# LEGAL NOTICE AUTHORIZED BY THE ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE AND THE SUPERIOR COURT OF QUÉBEC

# **CANADIAN LINEAR RESISTORS CLASS ACTIONS**

Did you purchase linear resistors or an electronic device containing linear resistors between July 9, 2003 and September 14, 2015? If so, your legal rights could be affected.

# WHAT IS THE CLASS ACTION ABOUT?

A "linear resistor" is an electronic component used to regulate the current in an electrical circuit. Linear resistors are found in electronics like computers, smartphones, gaming consoles, home appliances and televisions, among other products.

Class proceedings have been initiated on behalf of persons or entities in Canada who purchased linear resistors or products containing linear resistors between July 9, 2003 and September 14, 2015 (the "Settlement Class Members"). Among other allegations, the proceedings allege that the defendants participated in an unlawful conspiracy to fix, raise, maintain, or stabilize the price of linear resistors in Canada (the "Class Actions").

#### **LINEAR RESISTORS SETTLEMENT**

A Settlement Agreement has been reached with the defendants Kamaya Electric Co., Ltd. and Kamaya, Inc. (collectively "Kamaya").

Kamaya has agreed to pay CAD \$770,000 (the "Settlement Amount") for the benefit of Settlement Class Members and to provide meaningful early co-operation to the plaintiffs in pursuing their claims against the non-settling defendants. In exchange, Kamaya will be provided with a full release of the claims against them in relation to the Class Actions. The settlement, which was negotiated over several months, is not an admission of liability, fault, or wrongdoing, but is a compromise of disputed claims.

A prior settlement was reached with the Panasonic defendants and has been approved by previous orders of the courts.

# SETTLEMENT APPROVAL HEARINGS

The settlement must be approved by the courts in Ontario and Québec before it becomes effective. Hearings are to take place at:

- the Ontario Superior Court of Justice on November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 3:00pm by virtual hearing; and
- the Superior Court of Québec on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30am at 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, Montréal, Québec, Room 15.10, and by virtual hearing whose designation and ID address will be indicated later on the following website: https://www.recourscollectif.info/en/cases/resistances\_lineaire/

Due to the COVID 19 protocols in place at this time, it is currently anticipated that the settlement approval hearings will proceed by videoconference. If you want to participate in the settlement approval hearing in your jurisdiction, please contact Class Counsel for instructions and particulars on how to join the hearing. For more information please visit <a href="https://www.foremancompany.com/linear-resistors">www.foremancompany.com/linear-resistors</a>.

The Ontario action has also been discontinued as against the Murata, Yageo, TOCOS, Midori, Vishay and Alps defendants. This action will continue against the other named defendants.

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

The Settlement Amount, minus class counsel fees, disbursements, and applicable taxes, will be held in an interest-bearing trust account for the benefit of the Settlement Class Members in the Class Actions (the "Settlement Funds").

As the Class Actions remain ongoing and as further recoveries may be achieved, the Settlement Funds will not be distributed to Settlement Class Members at this time. At a future time, the courts will approve a process for the payment of claims to class members. A further notice will be provided at the time of distribution.

### SETTLEMENT APPROVAL AND COUNSEL FEES

At the settlement approval hearings, the courts will determine whether the settlement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of Settlement Class Members. The lawyers working on the Class Actions will be requesting court approval of fees of 25% percent of the Settlement Funds plus disbursements and applicable taxes. If approved, this amount will be paid to the lawyers out of the Settlement Funds.

If you do not oppose the proposed settlement agreement or the fee request of Class Counsel, you do not need to appear at the hearings or take any other action at this time.

If you wish to comment on or object to the settlement agreement or the fee request of Class Counsel, you must deliver a written submission to Foreman & Company, 4 Covent Market Place, London ON N6A 1E2, or by e-mail to classactions@foremancompany.com, by November 17, 2021 at the latest. The lawyers will forward any submissions to the appropriate court. If you have any questions about the settlement agreement, you are encouraged to contact one of the law firms listed below, who will respond to your questions.

# **OPTING OUT OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

The court ordered deadline for Settlement Class Members to opt out of the Class Actions was <u>January 29, 2021</u>. If you did not previously opt out, you are legally bound by the results of the Class Actions, including the Kamaya settlement agreement.

# YOU ARE REPRESENTED BY:

Foreman & Company and Siskinds LLP (Canada Settlement Class Members except QC): Toll free at 1-855-814-4575 ext. 106 or email: classactions@foremancompany.com

**Belleau Lapointe, s.e.n.c.r.l.** (QC Settlement Class Members): Toll free at 1-888-987-6701 or email: <a href="mailto:info@belleaulapointe.com">info@belleaulapointe.com</a>

Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman <sup>LLP</sup> (BC Settlement Class Members): Toll free at 1-800-689-2322 or email: <a href="mailto:info@cfmlawyers.ca">info@cfmlawyers.ca</a>

# MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the Class Actions or to review the long-form notice which contains additional information, please visit www.foremancompany.com/linear-resistors.