

1 3. Defendant, CURT Manufacturing, LLC. (“CURT”), is a corporation organized and
2 existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, and maintains a principal place of business at
3 6208 Industrial Drive, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701.

4 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

5 4. Plaintiffs claim against CURT are for patent infringement under 35 U.S.C. § 101, et
6 seq. This Court has exclusive subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
7 §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

8 5. This Court has personal jurisdiction over CURT because, upon information and
9 belief: (1) CURT has conducted and regularly conducts business activities within the State of
10 California and the Central District of California; (2) CURT has had continuous, substantial,
11 and systematic contacts with the State of California and this District through sale of and offers
12 to sell certain products, including at least model numbers 18084 and 18086 (hereinafter the
13 “Accused Products”); and (3) events giving rise to the cause of action herein, including, but not
14 limited to, sales of, and offers to sell, the Accused Products, occurred and are occurring in
15 California and in this District. As further set forth herein, on information and belief, CURT has
16 contributed to and induced acts of infringement within the State of California and the Central
District of California.

17 6. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b), 1391(c), and 1400(b), venue within this District is
18 proper.

19 **III. THE ASSERTED PATENTS**

20 7. On July 10, 2007, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally
21 issued patent number 7,240,816 (“the ‘816 Patent”) after full and fair examination. A true and
22 accurate copy of the ‘816 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

23 8. The ‘816 Patent relates to a bike rack for use on vehicles.

24 9. The ‘816 Patent is valid and enforceable.
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1 10. Mr. David Tsai is the inventor of the '816 patent and an owner of King Sheng, Ltd.
2 King Sheng is the exclusive licensee of the '816 Patent and holds all substantial rights in the
3 '816 Patent including the right to bring suit for patent infringement.

4 11. King Sheng has been a leading manufacturer in the field of bike racks whose
5 products are sold around the world. King Sheng manufactures, imports, sells, and/or offers to
6 sell products that utilize the '816 Patent in this District, throughout the United States, and in
7 various countries around the world.

8 12. All products utilizing the '816 invention manufactured by King Sheng are
9 prominently marked with US Patent #7240816 and TW (Taiwan) Patent #1222941.

10 **IV. DEFENDANT'S INFRINGEMENT OF THE '816 PATENT**

11 13. CURT is a bike rack company that sells and distributes a wide variety of bike rack
12 products.

13 14. The Accused Products are among the products sold by CURT.

14 15. The Accused Products infringe, both literally and under the doctrine of equivalents,
15 upon independent claim 1 of the '816 Patent and dependent claims 2-20 thereof. A true and
16 correct copy of the cease and desist letter sent by Plaintiff to CURT on August 25, 2015, which
17 includes an infringement analysis of CURT model 18084 under claim 1 of the '816 Patent, is
18 attached hereto as Exhibit 2 and incorporated by reference.

19 16. On information and belief, CURT has made, imports, sells, offers to sell, and/or uses
20 the Accused Products. CURT also provides instructions and directions on how to use the
21 Accused Products in both the product packaging and online via their website.

22 17. On information and belief, CURT has known of the '816 Patent since at least July
23 10, 2007, which is the date the '816 Patent issued from the United States Patent and Trademark
24 Office.

25 **V. COUNT I – PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

26 18. Plaintiffs hereby reallege and incorporate by reference, as if fully set forth herein,
the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-14, supra.

1 19. CURT is currently infringing and has infringed the '816 Patent directly by, without
2 authority, having made, importing into the United States, and/or using, selling, and/or offering
3 for sale in the United States, including this District, the Accused Products, which embody the
4 inventions claimed in the '816 Patent.

5 20. CURT has directly and/or jointly with other entities infringed and is currently
6 directly and/or jointly with other entities infringing the '816 Patent literally and/or under the
7 doctrine of equivalents.

8 21. CURT is actively, intentionally, and/or knowingly inducing infringement of the '816
9 Patent by others in the United States, including, but not limited to, distributors and bike retail
10 stores, and is thus liable to Plaintiffs pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(b).

11 22. CURT is actively, intentionally, and/or knowingly contributing to infringement of
12 the '816 Patent by others in the United States, including, but not limited to distributors and bike
13 retail stores, and is thus liable to Plaintiffs pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(c).

14 23. CURT has never been authorized to practice the inventions protected by the '816
15 Patent.

16 24. Because, upon information and belief, CURT has had actual notice of the '816
17 Patent since 2007 and its infringement of the '816 Patent has been and continues to be willful
18 and deliberate.

19 25. CURT's infringement of the '816 Patent has caused injury to Plaintiffs, and
20 Plaintiffs are entitled to recover damages adequate to compensate for such infringement.

21 26. CURT will continue to infringe the '816 Patent unless this Court enjoins and
22 restrains CURT's activities, and Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law.

23 **VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

24 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter judgment:
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1 A. Finding that U.S. Patent No. 7,240,816 is valid, enforceable, and infringed by
 2 CURT, and that CURT is liable for inducement of infringement and contributory infringement
 3 of the '816 Patent;

4 B. Entering a permanent injunction against CURT, enjoining it, its respective directors,
 5 officers, agents, employees, successors, subsidiaries, assigns, and all persons acting in privity
 6 or in concert or participation with CURT from making, using, selling, or offering for sale in the
 7 United States, or importing into the United States, any and all products embodying the patented
 8 inventions claimed in the '816 Patent;

9 C. Holding that CURT acted willfully in causing damage to Plaintiffs;

10 D. Awarding Plaintiffs such damages to which it is entitled, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §
 11 284;

12 E. Awarding Plaintiffs enhanced damages, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

13 F. Awarding Plaintiffs pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as allowed by law;

14 G. Awarding Plaintiffs their costs, expenses, and fees, including reasonable attorneys'
 15 fees, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285; and

16 H. Awarding Plaintiffs such other and further relief as the Court deems just, equitable,
 17 and proper.

18 **VII. JURY DEMAND**

19 Plaintiffs hereby respectfully request a trial by jury, pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal
 20 Rules of Civil Procedure, on all issues so triable.

21 Respectfully submitted,

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 23 Dated: July 10, 2016

BRUCE STONE LLP

24 By: /s/ Chia-li S. Bruce
 25 Chia-li Bruce (SBN 252876)
 26 Attorney for Plaintiffs