising Program over the Internet

- 1. AdWords is a global advertising program offered by Google. (SAC \P^2 14; Ans. \P^3 14.)
 - 2. Advertisers sign-up for AdWords over the Internet. (SAC ¶ 19; Ans. ¶ 19.)

²References to "SAC ¶" are to paragraphs in Plaintiffs' Second Amended Class Action Complaint, dated May 4, 2006.

³References to "Ans. ¶" are to paragraphs in Defendant's Answer to Plaintiffs' Second Amended Class Action Complaint, dated July 12, 2006.

1	3.	Clicking on the "Advertising Programs" hyperlink on the Google.com Internet
2	search engine	site (Google's homepage) brings up the Google page with the hyperlink for
3	"Google AdW	Vords," which, in turn, brings up the AdWords "sign up" or login page. (SAC ¶ 21;
4	Ans. ¶ 21.)	
5	4.	During the sign up process, an advertiser creates an ad, selects keywords, chooses
6	a geographic	location to target, sets a maximum cost-per-click and sets a daily budget. The
7	advertiser also	o creates an AdWords account by providing an email address and choosing a
8	password. (S.	AC ¶ 22; Ans. ¶ 22.) (Stern Tr., 34:20-24 ⁴ : "You basically give the keywords; your
9	daily budget;	your cost per click, I believe; your credit card information; your mailing address;
10	an e-mail, cor	ntact e-mail.")
11	5.	Google has not produced the sign-up screens in effect when Plaintiffs Stern and
12	CLRB Hanso	n enrolled in the AdWords program.
13		notes AdWords as Allowing Advertisers to Set a Daily Budget That They Pay Per Day and Without a Minimum Commitment
1415	6.	A key feature of AdWords is that it allows advertisers to set their own "daily
16	budget." (SA	.C ¶ 30; Ans. ¶ 30.)
17	7.	On an AdWords webpage entitled "AdWords Advantages" Google represents that
18	it enables adv	rertisers to "Fully control your ad budget." (SAC ¶ 16; Ans. ¶ 16.)
19	8.	The AdWords agreement ⁵ states that it gives advertisers the right to set their own
20	daily budget a	as a method of cost control. (SAC ¶ 32; Ans. ¶ 32.)
21	9.	In its Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004, and filed with the SEC
22	on March 30,	2005 (the "2004 Form 10-K") Google represented with respect to Adwords, that:
23		
24	⁴ Refer	rences to "Stern Tr." are to the deposition transcript of Plaintiff Howard Stern, who
25	was deposed	on August 16, 2006. A copy of all pages cited from the Stern Tr. are contained in
26		Declaration of Michele F. Raphael in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Partial greent, dated September 29, 2006 ("Raphael Decl.")

27

tiff Howard Stern, who n Tr. are contained in Iotion for Partial Summary Judgment, dated September 29, 2006 ("Raphael Decl.").

⁵The term "agreement" has no legal significance. Whether there is a valid contract between the parties is a legal question for this Court.

"[a]dvertisers can also manage expenditures by setting a maximum daily budget and determining
how much they are willing to pay whenever a user clicks on an ad." (SAC ¶ 44; Ans. ¶ 44.)

- 10. The ability to set and control their own daily budget caused Plaintiffs to sign-up for AdWords. (Stern Tr., 22:23-24: "I looked at if there were minimum charges, monthly charges."; 174:12-18: "Q. . . . So why did you switch to Google from Yahoo? A. Because Yahoo had a monthly minimum that I needed to pay, whether or not I even ran the ads. Q. And Google? A. They had no minimum."; Hanson Tr., 22:15-17⁶: "We controlled the daily budget. And that's what intrigued me to the value proposition that Google offered at that time.")
- During the sign-up process, advertisers can click on form questions or search for help by entering terms they have questions about. By clicking on form questions and by entering help terms, Google brings to the screen responsive portions of the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs"). (SAC \P 26; Ans. \P 26.) There are hundreds of pages of FAQs.⁷

⁶References to "Hanson Tr." are to the deposition transcript of Brett Hanson, produced by CLRB Hanson, on August 18, 2006. A copy of all pages cited from the Hanson Tr. are contained in Ex. D to the Raphael Decl.

⁷The 142 pages of FAQs which were retrieved from Google's website at the time the initial complaint in this action was filed and which are annexed to the SAC are referred to as the "Complaint FAQs." The Complaint FAQs are annexed as Ex. I to the Raphael Decl.

At Plaintiff Stern's deposition, Defendant marked as Exs. 13 and 15, the Terms ("Stern")

Terms") and FAQs ("Stern FAQs"), respectively, in effect when Plaintiff Stern enrolled in AdWords. The Stern Terms were produced at GOOG-HN 21575-21577. The Stern FAQs are comprised of GOOG-HN 20823-20826, 20867-20869, 20887-20888, 20905-20908, 20922-20932, 20969-20971, 20987-20988, 21005-21007, 21025-21026, 21070-21072, 21082-21084, 21146-21148, 21167-21170, 21187-21190, 21203-21205, 21230-21234, 21237-21238, 21245-21246, 21295-21299, 21331-21335. "GOOG-HN" denotes documents produced by Google in this litigation. The Stern Terms and Stern FAQs are annexed as Ex. G to the Raphael Decl.

At Brett Hanson's deposition, Defendant marked as Exs. 22 and 23, the Terms ("Hanson Terms") and FAQs ("Hanson FAQs"), respectively, in effect when Plaintiff CLRB Hanson enrolled in AdWords. The Hanson Terms are comprised of GOOG-HN 21572-21574. The Hanson FAQs are comprised of GOOG-HN 20835-20838, 20864-20866, 20903-20904, 20974-20975, 20991-20992, 21011-21013, 21033-21034, 21061-21063, 21118-21121, 21152-21154, 21195-21198, 21249-21250, 21303-21305, 21340-21343. The Hanson Terms and Hanson FAQs are annexed as Ex. H to the Raphael Decl.

Defendant marked the FAQs in effect as of August 16, 2006 at the deposition of Plaintiff Stern, as Ex. 21. A copy of the current FAQs ("Current FAQs") are annexed as Ex. J to the

Case 5:05-cv-03649-JW

Document 80

Filed 09/29/2006

Page 10 of 23

1		budget (how much you want to pay per day). There is just a \$5 activation fee to get started and no monthly minimum spending
2 3		commitment. (<u>Stern FAQs</u> , GOOG-HN 20906.) (Emphasis added.)
		How much does AdWords cost?
4		In the Google AdWords program, the cost of your campaigns really depends on you how much you are
5		willing to pay and how well you know your audience. It all boils down to knowing your own goals and letting us
6		know what they are [Y]ou pay only for clicks on your AdWords ads, and you can control that by telling us how
7		much you are willing to pay per click and per day. (Complaint FAQs, 010.) (Emphasis added.)
8		How much does AdWords cost?
9		There is a nominal, one-time activation fee for Google AdWords. After that, you pay only for clicks on your AdWords ads You can
10		control your costs by selecting how much you are willing to pay per click or per impression and by setting a daily budget for spending in
11		your account. Daily budgets start as low as 1 cent up to whatever limit the advertiser is
12		comfortable spending. (Current FAQs, 49-50.) (Emphasis added.)
13	D.	How does Google come up with a recommended daily budget?
14	D.	Remember, setting your daily budget to the amount we recommend is optional-you're always in full control of your AdWords account. You can
15 16		edit your campaign's daily budget as often as you'd like, and to whatever amount results in the most appropriate return on investment for you. (Complaint FAQs, 061.) (Emphasis added.)
	F	
17	E.	Why can't I see my ad? * * *
18		Check your daily budget If your daily budget is set lower than the recommended amount, we spread the delivery of your ad throughout
19 20		the day in order to stay within your budget. (Stern FAQs, GOOG-HN 21188; Hanson FAQs, GOOG-HN 21119; Complaint FAQs, 036.) (Emphasis added.)
21	F.	What happens if my daily budget is lower than what the AdWords system
22		recommends? * * *
23		How do I make this change? You may have received an email or a notification in your account
24		stating that your ads have periodically stopped showing because one or more of your campaigns has reached its daily budget. This notification links to a tool you can use to edit your daily budget.
25		* * *
26		Is this just a way to get me to pay more? If you increase your daily budget , you won't necessarily spend it all. Remember, you only pay when people click your ads. And, of course,
27		you're always in control of your account-you never have to pay more than
28		you want. (<u>Complaint FAQs</u> , 048 - 049.) (Emphasis added.)
	PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF M	OTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

¢ase 5:05-cv-03649-JW Document 80 Filed 09/29/2006 Page 11 of 23

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: $C05-03649~\mathrm{JW}$

(Case 5:05-cv-03649-	JW Document 80 Filed 09/29/2006 Page 12 of 23
1		(See also Current FAQs, 160, "If you select a daily budget lower then the
2		recommended amount, our system will not show your ad every time searches are run on your keywords. It will spread the <u>delivery of your ad</u>
3		throughout the day so you don't exceed your budget.") (Emphasis added.)
4	G.	[Y]ou control how much you spend by selecting [choosing] a
5		maximum cost-per-click (CPC) and daily budget that fit your advertising goals. (Stern FAQs, GOOG-HN 21169; Complaint FAQs, 062; Current FAQs,
6		151.) (Emphasis added.)
7	Н.	How does Google keep my campaign below my [the] daily budget? Google shows your ads evenly over time so that you reach your daily
8		budget by the end of each day. This keeps your ad from accumulating charges [clicks] early on and then disappearing for the remainder of the
9		day. Once you've selected your keywords, you'll see a recommended daily
10		budget. If you set your daily budget to this value, you will maximize your ad's visibility[.] If your daily budget is lower than the
11 12		recommended amount, Google will deliver your ads evenly throughout the day to keep your costs [clicks] at or below your daily budget.
13		(Stern FAQs, GOOG-HN 20906, 20888; Hanson FAQs, GOOG-HN 20904; Complaint FAQs, 062.) (Emphasis added.)
13	I.	AdWords billing & payments: AdWords account costs How do I control the cost of my ads?
15		With cost-per-click advertising on AdWords, the cost of your campaigns really depends on you - how much you are willing to pay and how well
16		you know your audience. It all boils down to knowing your own goals and letting us know what they are.
17		• Set your own limits: There is a nominal activation fee for Google AdWords. After that, you tell us how much you are willing to pay per click and per day.
18		(Complaint FAQs, 059.) (Emphasis added.)
19	15. "Mont	hly budget" is not mentioned in the Stern FAQs nor in the Hanson FAQs.
20	16. Google	e represented that there is no minimum spending commitment for Adwords:
21	a.	<u>Is there a minimum spending commitment?</u> You can create an account for only a \$5 activation fee. You have
22		complete control over how much you spend and how you spend it. You choose the maximum cost-per-click (CPC) and the daily budget that fit
23		your advertising goals. (Stern FAQs, GOOG-HN 20825; Hanson FAQs, GOOG-HN 20837,
24		21120.)
25	b.	Are there spending requirements, a minimum contract length, or other qualifying terms?
26		There is never a minimum spending commitment when you sign up for AdWords. No minimum contract requirements or other "lock-in" rules
27		apply. You have complete control over how long you participate in AdWords, and you control the maximum you want to spend per day.
28		(Complaint FAQs, 012.) (Emphasis added.)
	PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MO	TION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

3	17.	Ad and Not be Charged While Their Ad is Paused Google's AdWords Demos & Guides ⁹ , Bidding and Ranking, provides:
1		Google AdWords
5		Daily Budget: Daily budget is based on the keyword Traffic Estimator
5		 Daily charges can fluctuate depending on clicks you receive Ad system ensures you never pay more than your daily budget
7		multiplied by the number of days in a month your campaign was active
3		(Raphael Decl., Ex. A.) (Emphasis added.)
)	18.	Online at the AdWords Help Center Google represents:
)		a. Can I have my ads run at particular times of day? You can also pause your campaigns completely at any time. You won't accrue charges while your ads are paused, and they'll remain paused
1		until you resume them. (Raphael Decl., Ex. B.) (Emphasis added.)
2		b. Pause Campaign
3		Pause your ad campaign at any time. Your ads will not accrue charges while they are paused, and they will remain paused until you resume
1		them. (Raphael Decl., Ex. B.) (Emphasis added.)
5	19.	Google likewise represents in the FAQs:
7		You can pause your ad campaign at any time. You won't accrue charges while your ads are paused, and they'll remain paused until you resume them. (Complaint FAQs, 026.) (Emphasis added.)
3		(See also Current FAQs, 261, "You can also pause your campaigns completely at any time. You won't accrue charges while your ads are paused, and they'll remain paused until you resume them.")
)	20.	Plaintiffs understood that they would not be billed when their ad was paused.
1		(<u>Hanson Tr.</u> , 70:2 - 9: "Q And what — what caused you to use the pausing feature? A. It's a unique selling feature allowing you to turn off and on your
2		costs. Having more ability to control the costs associated with your pay-for-click advertising. I thought it was an asset of Google's that others did not have.";
3		Stern Tr., 92:11-21: "Q. And what made you believe that you would — that the days that your campaign was paused would not be included in that calculation?
ļ 5		A. Well, for the simple reason that this is — this AdWords is put forward as something that gives me complete control over my charges, so I thought — thought it was reasonable to assume, if I'm not running my ads, why would I be
5		charged for days that I'm turning them off.")
7	-	

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: C05-03649 JW $\,\,$

1 Google Bills Advertisers More Than Their Daily Budget and Converts Their Daily Budget Into a Monthly Budget 2 21. In the Joint Case Management Statement Google admits: 3 "To make sure that an advertiser's ads obtain the maximum available click 4 throughs in a monthly billing period, Google will deliver advertisements in excess of a specified daily budget, so long as the monthly total does not exceed the daily budget times the number of days in the month." 5 6 22. Google admitted to Mr. Stern: "In general, we try to keep your daily cost fluctuation to no more than 20% above 7 your daily budget, and we make sure that within the 30/31 day billing period (a 8 month), you are never charged more than the number of days in the billing period times your daily budget. This ensures that over time, you maximize your advertising budget." (Raphael Decl., Ex. E, P-0129¹⁰.) 9 10 Mr. Stern responded to Google: 11 "My understanding of a 'daily budget' of \$10 is very simple: daily cost not to exceed \$10. I don't expect to pay more on some days to compensate for days that had costs less than \$10. I'm not trying to meet a monthly target, rather a daily 12 target. The extra traffic I might get from spending more than \$10/day results in not being able to meet the extra demand. That's why I set the budget to \$10." 13 (Raphael Decl., Ex. E, P-0128, GOOG-HN 00358, 00361D.) 14 "I was overcharged every day that my account exceeded my \$10 daily budget. 15 It's that simple. The way Adwords bills is a misrepresentation of the daily budget that prominently appears on the Campaign management screen and the set up 16 screens that request budget information. The Adwords home page promises that: You have total control over every aspect of your campaign. Apparently not. I 17 would simply want my campaign to automatically pause once my daily budget is reached. Considering the impressive technology built into the Adwords system that shouldn't be an insurmountable problem. Letting it run unchecked results in 18 gross overexposure (on 11/18 I was charged \$23.18, over 130% more than my \$10 daily budget). Later on in the month I'll have gross underexposure when the 19 system tries to even things out. It happened last month." (Raphael Decl., Ex. E, 20 P-0139, GOOG-HN 00349-350.) 23. When CLRB Hanson complained about charges above its daily budget, "Tina" at 21 22 Google acknowledged that "your accounts have accrued more clicks in a day than your daily 23 budgets allow." (Raphael Decl., Ex. F, GOOG-HN 00246-247.) 24 "Tina" at Google, admitted: a. 25 "I understand that you accrued charges over your daily budget again yesterday. I apologize for any inconvenience caused by this 26 overdelivery. At this time, please feel free to reduce your daily budgets in order to decrease the overall charges you accrue this week." 27

¹⁰Documents designated "P" were produced by Plaintiffs in this litigation.

(ase 5:05-cv-03649-JW	Document 80	Filed 09/29/2006	Page 15 of 23
1	(Ra	phael Decl., Ex. F,	GOOG-HN 00249.)	
2	b. "Be	ethanie," at Google,	explained to CLRB H	anson:
3				ount, you tell our system how
4	A b	illing period can eit		ne context of a billing period. I (monthly 'budget') or can ing."
5	"W	hen we bill your ac	count if we have overd	lelivered your ad, within the
6 7	con	text of the billing p dit your account bac		ve 'undelivered' it, we will
8	c. CL	RB Hanson respond	led:	
9	"He	ello Bethanie, I don	't understand that logic	the platform GOOGLE
10	allo	w you to control co	osts that is what we do.	
11	cred	dit for all the daily of	overcharges by ad cam	e you to immediately issue a paign from January 2004
12	and	I will have our atto	orney get involved unfo	ppen immediately call me ortunately this has come to
13	trea	ted as such and wil	l not continue to be tal	and we are just not being ken advantage of GOOGLE
14		d to address this too phael Decl., Ex. F,	GOOG-HN00287.)	
15	24. In the Joint	Case Management	Statement, Defendant	claims that it "fully
16	discloses its practice of ma	aximizing an adver	tiser's potential click th	hroughs per month" and sans
17	dates or pages, states that	the FAQs provide:		
18				dget is being exceeded, that is to deliver enough ads to
19	fully satisfy	y your daily budget		h month. (That is, your daily
20	fluctuate fr	om day to day, we	may over-deliver ads o	on a given day to make up for if you budget US\$100 per
21	day in a 30	-day month, you ma	ay receive more than Uould pay is US\$3,000 fe	JS\$100 in clicks on a given
22		•		ecognizes any charges in
23	excess of y those exces	our total monthly b ss charges. Instead,	udget. When this happy you'll see an over-del	pens, you won't be billed for ivery credit for those charges
24	on your Ad	lvertising Costs pag	re	
25			es that you maximize y ng billed in excess of y	our advertising opportunities our daily budget."
26	_		•	-
27				
28				

Plaintiff Howard Stern was Charged More Than His Daily Budget and More Than His Daily Budget Multiplied by the Number of Days in a Month His Campaign was Active

25. Plaintiff Stern ran his campaign four days in September 2005 and two days in December 2005, having a daily budget of \$10. He was charged in excess of his daily budget and in excess of his daily budget multiplied by the number of days in the month(s) his campaign was active. See Stern Decl.

Plaintiff CLRB Hanson was Charged More Than its Daily Budget and More Than its Daily Budget Multiplied by the Number of Days in a Month its Campaign was Active

26. Plaintiff CLRB Hanson ran a campaign for twenty-seven days in February 2005 and seventeen days in March 2005, having a daily budget of \$50. It was charged in excess of its daily budget and in excess of its daily budget multiplied by the number of days in the month(s) its campaign was active. See CLRB Hanson Decl.

ARGUMENT

I. SUMMARY JUDGMENT STANDARD

Summary judgment is appropriate when there is no genuine issue as to material facts and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56. If summary adjudication of an entire claim is not possible, a court can grant partial summary judgment so as to reduce the number of factual issues to be resolved at trial. United States v. St. Luke's Subacute Hosp. & Nursing Ctr., Inc., No. C 00-1976 MHP, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 25380, at *8 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 15, 2004). If the nonmoving party fails to show that there is a genuine issue for trial, "the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Celotex Corp.v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 323 (1986). "The mere existence of a scintilla of evidence" is insufficient to create a genuine issue of material fact. Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 252 (1986). Summary judgment is appropriate if the "the record taken as a whole could not lead a rational trier of fact to find for the non-moving party." Intel Corp. v. Hartford Accident & Indem. Co., 952 F.2d 1551, 1558 (9th Cir. 1991), citing Matsushita Elec. Industrial Co. v. Zenith Radio, 475 U.S. 574, 587 (1986); see also Weaver v. City & County of San Francisco, No. C 03-1589 SI, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 62650, at *2-3 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 18, 2006) (relying upon statements made

in the Joint Case Management Statement & Proposed Order to grant plaintiff's motion for summary judgment).

II. PLAINTIFFS ARE ENTITLED TO SUMMARY JUDGMENT AS TO LIABILITY

There is no genuine issue of material fact as to Google's liability. Google admits that it charges advertisers more than their daily budget on any given day and that it holds advertisers liable up to a monthly budget - irrespective of how many days their ad was active. The facts that Google advertised, offered and required advertisers to set a daily budget and that it represented that advertisers would not be charged for days that their ad did not run nor more than their daily budget times the number of days their ad ran, are also indisputable. The only issue for trial is the amount of damages.

A. The Undisputed Facts Demonstrate That Google Violated Business & Professions Code §§ 17500 And 17200, et seq.

1. Google's Promotion of its AdWords Program was False or Misleading

Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code § 17500 prohibits a business entity from disseminating, in any manner or means whatever, any statement regarding its product or performance "which is untrue or misleading, and which is known, or which by the exercise of reasonable care should be known, to be untrue or misleading." Nagel v. Twin Laboratories, Inc., 109 Cal. App. 4th 39, 51, 134 Cal. Rptr. 2d 420 (2003) ("A claim for false advertising requires proof that the defendant, in connection with the sale of a product or service, made an untrue or misleading statement regarding the product or service.") "To prevail on a false advertising claim, a plaintiff need only show that members of the public are likely to be deceived. . . A 'reasonable consumer' standard applies when determining whether a given claim is misleading or deceptive," Colgan v. Leatherman Tool Group, Inc., 135 Cal. App. 4th 663, 682, 38 Cal. Rptr. 3d 36, 48 (2006) (citations omitted); McKell v. Washington Mutual, Inc., No. B176377, 2006 Cal. App. LEXIS 1436, (Cal. App. Sept. 18, 2006). The determination can be made as a matter of law. Colgan at 682-83 (no reasonable consumer would expect that parts of a product stamped "Made in U.S.A." had been manufactured abroad). "In determining whether a statement is misleading under the statute, 'the primary evidence in a false advertising case is the advertising itself.' The

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: C05-03649 JW 12

'misleading character' of a given representation 'appears on applying its words to the facts.'"

Colgan, 135 Cal. App. 4th at 679 (citations omitted). A statement can be true, yet still be misleading under §17500. Nagel, 109 Cal. App. 4th 39 at 51; McKell, 2006 Cal. App. LEXIS 1436, at *17 ("A perfectly true statement couched in such a manner that it is likely to mislead or deceive the consumer, such as by failure to disclose other relevant information, is actionable [under these sections].") (citation omitted).

Google's inducements and representations concerning a daily budget, the right to pause without being charged, the right to control your own advertising costs, Google's distribution of an ad throughout the day so as not exceed the daily budget, and the right to be billed no more than your daily budget times the number of days your ad is active, (see Undisputed Facts, supra) are all false or misleading in light of its billing practices. In reality, Google: exceeds the daily budget set by the advertiser¹¹; converts the daily budget into a monthly budget; penalizes advertisers for days their ad is paused; and charges advertisers more than their daily budgets times the number of days their ad runs. Google massages the advertiser's budget (which Google promotes as the way the advertiser can completely control his costs) improperly to create a monthly budget. Then, Google will overdeliver an ad on any given day in order to "compensate" the advertiser for any day that the daily budget was not reached, and will use any and all paused days to absorb excess charges - in order to reach the "monthly budget" (or monthly revenue) (the daily budget times 30/31 days) it calculated. Not only does this billing practice contradict the daily budget, and the right to pause and not "accrue" charges, but it also contradicts Google's own tutorial which tells advertisers: "Ad system ensures you never pay more than your daily budget multiplied by the number of days in a month your campaign was active." Thus, Google's representations are false or misleading. Mr. Stern ran his ad only four days in

24

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

25

²⁶²⁷

¹¹Google's false and misleading use of the term "daily" is compounded by its explicit use of the term "monthly" budget in the context of its Budget Optimizer and Jumpstart programs, which are offered as alternatives to the "daily budget." (Raphael Decl., Ex. I, <u>Complaint FAQs</u>, 032-034.)

September, 2005 with a daily budget of \$10, but was billed more than \$40. See Stern Decl. ¹² Even if his ad only reaches \$8 of its \$10 daily budget on a given day, Google, as per its description of the AdWords program, does not have the right to "compensate," or to recoup its own lost revenue by overdelivering the ad and charging Plaintiff Stern, or any advertiser \$12 the next day. Indeed, an advertiser may pause its ad intraday on a Monday (due to demand or otherwise), and may not be able to meet the excess demand from Google's overdelivery on Tuesday, which is what Mr. Stern explained to Google. See Statement of Undisputed Facts, supra, ¶22.

In sum, by comparing Google's promotions and advertising to its actual billing practices, none of which is disputed, it is clear that Google is engaging in false and deceptive conduct and profiting thereby. Google's efforts to defend its billing practices, i.e.: characterizing its billings as "mak[ing] sure that an advertiser's ads obtain the maximum available click-throughs in a monthly billing period," serves only to demonstrate that Google is fully aware of the discrepancy between its advertisement of AdWords and its billing thereunder.

2. Google Violated Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code §17200

Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code § 17200 prohibits "any unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business act or practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue or misleading advertising and any act prohibited by § 17500." "The Legislature intended this sweeping language to include anything that can properly be called a business practice and that at the same time is forbidden by law." Microsoft Corp. v. Suncrest Enter., No. C 03-5424 (HRL), 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32824, at *23 (N.D. Cal. May 16, 2006) (J. Fogel) (granting summary judgment to plaintiff) (citation omitted); Netscape Communs. Corp. v. Fed. Ins. Co., No. C 06-00198 JW, 2006 U.S. Dist LEXIS 9569, at *10 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 22, 2006) (J. Ware) ("pattern of conduct which disregarded common law doctrine and misled consumers constituted 'unfair business practices'") (citation omitted).

As demonstrated above, Google's conduct violates §17500. Hence, it violates § 17200 as well. Indeed, a practice that is misleading is also deceptive and "[a] practice which is deceptive

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: C05-03649 JW

¹²Plaintiff CLRB Hanson was similarly overcharged by Google. <u>See</u> CLRB Hanson Decl.

is necessarily unfair." <u>Blakemore v. Superior Court</u> , 129 Cal. App. 4th 36, 49, 27 Cal. Rptr. 877,
888 (2005) (footnote omitted). <u>Digital Theater Sys. v. Mintek Digital, Inc.</u> , No. SA CV 02-902
CJC (ANx), 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16832, at *22-24 (C.D. Cal. May 25, 2004) (granting partial
summary judgment to plaintiff on its § 17200 and § 17500 claims because public likely to be
deceived by defendant's sale of products with plaintiffs' trademarks). The <u>Blakemore</u> Court
reversed the trial court and held that plaintiffs had stated a claim for violation of the unfair and
fraudulent prongs based upon their allegations that: Avon represented that it would ship and
charge only for ordered products, and representatives could return unordered products for full
credit, when in actuality Avon shipped unordered products and refused to grant credit for
returned products, "thus deceiving its sales representatives into accepting and paying for
unordered products with the expectation that their accounts would be credited in the future." <u>Id</u> .
at *49.

In this case, as discussed, *supra*, Google's statements in promoting AdWords were false or misleading and deceived advertisers as to the true cost of the Adwords program. The deceptive effect was best articulated by Mr. Stern in his e-mails to Google:

My understanding of a 'daily budget' of \$10 is very simple: daily cost not to exceed \$10. I don't expect to pay more on some days to compensate for days that had costs less than \$10. I'm not trying to meet a monthly target, rather a daily target. The extra traffic I might get from spending more than \$10/day results in not being able to meet the extra demand. That's why I set the budget to \$10.

I was overcharged every day that my account exceeded my \$10 daily budget. It's that simple. The way Adwords bills is a misrepresentation of the daily budget that prominently appears on the Campaign management screen and the set up screens that request budget information. The Adwords home page promises that: 'You have total control over every aspect of your campaign.' Apparently not.

(Raphael Decl., Ex. E)

Not only were AdWords advertisers overcharged, but Google's furtive monthly billing practice and misleading inducements to join the AdWord program are ongoing. Google should be required to adhere to the daily budget and to charge each advertiser no more than said amount on days their ad runs. Alternatively, Google should be enjoined from marketing and promoting AdWords as allowing advertisers to control their costs by setting a daily budget, and allowing advertisers to pause their ads without charge.

3. The FAQs Do Not Cure Google's Misleading Conduct

Plaintiffs anticipate, as per Google's statements in the Joint Case Management Statement, its representations to Plaintiffs, and its focus at Plaintiffs' depositions, that it will try to defend its actions based upon the following language buried within the FAQs:

Why did I receive more clicks than my daily budget on a particular day? Traffic is not constant from day to day. For example, fewer people search the Web on weekends than during the week. To account for this and maximize the potential of your advertising, Google may allow up to 20% more clicks in one day than your daily budget specifies.

If you budget \$100 per day in a 30-day month, you may receive more than \$100 in clicks on a given day, but the maximum you would pay is \$3,000 for that month.

(Hanson FAQs, GOOG-HN 20904; Stern FAQs, GOOG-HN 20888.)

This language, even if seen by advertisers, does not cure the aforementioned misleading statements, and is, itself, misleading. As detailed, *supra*, the maze of FAQs are accessed by clicking on various links, which was not mandatory to the sign-up process. In contrast, the signup page, which all AdWords advertisers necessarily saw, allowed advertisers to set a daily budget. In any event, this language does not advise advertisers that Google is going to bill them more than daily budget, by 20% or otherwise, on any and/or every day that their ad runs. The fact that Google may allow additional clicks is obviously not the same as telling advertisers that Google is going to charge them more than their daily budget on any given day. Nor do these words warn advertisers that they will be billed for days that their ad is paused, which is the clear result of the "billing cycle" - paused days and days that the daily budget is not reached are used to absorb the excess charges from other days in the "cycle." The only time this so-called monthly budget or billing cycle can be fairly applied is when an advertiser runs its ad each day of the billing cycle and does so up to its daily budget each day. In sum, these few sentences which Google has found to rely upon, contradict other FAQs and Google's representations and references to a daily budget, the right to pause an ad without charge, and the right to pay no more than your daily budget times the number of days your ad is active.

27

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

B. The Undisputed Facts Demonstrate That Google Has Been Unjustly Enriched At Plaintiffs' Expense

To establish an unjust enrichment claim under California law, a plaintiff must prove (1) receipt of a benefit and (2) unjust retention of the benefit at the expense of another. Lectrodryer v. SeoulBank, 77 Cal. App. 4th 723, 726, 91 Cal. Rptr. 2d 881, 883 (2000); Acculmage

Diagnostics Corp v. Terarecon, Inc., 260 F. Supp. 2d 941, 958 (N.D. Cal. 2003). "Benefit" has been interpreted so as to "denote any form of advantage." Id. at 958. See Restatement (First) of Restitution § 1 (1937). See also Sebastian Int'l, Inc. v. Russolillo, 186 F. Supp. 2d 1055 (C.D. Cal. 2000) (claim for unjust enrichment stated by plaintiff alleging that defendant benefitted, to its detriment, from sales of counterfeit Sebastian hair spray.) "Whether an enrichment is unjust depends on policy and equity considerations, and particularly the knowledge of the person unjustly enriched." Barnes v. United States, No. C 97-1361 SC, 1998 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19615 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 15, 1998) (granting summary judgment on plaintiffs' unjust enrichment claim against all three sibling heirs because the two siblings who had received their share of the estate less their portion of the tax payment were aware that the third sibling had not paid the taxes.)

As detailed above, Google (i) solicited advertisers to use its AdWords program by offering them the ability to control their advertising costs, (ii) allowed, and required, advertisers to set a daily budget, (iii) represented that an ad could be paused without accruing charges, (iv) represented that they would not be billed more than their daily budget times the number of days their ad ran, yet billed Plaintiffs more than their daily budget, overdelivering their ads when they ran and used a monthly billing cycle so that the paused days, including weekends and holidays, would absorb the overrage. By so doing, Google undeniably received a benefit, directly from Plaintiffs, and at Plaintiffs' expense in the form of excess advertising revenue. Google's retention of the benefit is unjust. Google was undeniably aware of both its advertisements and its contradictory billing practices. Indeed, when Plaintiffs complained, Google tried to justify the overcharges and refused to correct them. However, as explained by Plaintiff Stern, if an advertiser wanted additional delivery of its ad it would have increased its own daily budget. Google's monthly billing scheme, including overdelivering to make up for underdelivering, and

1	billing advertisers more than daily budget times the number of days their ad ran, served only to
2	meet Google's revenue goals. Google was not an innocent recipient of the excess revenue.
3	Google continues to be unjustly enriched each time it charges (and receives) from AdWords
4	advertisers amounts in excess of their daily budgets on the days their AdWords campaigns are
5	active.
6	CONCLUSION
7	For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court grant summary
8	judgment on the issue of Google's liability for Plaintiffs' claims for violation of California
9	Business & Professions Code § 17200, et seq., violation of California Business and Professions
10	Code § 17500, et seq., for unjust enrichment, and to either enjoin Google's current billing
11	practices that contradict Google's promotion of how AdWords advertisers will be billed, or
12	correct the misleading promotion of the AdWords billing.
13	Dated: September 29, 2006
14	WOLF POPPER LLP
15	/s/
16	Lester L. Levy (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) Michele F. Raphael (Admitted Pro Hac Vice)
17	interiore i . Raphaer (naminica i no mae vice)
	845 Third Avenue
18	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600
18 19	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093
	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093
19	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456)
19 20	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456) Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600
19 20 21	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456) Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600 San Jose, CA 95112 Telephone: 408.289.1776
19 20 21 22	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456) Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600 San Jose, CA 95112
19 20 21 22 23	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456) Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600 San Jose, CA 95112 Telephone: 408.289.1776
19 20 21 22 23 24	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456) Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600 San Jose, CA 95112 Telephone: 408.289.1776 Facsimile: 408.287.1776
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456) Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600 San Jose, CA 95112 Telephone: 408.289.1776 Facsimile: 408.287.1776
19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	845 Third Avenue New York NY 10022 Telephone: 212.759.4600 Facsimile: 212.486.2093 and ALEXANDER, HAWES & AUDET, LLP William M. Audet (SBN 117456) Jason Baker (SBN 212380) 152 North Third Street, Suite 600 San Jose, CA 95112 Telephone: 408.289.1776 Facsimile: 408.287.1776

¢ase 5:05-cv-03649-JW Document 80 Filed 09/29/2006 Page 23 of 23

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT Case No: C05-03649 JW $$18\,$