

4. Upon information and belief, H&C is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, and doing business in the State of Texas and this judicial district. H&C may be served with process by serving its registered agent **CT Corporation System, 811 Dallas Ave., Houston, Texas 77002.**

5. Air System Components is a limited partnership organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, and doing business in the State of Texas and this judicial district. Air System Components may be served with process by serving its registered agent **CT Corporation System, 350 N. St. Paul St., Dallas, Texas 75201.**

6. Upon information and belief, Air Materials is the general partner of Air System Components. Upon further information and belief, Air Materials is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, and doing business in the State of Texas and this judicial district. Air Materials may be served with process by serving its registered agent **CT Corporation System, 350 N. St. Paul St., Dallas, Texas 75201.**

7. Upon information and belief, Defendants are all owned, directly or indirectly, by Tomkins, P.L.C., whose world headquarters are located in London, England.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

8. This action arises under the Patent Laws of the United States, Title 35 United States Code, particularly §§ 271 and 281, and Title 28 United States Code, particularly § 1338 (a). Venue is proper in this Court under Title 28 United States Code §§ 1391(c) and 1400 (b).

CLAIM FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

9. The '196 patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on August 19, 1997. A copy of the '196 patent is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**

and made a part hereof. Through various assignments, Plaintiffs are the joint owners of the '196 patent.

10. The '196 patent, in general, relates to and claims a method and device for an air duct diffuser for attachment to a ceiling grid and connection to the duct system of a heating, ventilation, and/or air conditioning system.

11. Upon information and belief, Defendants are engaged in the business of manufacturing, marketing, and selling air diffuser products. In furtherance of these activities, Defendants have offered for sale and sold air diffuser products in the marketplace, including those offered for sale and sold under the "J&J Register" and "Hart & Cooley" brands, that infringe one or more claims of the '196 patent literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents.

12. Upon information and belief, Defendants undertook the above-described activities and/or induced and/or contributed to such activities after knowing that such activities are an infringement of the claims of the '196 patent.

13. Upon information and belief, the above-described activities of Defendants have been willful.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs demand trial by jury on all claims and issues.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

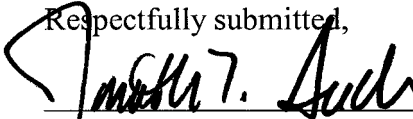
WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for entry of judgment:

- a. that one or more claims of United States Patent 5,658,196 has been infringed by H&C, Air System Components, and Air Materials, and by others to which they have contributed to and/or induced infringement;

- b. that Air Materials, as general partner, is liable for the activities of Air System Components complained of herein;
- c. that Defendants account for and pay to Plaintiffs all damages and costs of Plaintiffs caused by Defendants' activities complained of herein;
- d. that damages awarded to Plaintiffs be increased up to three times as authorized by 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- e. that Plaintiffs be granted pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on the damages caused by reason of Defendants' activities complained of herein;
- f. that this Court declare this an exceptional case and that Plaintiffs be awarded reasonable attorney's fees in accordance with Title 28 U.S.C. § 285;
- g. that costs be awarded to Plaintiffs; and
- h. that Plaintiffs be granted such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper under the circumstances.

Dated: April 16, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



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