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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

VALUESELLING ASSOCIATES, LLC,  
a California limited liability company; and  
SALES VISION, LLC, a California  
limited liability company,

Plaintiffs,

v.

KEVIN TEMPLE, an individual;  
ENTERPRISE SELLING GROUP, form  
of entity unknown; and DOES 1 through  
50, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 09-CV-1493-JM (MDD)

**ORDER DENYING  
PLAINTIFFS’ MOTION TO  
VACATE, MODIFY, OR  
CORRECT ARBITRATION  
AWARD; AND GRANTING  
DEFENDANTS’ CROSS-  
PETITION TO CONFIRM  
ARBITRATION AWARD**

Doc. Nos. 63 & 64

Plaintiffs ValueSelling Associates, LLC (“VSA”) and Sales Vision, LLC (“SVL”) filed the instant suit in federal court on July 9, 2009 against Defendants Kevin Temple and Enterprise Selling Group (“ESG”), alleging various causes of action related to Plaintiffs’ purchase of certain trademarked and copyrighted materials from Defendants and the subsequent dissolution of the working relationship between the parties. (Doc. No. 1.) After Defendants successfully moved to compel arbitration in the matter, the parties submitted their dispute to an arbitrator, who issued a final award in favor of Defendants. (Doc. No. 64-1 pp. 5-6.) Plaintiffs now move this court for an order vacating, modifying, or correcting the arbitrator’s award. (Doc. No. 64.) Defendants have filed a cross-petition requesting that the court confirm the arbitration award. (Doc. No. 63.) In addition, Defendants have filed a motion

1 to strike certain portions of the arbitration hearing transcript submitted by Plaintiffs in support  
2 of their motion. (Doc. No. 66.)

3 Pursuant to CivLR 7.1(d)(1), the court determines this matter is appropriate for  
4 disposition without oral argument. For the reasons set forth below, the court upholds the  
5 arbitrator’s decision, DENYING Plaintiffs’ motion and GRANTING Defendants’ cross-  
6 petition. In addition, because the hearing transcript is irrelevant to deciding Plaintiffs’ motion,  
7 the court also DENIES Defendants’ motion to strike as moot.

8 **I. BACKGROUND**

9 Plaintiffs are the owners of certain trademarked and copyrighted materials comprising  
10 a sales training process known as the ValueSelling Program. (Doc. No. 1, “Complaint,” ¶¶ 11,  
11 35, 37-41.) The ValueSelling Program is a collection of several separately trademarked  
12 components, including the ValuePrompter—a one-page form summarizing the ValueSelling  
13 approach that is designed to be filled out by end users of the ValueSelling system—and the  
14 Qualified Prospect (“QP”) Formula—a tool for identifying and diagnosing prospective  
15 customers. (Id. ¶¶ 19-20, 23, 24-26.)

16 Plaintiffs initially signed a contract to acquire the ValueSelling Program from  
17 Defendant Temple and his co-owners (the “Purchase Agreement”) in June 2003, as part of  
18 which Temple was permitted to continue training businesses on the ValueSelling methodology  
19 as a licensee (the “License Agreement”). (Id. ¶¶ 36-42.) Temple also agreed to remain on as  
20 an independent consultant to SVL for the next three years (the “Consultancy Agreement”). (Id.  
21 ¶ 43.) However, a dispute arose between Plaintiffs and Temple in July 2007, and the parties  
22 agreed to a settlement that would terminate their relationship (the “Settlement Agreement”).  
23 (Id. ¶¶ 47-48.)

24 Plaintiffs brought suit against Temple and ESG—a company that Temple formed in  
25 2007—on July 9, 2009, claiming that Defendants misappropriated Plaintiffs’ trade secrets and  
26 infringed upon certain of Plaintiffs’ intellectual property rights. (Id. ¶¶ 51-64.) Specifically,  
27 Plaintiffs claim that Temple, through ESG, began marketing a product in 2007 called the  
28 Enterprise Value Selling program, which is substantially identical to the ValueSelling

1 Program. (Id. ¶¶ 55-58.) Plaintiffs therefore sought injunctive relief as well as compensatory  
2 and punitive damages. (Id. at pp. 23-29.)

3 On September 3, 2009, Defendants moved for an order compelling Plaintiffs to submit  
4 their dispute to arbitration and dismissing the case. (Doc. No. 4.) Defendants’ motion was  
5 based on the arbitration clauses contained in the Purchase Agreement, Consultancy Agreement,  
6 and Confidential Settlement Agreement. (Id.) On November 5, 2009, the court granted  
7 Defendants’ motion and dismissed the case. (Doc. No. 11.)

8 Plaintiffs subsequently commenced arbitration proceedings against Defendants on  
9 January 5, 2010. (Doc. No. 64-1 p.4.) Defendants in turn filed several counterclaims against  
10 Plaintiffs. (Id.) The arbitration proceeded over the course of the next year, during which time  
11 the parties had the opportunity to submit arguments, offer evidence, and explain their version  
12 of the facts to the arbitrator in the form of both pre- and post-hearing briefs, as well as at a  
13 fifteen-day evidentiary hearing. (Id. at pp. 4-5.) In addition, after unsuccessfully moving for  
14 a preliminary injunction, Plaintiffs were permitted to file a Specification of Claims with the  
15 arbitrator, describing their claims in greater detail. (Id. at p.4.) On January 6, 2011, the  
16 arbitrator issued his Interim Award, concluding that Defendants had not infringed on any of  
17 Plaintiffs’ copyrights. (Id. at p.5.) In addition, the Interim Award found that neither the  
18 ValuePrompter nor the QP Formula was entitled to copyright protection, and that Plaintiffs had  
19 no standing to assert a claim for copyright infringement based on Defendants’ alleged copying  
20 of certain client-specific ValuePrompts. (Id. at pp. 5-6.)

21 Plaintiffs filed a motion requesting that the arbitrator reconsider his Interim Award,  
22 which Defendants moved to dismiss, arguing lack of jurisdiction. (Id. at p.6.) The arbitrator  
23 ultimately declined to hear the motion, claiming that the motion “request[ed] major substantive  
24 modifications of the Interim Award” which he could not address. (Id.) The arbitrator’s Final  
25 Award was issued on March 16, 2011, affirming the substance of the Interim Award. (Id.)

26 Plaintiffs now move this court to vacate, modify, or correct the arbitrator’s Final Award.  
27 (Doc. No. 64.) Defendants oppose this motion, and have filed a cross-petition to affirm the  
28

1 Award, as well as a motion to strike certain portions of the arbitration hearing transcript filed  
2 by Plaintiffs. (Doc. Nos. 63 & 66.)

3 **II. LEGAL STANDARD**

4 **A. Choice of Law**

5 As a preliminary matter, the parties disagree as to whether this court should apply  
6 federal or state law in deciding whether to confirm the arbitration award. While Plaintiffs’  
7 motion is based on the standards set forth in the Federal Arbitration Act (“FAA”) (Doc.  
8 No. 64-1 pp.6-7), Defendants argue that the award should be reviewed under the California  
9 Arbitration Act (“CAA”) (Doc. No. 68 pp. 9-10).

10 In cases seeking review of an arbitration award in federal court, there is a “strong  
11 default presumption . . . that the FAA, not state law, supplies the rules for arbitration.” Sovak  
12 v. Chugai Pharm. Co., 280 F.3d 1266, 1269 (9th Cir. 2002). Parties wishing to be bound by  
13 state law rules instead “must clearly evidence their intent to be bound by such rules” as part  
14 of their arbitration agreement. Id.; see also Johnson v. Gruma Corp., 614 F.3d 1062, 1066 (9th  
15 Cir. 2010). This burden is not satisfied by a “general choice-of-law provision”; rather, the  
16 parties must explicitly state their intent to incorporate California law *as it relates to*  
17 *arbitration*. Compare Johnson, 614 F.3d at 1067 (finding CAA applicable where contract  
18 specifically required arbitration to be “conducted and subject to enforcement pursuant to the  
19 provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure section 1280 through 1295 [the CAA]”), with  
20 Fid. Fed. Bank, FSB v. Durga Mar Corp., 386 F.3d 1306, 1312 (9th Cir. 2004) (finding FAA  
21 controlling where arbitration clause merely stated that “[d]isputes or controversies shall be  
22 submitted to and resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the laws of the State of  
23 California and the rules of the American Arbitration Association”).

24 As the Ninth Circuit cases cited above illustrate, the contractual provisions relied on by  
25 Defendants are “general choice-of-law provisions” that do not clearly evince an intent to  
26 incorporate CAA standards. (See Doc. No. 68 p.10; see also Doc. No. 64 Exh. B at pp. 341-42  
27 (“This Agreement is executed pursuant to, intended to be performed under, and shall be  
28 governed in its interpretation and effect by the laws of the State of California.”); id. at p.727

1 (“This Agreement is entered into in San Diego, California and shall be governed for all  
2 purposes by the laws of California.”); *id.* at p.997 (“This Agreement shall be governed by and  
3 construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Any dispute, controversy, or  
4 question arising under, out of or relating to this Agreement . . . shall be submitted to the  
5 American Arbitration Association (‘AAA’) for arbitration in the State of California in San  
6 Diego, California. The proceeding shall be governed by the AAA Commercial Rules then in  
7 effect.”).) None of the arbitration clauses make explicit reference to the CAA or the application  
8 of California law specifically in the context of arbitration. Therefore, the presumption in favor  
9 of applying the FAA stands, and federal rules govern whether the arbitration award should be  
10 upheld in this case.

### 11 **B. FAA Standards**

12 Federal review of an arbitration award “is both limited and highly deferential.” Comedy  
13 Club, Inc. v. Improv West Assocs., 553 F.3d 1277, 1288 (9th Cir. 2009) (quoting Poweragent  
14 Inc. v. Elec. Data Sys. Corp., 358 F.3d 1187, 1193 (9th Cir. 2004)). Under the FAA, a court  
15 *must* confirm an arbitration award unless it finds specific statutory grounds to vacate, modify,  
16 or correct it. 9 U.S.C. §§ 9-11; *see also* Hall St. Assocs., L.L.C., v. Mattel, Inc., 552 U.S. 576,  
17 582 (2008). “Section 10 [of the Act] lists grounds for vacating an award, while § 11 names  
18 those for modifying or correcting one.” Hall St. Assocs., 552 U.S. at 582. However, relief is  
19 appropriate only in extreme circumstances, and “[n]either erroneous legal conclusions nor  
20 unsubstantiated factual findings justify” disturbing an arbitral award under either of these  
21 statutes.

22 Section 10(a)(4) of the FAA authorizes district courts to vacate an arbitration award  
23 “where the arbitrators exceeded their powers.” This can be said to occur in one of two ways:  
24 first, “when they express a ‘manifest disregard of law,’” and second, “when they issue an  
25 award that is ‘completely irrational.’” Bosack v. Soward, 586 F.3d 1096, 1104 (9th Cir. 2009)  
26 (quoting Comedy Club, 553 F.3d at 1290). Both are extremely narrow standards. “[M]anifest  
27 disregard . . . requires something beyond and different from a mere error in the law or failure  
28 on the part of the arbitrators to understand and apply the law.” *Id.* (quoting Collins v. D.R.

1 Horton, Inc., 505 F.3d 874, 879 (9th Cir. 2007)). Rather, “[t]here must be some evidence in  
2 the record, other than the result, that the arbitrators were aware of the law and *intentionally*  
3 disregarded it.” Id. (quoting Lincoln Nat’l Life Ins. Co. v. Payne, 374 F.3d 672, 675 (8th Cir.  
4 2004)) (emphasis added). Similarly, an arbitration decision is only “completely irrational”  
5 where it “fails to draw its essence from the agreement.” Comedy Club, 553 F.3d at 1288. “An  
6 award ‘draws its essence from the agreement if the award is derived from the agreement,  
7 viewed in light of the agreement’s language and context, as well as other indications of the  
8 parties’ intentions.’” Bosack, 586 F.3d at 1106 (quoting McGrann v. First Albany Corp., 424  
9 F.3d 743, 749 (8th Cir. 2005)).

10 In addition, under 9 U.S.C. § 11(b), a district court may modify or correct an award  
11 “[w]here the arbitrators have awarded upon a matter not submitted to them, unless it is a matter  
12 not affecting the merits of the decision upon the matter submitted.” This provision permits  
13 courts to “strike all or a portion of an award pertaining to an issue not at all subject to  
14 arbitration.” Kyocera Corp. v. Prudential-Bache Trade Servs., Inc., 341 F.3d 987, 997-98 (9th  
15 Cir. 2003). However, the scope of this review is still “extremely limited,” “designed to  
16 preserve due process but not to permit unnecessary public intrusion into private arbitration  
17 process.” Id. at 998.

### 18 **III. DISCUSSION**

19 Plaintiffs take issue with two aspects of the arbitrator’s ruling: First, Plaintiffs argue that  
20 the arbitrator failed to apply the proper test for determining the existence of copyright  
21 infringement as articulated by the Ninth Circuit in the 2010 case Mattel, Inc. v. MGA Entm’t,  
22 Inc. (Doc. No. 64-1 pp. 8-22.) Second, Plaintiffs claim that the arbitrator issued a ruling on a  
23 matter outside of the scope of the case when he found that neither the ValuePrompter nor the  
24 QP Formula was entitled to individual copyright protection. (Id. at pp. 22-24.)

#### 25 **A. Failure to Apply Mattel**

26 According to Plaintiffs, the Mattel case sets forth a two-part “extrinsic/intrinsic” test  
27 for determining whether one work infringes on the copyright of another. (Id. at p.8.) Plaintiffs  
28 argue that, although it cited extensively to Mattel in both its pre-and post-hearing briefs, the

1 arbitrator chose to ignore the governing law, instead “creat[ing] his own ‘test’” and using that  
2 to determine (incorrectly) that no copyright infringement had occurred. (Id. at pp. 8-9.)

3 Defendants contend that the arbitrator *did* in fact apply the extrinsic/intrinsic test from  
4 Mattel, and applied it correctly in arriving at his conclusion. (Doc. No. 68 pp. 17-19.)  
5 Defendants further argue that the arbitrator’s failure to specifically cite to Mattel does not  
6 necessarily mean that he ignored or defied that case law. (Id. at p.19.)

7 As discussed above, manifest disregard requires more than a merely incorrect  
8 application of law; the record must demonstrate an *intentional* disregard. Specifically, “the  
9 moving party must show that the arbitrator ***‘underst[oo]d and correctly state[d] the law***, but  
10 proceed[ed] to disregard the same.” Bosack, 586 F.3d at 1104 (emphasis added); see also  
11 id. (“It must be clear from the record that the arbitrators ***recognized*** the applicable law ***and***  
12 ***then ignored it.***” (emphasis added)). Here, as Plaintiffs themselves admit, the arbitrator did not  
13 cite to Mattel at all in either his Interim or Final Award. (Doc. No. 64-1 p.9.) Their only  
14 evidence of the arbitrator’s alleged manifest disregard of Mattel is their own repeated citations  
15 to the case in their briefs, and the arbitrator’s failure to discuss it explicitly in his order. This  
16 does not amount to manifest disregard of the law under the FAA. Assuming Mattel is  
17 applicable and controlling in the instant case (which both parties appear to concede), it is  
18 entirely possible that the arbitrator read Mattel and applied or attempted to apply it without  
19 citing to it directly, as Defendants contend, or that the arbitrator’s understanding of the case  
20 was simply incorrect and that he believed it to be inapplicable or distinguishable. The  
21 arbitrator’s failure to cite to Mattel is ambiguous at best. Indeed, Plaintiffs’ version of  
22 events—that the arbitrator intentionally chose to ignore Mattel, knowing that it was controlling  
23 law—is the least plausible explanation, given that Plaintiffs are unable to offer any explanation  
24 as to *why* the arbitrator would choose to act in such a biased and malicious manner. (See id.  
25 at p.25 (“Given that VSA has no direct evidence of Arbitrator bias, the reason why the  
26 Arbitrator chose to manifestly disregard the law . . . is unknown . . .”).) Moreover, the Ninth  
27 Circuit has held that

28 [a]rbitrators are not required to set forth their reasoning supporting an award. An  
arbitrators’ “award may be made without explanation of their reasons and

1 without a complete record of their proceedings[.]” “If they choose not to do so,  
2 it is ***all but impossible*** to determine whether they acted with manifest disregard  
for the law.”

3 Bosack, 586 F.3d at 1104 (quoting Wilko v. Swan, 346 U.S. 427, 469 (1953) and Dawahare  
4 v. Spencer, 210 F.3d 666, 669 (6th Cir. 2000)) (emphasis added). Thus, for purposes of  
5 determining whether vacatur is appropriate under § 10(4)(a), an arbitrator’s silence on an issue  
6 carries no weight.

7 In addition, it should be noted that many of the arbitrator’s findings that Plaintiffs call  
8 into question are findings of fact, as opposed to applications of law. For example, Plaintiffs  
9 argue that the arbitrator found that the ValueSelling training manual was a “compilation” under  
10 copyright law, despite the fact that “no evidence was presented at the hearing that any part of  
11 the content of the 1990, 1998, or 2005 Copyrights was compiled from the work of a third  
12 party.”<sup>1</sup> (Doc. No. 64-1 p.10; see also id. at p.15 (“Although [the arbitrator] stated that ‘[t]he  
13 1998 copyright is a collection of parts, some of which are original . . . ,’ he never identified the  
14 ‘original parts.’”).) Similarly, Plaintiffs object to the arbitrator’s refusal to accept their experts’  
15 testimony that Defendants’ products were virtually identical to their own. (Id. at pp. 11-15.)  
16 However, even if these factual findings are erroneous, they cannot justify vacating an arbitral  
17 award under the FAA. See Kyocera, 341 F.3d at 994 (“Neither erroneous legal conclusions ***nor***  
18 ***unsubstantiated factual findings*** justify federal court review of an arbitral award under the  
19 [FAA], which is unambiguous in this regard.” (emphasis added)).

20 Thus, even if the arbitrator did improperly fail to apply the extrinsic/intrinsic test of  
21 Mattel, this court does not have grounds to vacate the award for this reason, based on the  
22 record before it. The court therefore need not reach the issue of whether the arbitrator’s  
23 underlying decision was correct.

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26 <sup>1</sup> Plaintiffs have submitted a full transcript of the entire arbitration hearing “as evidence  
27 that no evidence was presented” on the issue of whether the manual was a compilation. (Doc.  
28 No. 64-1 p.10 (original emphasis); see also Doc. No. 64 Exh. C.) However, because this aspect  
of the arbitrator’s decision is not subject to this court’s review (see infra), examination of the  
transcript is unnecessary in order to rule on Plaintiffs’ motion. Therefore, the court DENIES  
AS MOOT Defendants’ motion to strike.



1           **B. Denial of Individual Copyright Protection for ValuePrompter and QP**  
2           **Formula**

3           Plaintiffs also argue that the arbitrator’s decision “violated the essence test” because  
4 parts of that decision fall outside of the scope of the actual dispute. (Doc. No. 64-1 pp. 22-24.)  
5 Specifically, the arbitrator determined, *inter alia*, that neither the ValuePrompter form nor the  
6 QP Formula was entitled to individual copyright protection; however, according to Plaintiffs,  
7 the arbitrator was only presented with the question of whether Defendants had infringed on  
8 Plaintiffs’ copyrighted training manuals *as a whole*. (*Id.* at p.23.) In other words, although the  
9 ValuePrompter form and the QP Formula were each components of the manuals in question,  
10 Plaintiffs never alleged that Defendants infringed on them as stand-alone concepts. Plaintiffs  
11 therefore request that the court either vacate the arbitration award under § 10(a)(4), or correct  
12 it under § 11 by excising the portion of the award that contains this finding. (*Id.* at pp. 22-23.)

13           Defendants claim that the arbitrator’s ruling on ValuePrompter and the QP Formula as  
14 individual elements *was* “drawn from the essence of the parties’ dispute” because it was simply  
15 a finding made in the course of the arbitrator’s application of the Mattel extrinsic/intrinsic test.  
16 (Doc. No. 68 pp. 20-21.) Although the matter was not explicitly put before the arbitrator,  
17 Defendants argue that the existence of separate copyright protection for the ValuePrompter  
18 form and the QP Formula was necessarily implicit in Plaintiffs’ demand for relief, and  
19 therefore within the scope of the arbitrator’s authority to decide. (*Id.* at pp. 21-22.)

20           Initially, it should be noted that Plaintiffs are not entitled to modification or correction  
21 of the arbitral award under a plain reading of the language of § 11(b).<sup>2</sup> As part of their  
22 argument, Plaintiffs claim that “[t]he award can be corrected, as allowed under 9 U.S.C. § 11,  
23 to remove the offending portion . . . *without affecting the merits of the controversy*, i.e., the  
24 Arbitrator’s finding that Temple has not infringed upon VSA’s copyrighted works, and the  
25 resulting award based thereon.” (Doc. No. 64-1 p.23 (emphasis added).) However, § 11(b)

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27           <sup>2</sup> Although Plaintiffs only cite to § 11 generally, the substance of their argument for  
28 relief indicates that their request falls under subsection (b). See 9 U.S.C. §§ 11(a) & (c)  
(permitting modification or correction of the award “[w]here there was an evident material  
miscalculation of figures or an evident material mistake in the description of any person, thing,  
or property referred to in the award,” or “[w]here the award is imperfect in matter of form”).

1 specifically states that a modification or correction can be made under that subsection “*unless*  
2 *it is a matter not affecting the merits of the decision upon the matter submitted.*” (Emphasis  
3 added.) By Plaintiffs’ own admission, the modification requested relates to a matter not  
4 affecting the merits of the arbitrator’s decision; therefore, relief is inappropriate under this  
5 statutory provision. Therefore, in order to prevail on this argument, Plaintiffs must show their  
6 entitlement to vacatur of the award under § 10(a)(4) on the grounds that the arbitrator’s  
7 decision was “completely irrational” by “fail[ing] to draw its essence from the agreement.”

8 “The scope of the arbitrator’s authority is determined by the contract requiring  
9 arbitration as well as by the parties’ definition of the issues to be submitted in the submission  
10 agreement.” Schoenduve Corp. v. Lucent Technologies, Inc., 442 F.3d 727, 732 (9th Cir.  
11 2006). Here, it is indisputable that, under the operative contractual provisions requiring  
12 arbitration, the arbitrator had broad authority to fashion the appropriate and necessary relief  
13 in the dispute between the parties. (See, e.g., Doc. No. 64 Exh. B at p.342 (“*Any dispute,*  
14 *controversy, or question* arising under, out of or relating to this Agreement or the breach  
15 thereof . . . shall be submitted . . . for arbitration . . . .” (emphasis added)); see also Mich. Mut.  
16 Ins. Co. v. Unigard Sec. Ins. Co., 44 F.3d 826, 831 (9th Cir. 1995) (“Because the parties’  
17 arbitration clause does not limit the [arbitration] panel’s power to resolve issues presented to  
18 it, the panel had the authority to settle and determine the dispute appropriately.”).) Although  
19 the issues actually submitted for arbitration may affect the breadth of the arbitrator’s authority,  
20 “[t]he scope of the arbitrator’s jurisdiction [also] extends to . . . all issues *implicit* within the  
21 submission agreement.” Schoenduve, 442 F.3d at 733 (emphasis added).

22 Although the issue presented to the arbitrator here may have been framed by Plaintiffs  
23 as a question of whether Defendants infringed on Plaintiffs’ training manuals when viewed as  
24 a whole, it appears that an analysis of the individual components of those manuals was  
25 implicitly called for as part of the resolution of that question. As the Mattel Court explained:

26 To distinguish between permissible lifting of ideas and impermissible copying  
27 of expression, we have developed a two-part “extrinsic/intrinsic” test. At the  
28 initial “extrinsic” stage, we examine the similarities between the copyrighted  
and challenged works and then determine whether the similar elements are  
protectable or unprotectable. . . . When the unprotectable elements are “filtered”

1 out, what's left is an author's particular expression of an idea, which most  
2 definitely *is* protectable.

3 Mattel, Inc. v. MGA Entm't, Inc., 616 F.3d 904, 913 (9th Cir. 2010) (emphasis in original).

4 As part of the initial filtering process, the arbitrator was required to "use analytic dissection  
5 to determine the scope of copyright protection before works are considered 'as a whole.'"

6 Apple Computer, Inc. v. Microsoft Corp., 35 F.3d 1435, 1443 (9th Cir. 1994) (emphasis

7 added). In other words, the extrinsic/intrinsic test specifically contemplates an analysis of the

8 individual elements of a work as part of determining if the work is protected as a whole. Thus,

9 as Defendants correctly point out, the arbitrator's determination that neither the ValuePrompter

10 form nor the QP Formula was entitled to copyright protection was clearly within his power to

11 make as an issue implicit in, and indeed a necessary incident to, the dispute submitted to him

12 for resolution. Therefore, the arbitrator's findings were not "completely irrational" within the

13 meaning of § 10(a)(4).

14 **IV. CONCLUSION**

15 For the reasons set forth above, the court hereby DENIES Plaintiffs' motion to vacate,


16 modify, or correct the arbitration award (Doc. No. 64), and GRANTS Defendants' cross-

17 petition to confirm the award (Doc. No. 63). In addition, the court DENIES Defendants'

18 motion to strike as moot. (Doc. No. 66.)

19 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

20 DATED: June 23, 2011

21   
22 Hon. Jeffrey T. Miller  
23 United States District Judge