

**NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION / AUTHORIZATION AND SETTLEMENT APPROVAL
HEARINGS IN THE MATTER OF THE LINEAR RESISTORS CLASS ACTIONS**

TO: All persons and entities in Canada who purchased linear resistors or a product containing linear resistors between July 9, 2003 and September 14, 2015 (the "Settlement Class Members").

If you bought an electronic device containing linear resistors between July 9, 2003 and September 14, 2015 ("Class Period"), such as computers, smartphones, gaming consoles, home appliances and televisions, among other products you may be a Settlement Class Member and your legal rights could be affected.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY AS IT MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS.

A. WHAT IS A CLASS ACTION?

A class action is a lawsuit filed by one person on behalf of a large group of people that has been "certified" or "authorized" by a Canadian court and determines "common issues" for the group of people, known as the "class".

B. WHAT IS A LINEAR RESISTOR AND WHAT ARE THESE CLASS ACTIONS 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.

In 2015, class proceedings were initiated in Ontario by Foreman & Company and Siskinds ^{LLP}, in British Columbia by Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman ^{LLP} and in Québec by Belleau Lapointe, s.e.n.c.r.l. (collectively "Class Counsel") on behalf of Canadians who purchased a linear resistor or products containing linear resistors during the Class Period (the "Class Actions"). These Class Actions claim that the companies that sell linear resistors were involved in a conspiracy to unlawfully increase the prices of these products. The Class Actions ask the courts to order the defendants to return any extra money that they have received due to this alleged conspiracy.

While the Class Actions were started in Ontario, British Columbia and Québec, the cases include all persons or entities who purchased a linear resistor or a product containing linear resistors in all provinces and territories in Canada during the Class Period.

C. WHAT IS A SETTLEMENT AND WHAT SETTLEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED IN THESE CLASS ACTIONS?

A settlement is when a defendant agrees to pay money to the members of the class action in exchange for having the case against it dismissed.

In the Class Actions, settlements have been reached with Rohm Co. Ltd., Rohm Semiconductor U.S.A., LLC (collectively, "ROHM") and Hokuriku Electric Industry Co. and HDK America Inc. (collectively "HDK", and together with ROHM the "Settling Defendants").

The ROHM and HDK defendants are the third and fourth groups of defendants to enter into settlements in the Class Actions.

ROHM has agreed to pay CAD \$1,550,000, whereas HDK has separately agreed to pay CAD \$910,750 (collectively the "Settlement Amounts"), for the benefit of Settlement Class Members. The Settling Defendants have also agreed to provide meaningful co-operation to the plaintiffs in pursuing their claims against the other defendants. In exchange, each of the Settling Defendants will be provided with a full release of the claims against them and the Class Actions against them will be dismissed.

The settlements, which were separately negotiated over several months, are not an admission by ROHM or HDK of liability, fault, or wrongdoing, but are a compromise of disputed claims. The plaintiffs sought and were granted certification / authorization of the Class Actions in Ontario, British Columbia and Québec for settlement purposes only in respect of the ROHM defendants. The plaintiffs sought and were granted certification / authorization of the Class Actions in Ontario and Québec for settlement purposes only against the HDK defendants, who were not named as defendants in the British Columbia Class Action.

The settlements with ROHM and HDK are subject to Court approval. There will be settlement approval hearings in Ontario, British Columbia and Québec for the ROHM settlement, and in Ontario and Québec for the HDK settlement. These hearings are to take place at:

- the Ontario Superior Court of Justice on July 5, 2023 at 10:00am by virtual hearing;
- the British Columbia Supreme Court on August 25, 2023 at 9:00am, in person at 800 Smithe Street, Vancouver, BC V6Z 2E1 (ROHM only); and
- the Superior Court of Québec on June 6, 2023 at 9:30am at 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, Montréal, Québec, Room 16.06, and by virtual hearing;

The courts will decide whether the settlements are fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of Settlement Class Members.

It is currently anticipated that some of the settlement approval hearings will proceed, at least in part, by videoconference. If you are a Settlement Class Member and want to participate in the settlement approval hearing in your jurisdiction, please contact Class Counsel for instructions and particulars on how to observe the hearing.

D. WHEN WILL THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNTS BE DISTRIBUTED?

The Settlement Amounts, minus Court-approved Class Counsel fees, disbursements and applicable taxes, will be held in an interest-bearing trust account for the benefit of Settlement Class Members (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. If there are further recoveries, they will be added to the Settlement Funds.

At a later date yet to be determined, the Courts will approve how the Settlement Funds will be distributed and how you can apply to receive a share of the Settlement Funds. A further notice will be provided at the time of distribution.

E. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO AT THIS TIME?

If you do not oppose the proposed settlements, you do not need to appear at the hearings or take any other action at this time. In the interim, we recommend you retain all purchase receipts for linear resistors or products containing linear resistors made during the Class Period.

Should you wish to be kept up to date as these Class Actions proceed, you can register with Class Counsel at the contact information below.

If you want to tell the Courts what you think about the proposed settlements or speak to the courts at the hearings mentioned above, you must send your written submissions to Foreman & Company, 4 Covent Market Place, London ON N6A 1E2 or by e-mail to classactions@foremancompany.com, which must be received by June 2, 2023 at the latest. Contact information for Class Counsel can be found below. Class Counsel will provide all such submissions to the Courts.

F. WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO BE IN THE CLASS ACTIONS?

The Court-ordered deadline for Settlement Class Members to opt out of the Class Actions was **January 29, 2021**. If you did not previously opt out, you are included in the Class Actions and are legally bound by the results of the Class Actions, including the proposed settlement agreements.

G. HOW WILL CLASS COUNSEL BE PAID?

You do not have to pay the lawyers working on these Class Actions any money out of pocket. Class Counsel will be paid from the money collected in these Class Actions. The Courts will be asked to decide how much Class Counsel will be paid. While the respective retainer agreements permit a fee request of up to 30%, at this time Class Counsel will collectively be asking at the settlement approval hearings that the Courts approve legal fees of 25% of the Settlement Amounts, plus disbursements and applicable taxes. Class Counsel reserves the right to seek approval of additional fees up to the maximum of 30% at a future time. Any further fee request would be subject to Court approvals. Any approved Class Counsel fees, disbursements and applicable taxes will be paid out of the Settlement Amounts.

If you wish to comment on or make an objection to Class Counsel fees, a written submission must be delivered to the appropriate Class Counsel at the addresses listed below **by June 2, 2023 at the latest**. Class Counsel will forward all such submissions to the appropriate Court. If you do not file a written submission by the deadline, you may not be entitled to participate in the hearing and your submission may not be brought to the attention of the Courts.

H. WHAT IF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS ARE NOT APPROVED?

The certification/authorization orders are only valid if the settlement agreements are approved by the Ontario, British Columbia and Québec Courts (as applicable). If the settlement agreements are not approved or if it otherwise fails to take effect, the certification/authorization order will not stand and the litigation will continue against ROHM and HDK.

I. WHO ARE THE LAWYERS WORKING ON THESE CLASS ACTIONS?

Foreman & Company and Siskinds^{LLP} represent Settlement Class Members^{LLP} in Canada excluding Québec and British Columbia (as applicable). Foreman & Company can be reached at:

- Toll free at 1-855-814-4575 ext. 106, by e-mail at classactions@foremancompany.com or by mail at 4 Covent Market Place, London, Ontario N6A 1E2, Attention: Raven Gladstone.

Belleau Lapointe s.e.n.c.r.l. represents Settlement Class Members in Québec. Belleau Lapointe s.e.n.c.r.l. can be reached at:

- Toll free at 1-888-987-6701, by e-mail at info@belleaulapointe.com or by mail at 300, Place d'Youville, Bureau B-10, Montréal, Québec H2Y 2B6, Attention: Mélissa Bazin.

Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman ^{LLP} represents Settlement Class Members resident in British Columbia. Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman ^{LLP} can be reached at:

- Toll free at 1-800-689-2322, by e-mail at info@cfmlawyers.ca or by mail at Suite 400, 856 Homer Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 2W5, Attention: Sharon Wong.

J. WHERE CAN I ASK MORE QUESTIONS?

This notice contains only a summary of the settlement agreements and Settlement Class Members are encouraged to review the complete settlement agreements. A copy of the settlement agreements can be downloaded from the settlement website at www.foremancompany.com/linear-resistors. If you would like copies of the settlement agreements or have questions that are not answered online, please contact the appropriate Class Counsel identified above. **Inquiries should not be directed to the Courts.**

K. INTERPRETATION

This notice contains a summary of some of the terms of the settlement agreements with ROHM and HDK. If there is a conflict between the provisions of this notice and the settlement agreements, the terms of the settlement agreements shall prevail.