

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF COLORADO**

Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02451

CHECKERS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, LLC,

Plaintiff,

Judge Marcia S. Krieger

Magistrate Judge Kathleen M. Tafoya

v.

ELASCO PRODUCTS, LLC,

Defendant.

PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and for good cause,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Scope of Protection

This Protective Order shall govern any record of information produced in this action and designated pursuant to this Protective Order, including all designated deposition testimony, all designated testimony taken at a hearing or other proceeding, all designated deposition exhibits, interrogatory answers, admissions, documents and other discovery materials, whether produced informally or in response to interrogatories, requests for admissions, requests for production of documents or other formal methods of discovery.

This Protective Order shall also govern any designated record of information produced in this action pursuant to required disclosures under any federal procedural rule or local rule of the Court and any supplementary disclosures thereto.

This Protective Order shall apply to the parties and to any nonparty from whom discovery may be sought who desires the protection of this Protective Order.

Nonparties may challenge the confidentiality of the protected information by filing a motion to intervene and a motion to de-designate.

2. Definitions

(a) The term PROTECTED INFORMATION shall mean confidential or proprietary technical, scientific, financial, or business information designated as such by the producing party.

(b) The term CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY, shall mean PROTECTED INFORMATION that is so designated by the producing party. The designation CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY may be used only for the following types of past, current, or future PROTECTED INFORMATION: (1) sensitive technical information, including current research, development and manufacturing information and patent prosecution information, (2) sensitive business information, including highly sensitive financial or marketing information and the identity of suppliers, distributors and potential or actual customers, (3) competitive technical information, including technical analyses or comparisons of competitor's products, (4) competitive business information, including non-public financial or marketing analyses or comparisons of competitor's products and strategic product planning, or (5) any other PROTECTED INFORMATION the disclosure of which to non-qualified people subject to this Protective Order the producing party reasonably and in good faith believes would likely cause harm.

(c) The term CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION shall mean all PROTECTED INFORMATION that is not designated as "CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY" information.

(d) The term TECHNICAL ADVISOR shall refer to any person who is not a party to this action and/or not presently employed by the receiving party or a company affiliated through common ownership, who has been designated by the receiving party to receive another party's PROTECTED INFORMATION, including CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY, and CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. Each party's TECHNICAL ADVISORS shall be limited to such person as, in the judgment of that party's counsel, are reasonably necessary for development and presentation of that party's case. These persons include outside experts or consultants retained to provide technical or other expert services such as expert testimony or otherwise assist in trial preparation. TECHNICAL ADVISORS do not include employees of outside counsel of record in this case (*i.e.*, paralegals, secretaries, etc.) or professional vendors (*i.e.*, persons or entities that provide litigation support services to outside counsel of record – photocopying, videotaping, translating, exhibit or demonstration preparation, data retrieval, etc. – and their employees or subcontractors).

3. Disclosure Agreements

(a) Each receiving party's TECHNICAL ADVISOR shall sign a disclosure agreement in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, which shall be provided to the other party promptly after execution. No disclosures shall be made to a TECHNICAL ADVISOR for a period of five (5) business days after the disclosure agreement is provided to the other party.

(b) Before any PROTECTED INFORMATION is disclosed to a TECHNICAL ADVISOR, the following information must be provided in writing to the producing party and received no less than five (5) business days before the intended date of disclosure to that TECHNICAL ADVISOR: the identity of that TECHNICAL ADVISOR, business address and/or affiliation and a current curriculum vitae of the TECHNICAL ADVISOR, and, if not contained in the TECHNICAL ADVISOR's curriculum vitae, a brief description, including education, present and past employment and general areas of expertise of the TECHNICAL ADVISOR. If the producing party objects to disclosure of PROTECTED INFORMATION to a TECHNICAL ADVISOR, the producing party shall within five (5) business days of receipt serve written objections identifying the specific basis for the objection, and particularly identifying all information to which disclosure is objected. Failure to object within five (5) business days shall authorize the disclosure of PROTECTED INFORMATION to the TECHNICAL ADVISOR. As to any objections, the parties shall for a period of seven (7) days negotiate in good faith to promptly resolve any objections informally. If the objections cannot be resolved, the party seeking to prevent disclosure of the PROTECTED INFORMATION to the expert shall move for an Order of the Court preventing the disclosure. The burden of proving that the designation is proper shall be upon the producing party. If no such motion is made within five (5) business days of the parties reaching an impasse during the seven-day negotiation period outlined above, disclosure to the TECHNICAL ADVISOR shall be permitted. In the event that objections are made and not resolved informally and a motion is filed, disclosure of PROTECTED INFORMATION to the TECHNICAL ADVISOR shall not be made except by Order of the Court.

(c) Any disclosure agreement executed by any person affiliated with a party shall be provided to any other party who, based upon a good faith belief that there has been a violation of this order, requests a copy.

(d) No party shall attempt to depose any TECHNICAL ADVISOR until such time as the TECHNICAL ADVISOR is designated by the party engaging the TECHNICAL ADVISOR as a testifying expert. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, any party may depose a TECHNICAL ADVISOR as a fact witness provided that the party seeking such deposition has a good faith, demonstrable basis independent of the disclosure agreement of Exhibit A or the information provided under subparagraph (a) above that such person possesses facts relevant to this action, or facts likely to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence; however, such deposition, if it precedes the designation of such person by the engaging party as a testifying expert, shall not include any questions regarding the scope or subject matter of the engagement. In addition, if the engaging party chooses not to designate the TECHNICAL ADVISOR as a testifying expert, the non-engaging party shall be barred from seeking discovery or trial testimony as to the scope or subject matter of the engagement.

4. Designation of Information

(a) Documents and things produced or furnished during the course of this action shall be designated as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION by placing on each page, each document (whether in paper or electronic form), or each thing a legend substantially as follows:

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

(b) Documents and things produced or furnished during the course of this action shall be designated as containing information which is CONFIDENTIAL

INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY by placing on each page, each document (whether in paper or electronic form), or each thing a legend substantially as follows:

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY

(c) During discovery a producing party shall have the option to require that all or batches of materials be treated as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY during inspection and to make its designation as to particular documents and things at the time copies of documents and things are furnished.

(d) A party or non-party may designate information disclosed at a deposition as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY by so indicating on the record at the deposition and requesting the preparation of a separate transcript of such material. In addition, a party or non-party may designate in writing, within fourteen (14) days after receipt of the deposition transcript for which the designation is proposed, that specific pages of the transcript and/or specific responses be treated as “CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY. Alternatively, the designating party may specify at the deposition or up to 14 days after receipt of the transcript that the entire transcript be treated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY. Each deposition transcript shall be treated as designated CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY in its entirety until the expiration of the 14-day period to specifically designate the deposition transcript, unless otherwise agreed. After the expiration of the 14-day period, the transcript shall be treated only as actually designated. After any designation made according to the procedure set

forth in this paragraph, Counsel for all parties shall be responsible for marking all previously unmarked copies of the designated material in their possession or control with the specified designation.

(e) A producing party shall designate its discovery responses, responses to requests for admission, briefs, memoranda and all other papers sent to the court or to opposing counsel as containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY when such papers are served or sent.

(f) The parties will use reasonable care to avoid designating any documents or information as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY that is not entitled to such designation or which is generally available to the public. The parties shall designate only that part of a document or deposition that is CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY, rather than the entire document or deposition.

5. Disclosure and Use of Confidential Information

Information that has been designated CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY shall be disclosed by the receiving party only to Qualified Recipients. All Qualified Recipients shall hold such information received from the disclosing party in confidence, shall use the information only for purposes of this action and for no other action, and shall not use it for any business or other commercial purpose, and shall not use it for filing or prosecuting any patent application (of any type) or patent reissue or reexamination request, and shall not disclose it to any person, except as hereinafter provided. All information that has been designated CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION –

ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY shall be carefully maintained so as to preclude access by persons who are not qualified to receive such information under the terms of this Order.

6. Qualified Recipients

For purposes of this Order, "Qualified Recipient" means

(a) For CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY:

(1) Outside counsel of record for the parties in this action, and the partners, associates, secretaries, paralegal assistants, and employees of such counsel to the extent reasonably necessary to render professional services in the action, outside copying services, document management services and graphic services;

(2) Court officials involved in this action (including court reporters, persons operating video recording equipment at depositions, and any special master appointed by the Court);

(3) Any person designated by the Court in the interest of justice, upon such terms as the Court may deem proper;

(4) Any TECHNICAL ADVISOR employed by the outside counsel of record, subject to the requirements in Paragraph 3 above; and

(5) Any witness during the course of discovery, so long as it is stated on the face of each document designated CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY being disclosed that the witness to whom a party is seeking to disclose the document was either an author, recipient, or otherwise involved in the creation of the document. Where it is not stated on the face of the confidential document being disclosed that the witness to whom a party is seeking to disclose the document was

either an author, recipient, or otherwise involved in the creation of the document, the party seeking disclosure may nonetheless disclose the confidential document to the witness, provided that: (i) the party seeking disclosure has a reasonable basis for believing that the witness in fact received or reviewed the document, (ii) the party seeking disclosure provides advance notice to the party that produced the document, and (iii) the party that produced the document does not inform the party seeking disclosure that the person to whom the party intends to disclose the document did not in fact receive or review the documents. Nothing herein shall prevent disclosure at a deposition of a document designated CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY to the officers, directors, and managerial level employees of the party producing such CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY, or to any employee of such party who has access to such CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY in the ordinary course of such employee’s employment.

(b) FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:

- (1) Those persons or entities listed in paragraph 6(a);
- (2) In-house counsel for a party to this action who are acting in a legal capacity and who are actively engaged in the conduct of this action, and the secretary and paralegal assistants of such counsel to the extent reasonably necessary; and
- (3) The insurer of a party to litigation and employees of such insurer to the extent reasonably necessary to assist the party’s counsel to afford the insurer an opportunity to investigate and evaluate the claim for purposes of determining coverage and for settlement purposes; and
- (4) Employees of the parties.

7. Use of Protected Information

(a) In the event that any receiving party's briefs, memoranda, discovery requests, requests for admission or other papers of any kind which are served or filed shall include another party's CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY, the papers shall be appropriately designated pursuant to paragraphs 4(a) and (b) and shall be treated accordingly.

(b) All documents, including attorney notes and abstracts, which contain another party's CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY, shall be handled as if they were designated pursuant to paragraph 4(a) or (b).

(c) Documents, papers and transcripts filed with the court which contain any other party's CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY shall be filed under seal pursuant to any applicable local rule, chamber rule or Order governing this matter.

(d) To the extent that documents are reviewed by a receiving party prior to production, any knowledge learned during the review process will be treated by the receiving party as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY until such time as the documents have been produced, at which time any stamped classification will control. No photograph or any other means of duplication, including but not limited to electronic means, of materials provided for review prior to production is permitted before the documents are produced with the appropriate stamped classification.

(e) In the event that any question is asked at a deposition with respect to which a party asserts that the answer requires the disclosure of CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY,

such question shall nonetheless be answered by the witness fully and completely. Prior to answering, however, all persons present shall be advised of this Order by the party making the confidentiality assertion and, in the case of information designated as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY at the request of such party, all persons who are not allowed to obtain such information pursuant to this Order, other than the witness, shall leave the room during the time in which this information is disclosed or discussed.

(f) Nothing in this Protective Order shall bar or otherwise restrict outside counsel from rendering advice to his or her client with respect to this action and, in the course thereof, from relying in a general way upon his examination of materials designated CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY, provided, however, that in rendering such advice and in otherwise communicating with his or her clients, such counsel shall not disclose the specific contents of any materials designated CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY.

8. Inadvertent Failure to Designate

(a) In the event that a producing party inadvertently fails to designate any of its information pursuant to paragraph 4, it may later designate by notifying the receiving parties in writing. The receiving parties shall take reasonable steps to see that the information is thereafter treated in accordance with the designation.

(b) It shall be understood however, that no person or party shall incur any liability hereunder with respect to disclosure that occurred prior to receipt of written notice of a belated designation.

9. Challenge to Designation

(a) Any receiving party may challenge a producing party's designation at any time. A failure of any party to expressly challenge a claim of confidentiality or any document designation shall not constitute a waiver of the right to assert at any subsequent time that the same is not in-fact confidential or not an appropriate designation for any reason.

(b) Notwithstanding anything set forth in paragraph 2(a) and (b) herein, any receiving party may disagree with the designation of any information received from the producing party as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY. In that case, any receiving party desiring to disclose or to permit inspection of the same otherwise than is permitted in this Order, may request the producing party in writing to change the designation, stating the reasons in that request. The producing party shall then have five (5) business days from the date of receipt of the notification to:

- (i) advise the receiving parties whether or not it persists in such designation; and
- (ii) if it persists in the designation, to explain the reason for the particular designation.

(c) If its request under subparagraph (b) above is turned down, or if no response is made within five (5) business days after receipt of notification, any receiving party may then move the court for an order or any other order to change the designation. The burden of proving that the designation is proper shall be upon the producing party. In the event objections are made and not resolved informally and a motion is filed, disclosure of information shall not be made until the issue has been resolved by the Court (or to any limited extent upon which the parties may agree).

No party shall be obligated to challenge the propriety of any designation when made, and failure to do so shall not preclude a subsequent challenge to the propriety of such designation.

(d) With respect to requests and applications to remove or change a designation, information shall not be considered confidential or proprietary to the producing party if:

- (i) the information in question has become available to the public through no violation of this Order; or
- (ii) the information was known to any receiving party prior to its receipt from the producing party; or
- (iii) the information was received by any receiving party without restrictions on disclosure from a third party having the right to make such a disclosure.

10. Inadvertently Produced Privileged Documents

The parties acknowledge that regardless of the diligence of any party, an inadvertent production of privileged or attorney work product documents may occur. If a party, through inadvertence, produces or provides discovery that it reasonably believes is privileged or otherwise immune from discovery, the party may claw-back the protected document by making a written request to the receiving party specifically identifying the protected document by Bates number and including the date, author, addressees, and topic of the document as well as a brief explanation substantiating the claim of privilege. If these conditions are met, the receiving parties shall return to the producing party such inadvertently produced materials and all copies thereof within five (5) calendar days of receipt of the written request. Return of the materials shall not constitute an admission or

concession, or permit any inference, that the returned materials are, in fact, properly subject to a claim of privilege or immunity from discovery.

The record of the identity and nature of an inadvertently produced document may not be used for any purpose other than in preparation of a motion to compel the production of the same document in this action. No information in an inadvertently produced document may be used or relied upon for any other purpose in this action until the Court so orders. After the return of the document(s), the receiving party may challenge the producing party's claim(s) of privilege or work-product by making a motion to the Court.

11. Inadvertent Disclosure

In the event of an inadvertent disclosure of another party's CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY to a non-Qualified Recipient, the party making the inadvertent disclosure shall promptly upon learning of the disclosure: (i) notify the person to whom the disclosure was made that it contains CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY subject to this Order; (ii) make all reasonable efforts to preclude dissemination or use of the CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY by the person to whom disclosure was inadvertently made including, but not limited to, obtaining all copies of such materials from the non-Qualified Recipient; and (iii) notify the producing party of the identity of the person to whom the disclosure was made, the circumstances surrounding the disclosure, and the steps taken to ensure against the dissemination or use of the information.

12. Limitation

This Order shall be without prejudice to any party's right to assert at any time that any particular information or document is or is not subject to discovery, production or admissibility on the grounds other than confidentiality.

13. Conclusion of Action

(a) At the conclusion of this action, including through all appeals, each party or other person subject to the terms hereof shall be under an obligation to destroy or return to the producing party all materials and documents containing CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY. Such return or destruction shall not relieve said parties or persons from any of the continuing obligations imposed upon them by this Order.

(b) After this action, trial counsel for each party may retain one archive copy of all documents and discovery material even if they contain or reflect another party's CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY. Trial counsel's archive copy shall remain subject to all obligations of this Order.

(c) The provisions of this paragraph shall not be binding on the United States, any insurance company, or any other party to the extent that such provisions conflict with applicable Federal or State law. The Department of Justice, any insurance company, or any other party shall notify the producing party in writing of any such conflict it identifies in connection with a particular matter so that such matter can be resolved either by the parties or by the Court.

14. Production by Third Parties Pursuant to Subpoena

Any third party producing documents or things or giving testimony in this action pursuant to a subpoena, notice or request may designate said documents, things, or testimony as CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY. The parties agree that they will treat CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY produced by third parties according to the terms of this Order.

15. Compulsory Disclosure to Third Parties

If any receiving party is subpoenaed in another action or proceeding or served with a document or testimony demand or a court order, and such subpoena or demand or court order seeks CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION or CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – ATTORNEYS EYES ONLY of a producing party, the receiving party shall give prompt written notice to counsel for the producing party and allow the producing party an opportunity to oppose such subpoena or demand or court order prior to the deadline for complying with the subpoena or demand or court order. No compulsory disclosure to third parties of information or material exchanged under this Order shall be deemed a waiver of any claim of confidentiality, except as expressly found by a court or judicial authority of competent jurisdiction.

16. Jurisdiction to Enforce Protective Order

After the termination of this action, the Court will continue to have jurisdiction to enforce this Order.

17. Modification of Protective Order

This Order is without prejudice to the right of any person or entity to seek a modification of this Order at any time either through stipulation or Order of the Court.

18. Confidentiality of Party's own Documents

Nothing herein shall affect the right of the designating party to disclose to its officers, directors, employees, attorneys, consultants or experts, or to any other person, its own information. Such disclosure shall not waive the protections of this Protective Order and shall not entitle other parties or their attorneys to disclose such information in violation of it, unless by such disclosure of the designating party the information becomes public knowledge. Similarly, the Protective Order shall not preclude a party from showing its own information, including its own information that is filed under seal by a party, to its officers, directors, employees, attorneys, consultants or experts, or to any other person.

19. Notice

Transmission by electronic mail is acceptable for all notification purposes within this Order.

DATED this 26th day of February, 2016.

BY THE COURT:



Kathleen M. Tafoya
United States Magistrate Judge

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF COLORADO**

Civil Action No. 1:15-cv-02451

CHECKERS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, LLC,

Plaintiff,

Judge Marcia S. Krieger

Magistrate Judge Kathleen M. Tafoya

v.

ELASCO PRODUCTS, LLC,

Defendant.

DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

I, _____, am employed by _____. In connection with this action, I am:

_____ a director, officer or employee of _____ who is directly assisting in this action;

_____ have been retained to furnish technical or other expert services or to give testimony (a "TECHNICAL ADVISOR");

_____ Other Qualified Recipient (as defined in the Protective Order) (Describe: _____).

I have read, understand and agree to comply with and be bound by the terms of the Protective Order in the matter of _____, Civil Action No. _____, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. I further state that the Protective Order entered by the Court, a copy of which has been given to me and which I have read, prohibits me from using any PROTECTED INFORMATION, including documents, for any purpose not appropriate or

necessary to my participation in this action or disclosing such documents or information to any person not entitled to receive them under the terms of the Protective Order. To the extent I have been given access to PROTECTED INFORMATION, I will not in any way disclose, discuss, or exhibit such information except to those persons whom I know (a) are authorized under the Protective Order to have access to such information, and (b) have executed a Disclosure Agreement. I will return, on request, all materials containing PROTECTED INFORMATION, copies thereof and notes that I have prepared relating thereto, to counsel for the party with whom I am associated. I agree to be bound by the Protective Order in every aspect and to be subject to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the District of Colorado for purposes of its enforcement and the enforcement of my obligations under this Disclosure Agreement. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed by Recipient

Name (printed)

Date: _____

22609032
020216