1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 10 11 ANOVA APPLIED ELECTRONICS, INC. 12 Case No. 2:23-cv-00843 Plaintiff COMPLAINT FOR PATENT AND 13 v. TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT 14 AND UNFAIR COMPETITION Perch Acquisition Co 1 LLC d/b/a "SOUSVIDE ART," a Delaware corporation; 15 WEDGE AND WAGON, LLC, a Delaware 16 corporation; 17 MAKAROV DMYTRO, a Ukrainian individual; 18 VOLOSHYNA IRYNA, a Ukrainian individual; 19 Jinantaizhuofurundianzishangmaoyouxiangongsi d/b/a "LEKOZA," a Chinese corporation; 20 Maksym Mosinian d/b/a "GARNEASE," a 21 Ukrainian corporation; HONG KONG XING HUA TECHNOLOGY CO., 22 LIMITED d/b/a "UPESITOM," a Hong Kong 23 corporation; and Dongguanshi yingsheng keji youxiangongsi 24 d/b/a/ "CAUKINS," a Chinese corporation 25 Defendants. 26 27



COMPLAINT - 2

#### PATENT AND TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Anova Applied Electronics, Inc. ("Anova"), by and through its attorneys, for its Complaint against defendants Perch Acquisition Co 1 LLC d/b/a "Sousvide Art," Wedge and Wagon, LLC, Makarov Dmytro, Voloshyna Iryna, Lekoza Direct, Garnease, Upesitom, Caukins, and all related aliases ("Defendants"), alleges as follows:

#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This is an action for infringement of Plaintiff's United States Reissue Patent No. RE49,267 ("the RE267 Patent" or "the Asserted Patent" attached as Exhibit 1) under the Patent Act, 35 U.S.C. § 271, as well as unfair competition arising from Defendants' infringement of registered Trademark Nos. 4989116 ("the '116 Mark") and 6392242 ("the '242 Mark") for "PRECISION" (collectively, "the PRECISION Marks"). The registration certificates for the PRECISION Marks are attached as Exhibits 2 and 3, respectively. This action is premised on Defendants' unauthorized manufacture, commercial use, importation, offer for sale, and sale of certain "Sousvide Art Precision Cooker" products ("Accused Product") online in the United States. Defendants' actions have caused and will continue to cause substantial harm. Plaintiff seeks preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, damages, and attorneys' fees and costs.

# **JURISDICTION**

1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a) because it concerns the rights of parties under the Patent Act, 35 U.S.C. § 271; and pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1121 because this action alleges violation of the Lanham Act; and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.



This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over all other claims under 28

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U.S.C. § 1367 because all other claims are related to the same controversy that gave rise to the federal causes of action alleged. 3. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because they

purposefully and intentionally conducted business with Amazon and directed communications and other conduct to Amazon.com, Inc. ("Amazon") (headquartered in Seattle, Washington) that were knowingly and intentionally calculated to inflict damage and harm upon Plaintiff, and which transactions are the subject of this Complaint. As described more fully below, Defendants committed tortious acts of using, offering to sell, selling, and/or importing infringing products to customers and/or potential customers within the State of Washington. Defendants' activities with respect to the products they sell in the State of Washington constitute at least patent infringement, trademark infringement, false designation of origin, and unfair competition. On information and belief, Defendants' customers and potential customers reside in the State of Washington, and on information and belief, Defendants are transacting business and benefitting from the Washington market, including for example, through sales and importing of infringing products that occur within Washington. Alternatively, this Court may exercise personal jurisdiction over Defendants residing outside of the United States under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(k)(2). The Court's exercise of personal jurisdiction over Defendants in this action is consistent with the United States Constitution for at least the same reasons stated above.



VENUE

4. Venue is proper in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)-(c) and § 1400(b) because actions that gave rise to this Complaint were directed to Seattle, Washington. Venue is also proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 (c)(3) because on information and belief, Defendants are not residents of the United States and may be sued in any judicial district.

**PARTIES** 

- 5. ANOVA APPLIED ELECTRONICS, INC. ("Anova") is a corporation formed under the laws of the state of Delaware with its principal place of business located in San Francisco, California. Anova has been doing business, including in the state of Washington, since 2013. Plaintiff Anova manufactures and sells sous vide circulation cookers, including its Precision Cooker Nano, Precision Cooker, and Precision Cooker Pro models, including through Amazon.com.
- 6. On information and belief, Defendants are based in Delaware, Ukraine, and China; and offer the Accused Product online via the popular retailer Amazon.com.
- 7. On information and belief, Defendant Perch Acquisition Co 1 LLC ("Perch") is a Delaware limited liability company. Its address and principal place of business is 112 S. French Street, Suite 105-11, Wilmington, DE, 19801. On information and belief, Perch is operating as "SOUSVIDE ART" on Amazon and has an ownership interest in the "SOUSVIDE ART" Trademark (Serial No. 88135187). A copy of Perch's corporate entity status from Delaware's Secretary of State website is attached as Exhibit 4. A copy

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of Perch's Amazon.com Seller Profile and product listings of the Accused Product is attached as Exhibit 5.

- 8. On information and belief, Defendant Wedge and Wagon LLC ("Wedge and Wagon") is a Delaware limited liability company. According to the USPTO's public Trademark States & Document Retrieval ("TSDR") system containing the SOUSVIDE ART trademark application documents, Wedge and Wagon owns by assignment Trademark Registration No. 5871441 for SOUSVIDE ART ("SOUSVIDE ART Mark"). According to TSDR records, Wedge and Wagon maintains an address of 667 Boylston St. 3rd Floor, Suite 301, in Boston, MA 02116. A copy of Wedge and Wagon's corporate entity status from Delaware's Secretary of State website is attached as Exhibit 6. True and accurate copies of certain TSDR records for the SOUSVIDE ART Mark are attached hereto as Exhibit 7.
- 9. According to TSDR records (Exhibit 6), Makarov Dmytro is a Ukrainian individual with the last known address of 81/25 Kanatnaya Str. Odesa, Ukraine 65012. Makarov is listed as a registrant of the SOUSVIDE ART Trademark.
- 10. According to TSDR records, Voloshyna Iryna is a Ukrainian individual with the last known address of 2/13 Ilfa and Petrova str. Odesa, Ukraine. Voloshyna is listed as a registrant of the SOUSVIDE ART Trademark.
- 11. On information and belief, Defendant jinantaizhuofurundianzishangmaoyouxiangongsi is a Chinese entity doing business on Amazon as "Lekoza Direct." Its address and principal place of business is Room 1106, 11th Floor, Block B, Qilu Software Park Venture Plaza, Jinan City, High-tech Zone,



Shandong Province, 250098, People's Republic of China. Lekoza Direct's Amazon Seller Profile and listings of the Accused Product are attached as Exhibit 8.

- 12. On information and belief, Defendant Maksym Mosinian is a Ukrainian individual operating on Amazon as "Garnease." Its address and principal place of business is street Fontanska Doroha, building 65, flat 20, Odesa, Odeska, Ukraine 65062. Garnease's Amazon Seller Profile and listings of the Accused Product are attached as Exhibit 9.
- 13. On information and belief, Defendant HONG KONG XING HUA TECHNOLOGY CO., LIMITED, is a Chinese entity doing business on Amazon as "Upesitom" with a "Workhard55" username. Its address and principal place of business is RM 2914C 29/F HO KING COMM CTR, 2-16 Fa Yuen St, Monkok, KLN, 999077, Hong Kong. Upesitom's Amazon Seller Profile is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.
- 14. On information and belief, dongguanshi yingsheng keji youxiangongsi is a Chinese entity doing business on Amazon as "Caukins." Its address and principal place of business is Country Garden Tianlushan Garden, No. 16 Dongshen South Road, Room 1904, Unit 2, Building 108, Dongguan City, Tangxia Town, Guangdong Province, 523728, People's Republic of China. Caukins' Amazon Seller Profile is attached hereto as Exhibit 11.

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

15. The "sous vide" technique of cooking involves cooking ingredients in a vacuum-sealed pouch submerged in water, typically at a long time at a low temperature.



COMPLAINT - 7

16. Anova is a global company and a global leader in kitchen appliances and accessories. Anova's Precision Cooker has become the best-selling sous vide device on the market today. For its research and design efforts, Anova has been awarded multiple patents, garnered industry acclaim, and is recognized as a trusted brand among consumers worldwide.

- 17. On October 29, 2019, United States Pat. No. RE496,267 (hereafter "the RE267 Patent"), titled "Circulator Cooker with Alarm System," issued to Anova Applied Electronics, Inc. The RE267 Patent identifies Jeff Wu and Frank Wu as its inventors, and is directed towards a device which can be partially immersed in a vessel of water, such that a heater in the vessel can maintain the temperature of the water within a defined range to allow foodstuffs, packed in vacuum sealed bags, to be immersed in the water and cooked. The device also includes a circulation pump to improve the circulation of water in the vessel to reduce temperature gradients within the vessel.
- 18. Anova holds United States Trademark Registration No. 4,989,116 for PRECISION for use in connection with temperature controllers for use in cooking, namely, constant temperature immersion circulators, in International Class 9. The '116 Mark was registered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("UPSTO") on June 28, 2016 and has become incontestable within the meaning of Section 15 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1065.
- 19. Anova holds United States Trademark Registration No. 6,392,242 for PRECISION for use in connection with sous-vide machines and electric sous-vide



cookers, in International Class 11. The '242 Mark was registered by the USPTO on June

22, 2021.

COMPLAINT - 8

20. Anova has been using the PRECISION Marks in commerce in connection with temperature controllers for use in cooking, namely, constant temperature immersion circulators; sous-vide machines; and electric sous-vide cookers at least as early as September 11, 2015.
21. Anova has expended substantial time, money, and resources marketing,

- advertising, and promoting its products sold under the PRESICION Marks including through Anova's marketing, advertising, and promotional efforts. Attached hereto as Exhibit 12 is a representative sample of materials showing Anova's use of the PRECISION Marks in connection with its constant temperature immersion circulators; sous-vide machines; and electric sous-vide cookers.
- 22. Anova has not consented to or authorized Defendants to use the PRECISION Marks.
- 23. On information and belief, Defendant Sousvide Art operates the website <a href="https://www.sousvideart.com/">https://www.sousvideart.com/</a>. See Exhibit 13. A copy of the publicly available ICANN record identifying Mr. Chris Bell as registrant of the <a href="https://www.sousvideart.com/">https://www.sousvideart.com/</a> is attached as Exhibit 14. On information and belief, according to what appears to be his LinkedIn profile page, <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/bellchris/">https://www.linkedin.com/in/bellchris/</a>, Mr. Bell is the Founder and CEO of Perch Brands. See Exhibit 15. Further, on information and belief, according to the sousvideart.com website, "Sousvide Art is part of the Perch family of brands."

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24. A true and accurate copy of a printout of the Perch website advertising, offering, and selling the Accused Product as attached as Exhibit 16.

25. According to the USPTO's public TSDR records containing the SOUSVIDE ART trademark application documents, Defendants Sousvide Art, Wedge and Wagon, Makaraov Dmytro, and Voloshyna Iryna have been selling sous-vide cookers with the SOUSVIDE ART Trademark since May 23, 2018. Sousvide Art offers for sale, directly sells, and imports the Sousvide Art Precision Cookers. *See* Exhibit 6.

26. On information and belief, the Sousvide Art Precision Cookers are advertised, offered for sale, and sold on Amazon.com under at least the following listing titles and Amazon Standard Identification Numbers ("ASINs"):

Title of Listing	ASIN
SOUSVIDE ART Precision Cooker Kit (Regular	B077GXV153
Cooker Kit) - Sous Vide Machine Immersion	
Cookers Circulator, 15 Vacuum Seal Bags, Vacuum	
Pump, Digital Timer, Temp Control, Sous Vide	
Cooker, Gift for Chefs	
SOUSVIDE ART Precision Cooker Kit (Deluxe	B081B4SR7F
Cooker Kit) - Sous Vide Machine Immersion	
Cookers Circulator, 30 Vacuum Seal Bags, Vacuum	
Pump, Digital Timer, Temp Control, Sous Vide	
Cooker, Gift for Chefs	
Sous Vide Machine, Lekoza Joule Sous Vide Cooker	B0BYW3FCKN
1100 Watts, Ultra-quiet Fast-Heating Wifi Connect	
Preset Recipes on APP Immersion Circulator	
Precise Cooker with Accurate Temperature and	
Timer	
Sous Vide Cooker Kit All In One  Sous Vide	B09DB331CW
Immersion Circulator Slim Design 1000W Precise	
Temperature with Vacuum Sealer Machine and	

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Sous Vide Vacuum Bags   24 Month Warranty	
Deluxe Edition	
Sous Vide Cooker Starter Kit   All In One   Sous	B09DB6WCTQ
Vide Immersion Circulator Slim Design 1000W, 20	
Sous Vide Reusable Vacuum Bags, Electric Pump,	
Sous Vide Clips, Cookbook   Special Edition	
Upesitom Sous Vide Cooker, 1100W Sous Vide	B0B79CX89V
Precision Machine, IPX7 Waterproof Immersion	
Circulator with Temperature Control, Digital	
Timer, Low Noise & Fast Heating	
Upestiom Sous Vide Cooker 1100 W Sous Vide	B0C2XYCCKW
Machine, Immersion Circulation Precision Sous	
Vide Machine with Temperature Control, Digital	
Timer, IPX7 Waterproof, Low Noise & Fast	
Heating	
CAUKINS Sous Vide Machine Precision Cooker:	B0BP12J5XL
Sous Vide Cooker 1100 Watts Immersion Sous Vide	
Low Temperature Cooker Immersion Circulator for	
Sous Vide	
CAUKINS Sous Vide Machine Suvee Cooker:	B0BMVYTPVB
Sous-vide 1100 Watts Sous Vide Cooker Sous Vide	
Kit Immersion Circulators for Precision Cooker	

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## **COUNT I**

# INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. REISSUE PATENT NO. RE49,267

- 27. Anova repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 26 hereof, as if fully set forth herein.
- 28. The RE267 Patent, entitled "Circulation Cooker with Alarm System," was duly and legally reissued on November 1, 2022, and names Jeff Wu and Frank Wu as the inventors. The RE267 Patent was issued from the United States Patent Application No. 16/913,418. The RE267 Patent claims priority from United States Provisional Patent Application No. 61/911,384, which was filed on December 3, 2013 and Provisional Patent



Application No. 61/764,984. The full continuity data of the RE267 Patent is shown on the face of the patent and is hereby incorporated by reference.

- 29. The RE267 Patent is a reissue patent from U.S. Pat. No. 9,826, 855 ("the '855 Patent") which issued on November 28, 2017. The application for the '855 Patent was filed on December 3, 2014.
- 30. Anova is the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest in the RE267 Patent, which assignment was recorded by the US Patent and Trademark Office at Reel/Frame: 057299/0681 on August 26, 2021. A true and accurate copy of the assignment is attached hereto as Exhibit 17.
- 31. Anova owns the entire right, title, and interest in and to the RE267 Patent, including the right to seek damages for past, current, and future infringement thereof.
- 32. The RE267 Patent "relates generally to food cooking devices, and more specifically, to precision temperature control water heaters and water pump circulator appliances having an alarm system, or alert system, or both." RE267 Patent, Col. 1, Lns. 25-29.
  - 33. Claim 1 of the RE267 Patent reads as follows:

A fluidic temperature control device for sous-vide cooking comprising:

an upper portion and a middle portion including a controller, a display device, an input device coupled to the controller and a motor coupled to the controller;

a lower portion releasably connected to the upper and the middle portions, the lower portion housing a fluid agitation device coupled to the motor and passing through a heating element, the heating element coupled to the controller, and the lower portion configured with a plurality of vertical perforations and a plurality of horizontal perforations and for at least partial immersion in a fluid.



- 34. On or about November 1, 2022, Anova purchased the Sousvide Art Precision Cooker from Amazon.com. Anova received the product on or about November 3, 2022. Copies of the order receipt, delivery confirmation, and pictures of the item are attached as Exhibit 18.
- 35. As detailed in the RE267 Claim Chart (attached as Exhibit 19), the Sousvide Art Precision Cooker infringes at least claim 1 of the RE267 Patent.
- 36. On information and belief, the Defendants individually and collectively advertise, offer for sale, and sell the Sousvide Art Precision Cookers which practice the claimed invention of the RE267 Patent, on Amazon.com under at least the abovementioned ASINs and on <a href="https://www.sousvideart.com/">https://www.sousvideart.com/</a>, and <a href="https://www.sousvideart.com/">https://www.sousvideart.com/</a>, and <a href="https://www.perch-brands.com/product-page/sous-vide-cooker-immersion-circulator-regular">https://www.perch-brands.com/product-page/sous-vide-cooker-immersion-circulator-regular</a>.
- 37. Defendants offer to ship and ship the Accused Product, which practice the claimed invention of the RE267 Patent, to customers throughout the United States including the state of Washington.
- 38. On information and belief, at least Defendant Sousvide Art operates an online community forum on Facebook.com wherein Defendant Sousvide Art provides guidance on how to use the Accused Product. See <a href="https://www.facebook.com/sousvideart/">https://www.facebook.com/sousvideart/</a>.
- 39. According to TSDR records, on September 27, 2018, Makarov Dmytro, Voloshyna Iryna, and Wedge and Wagon LLC applied for registration for the SOUSVIDE ART Mark on a Section 1A "Actual Use in Commerce" basis and represented to the COMPLAINT 12

USPTO that the first use in commerce of the SOUSVIDE ART Mark was on May 23, 2018. *See* Exhibit 7. Makarov Dmytro, Voloshyna Iryna, and Wedge and Wagon submitted a specimen that represents as of May 23, 2018, these defendants were selling the Accused Product in commerce. *See* Exhibit 7. Acting individually and collectively (and in connection with other Defendants), Makarov Dmytro, Voloshyna Iryna, and Wedge and Wagon have been infringing on the Patents since at least May 23, 2018.

- 40. Defendants individually and in concert with each other have thus infringed, and continue to infringe, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, Anova's RE267 Patent, by making, using, importing, selling and/or offering to sell in the United States, including within this judicial district, the Accused Product during the enforceability period of the RE267 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C § 271 (a).
- 41. Defendants individually and collectively have also indirectly infringed, and continues to infringe, at least claim 1 of the RE267 Patent by actively and knowingly inducing others to make, use, offer to sell, import, and/or sell the Accused Product in the United States, including within this judicial district. Third parties who offer to sell, import, and/or sell the Accused Product in accordance with the Defendants instructions and/or encouragement infringe the RE267 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C § 271 (a).
- 42. Defendants individually and collectively also induce infringement by others by failing to remove or diminish the infringing features of the Accused Product. Defendants individually and collectively are thus liable for infringement of the RE267 Patent under 35 U.S.C § 271 (b).

COMPLAINT - 14

43. The Defendants individually and collectively have also infringed, and continue to infringe, the RE267 Patent by contributing to the direct infringement of the RE267 Patent. On information and belief, the Defendants individually and collectively sell, offer to sell and/or import into the United States components of the Accused Product, constituting a material part of the RE267 invention, knowing those components to be especially made or especially adapted for use in the infringement of the RE267 Patent, and which are neither a staple article nor a commodity of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringement use. The Defendants individually and collectively are thus liable for infringement under 35 U.S.C § 271 (c).

- 44. On information and belief, Defendants individually and collectively have known of the existence of the RE267 Patent, and their acts of infringement have been willful and in disregard for the RE267 Patent, without any reasonable basis for believing that it had a right to engage in the infringing conduct.
- 45. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement have been, and continues to be knowing, intentional, and willful.
- 46. Defendants' acts of infringement of the RE267 Patent have caused and will continue to cause Anova damages for which they Anova is entitled to compensation pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284.
- 47. Defendants' acts of infringement of the RE267 Patent have caused and will continue to cause Anova immediate and irreparable harm unless such infringing activities are enjoined by this Court pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 283. This includes *inter alia* loss of customers, loss of market-share, price erosion, loss of customer goodwill, and

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harm to Anova's reputation as a leading innovator in the kitchen appliance industry. Anova has no adequate remedy at law to address these damages. Anova is thus entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction against the Defendants' further infringement of the RE267 Patent.

48. This case is exceptional and, therefore, Anova is entitled to an award of attorney fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285.

# COUNT II FEDERAL TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT UNDER 15 U.S.C. § 1114

- 49. Anova repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 48 hereof, as if fully set forth herein.
- 50. As a result of its widespread, continuous, and exclusive use of the PRECISION Marks to identify its products and Anova as their source, Anova owns valid and subsisting federal statutory and common law rights to the PRESICION Marks.
- 51. Anova's PRESICION Marks is distinctive to both the consuming public and Anova's trade.
- 52. As a result of Anova's expenditures and efforts, the PRECISION Marks have come to signify the high quality of the products designated by Anova's PRECISION Marks, and have acquired incalculable distinction, reputation, and goodwill belonging exclusively to Plaintiff.
- 53. As described above, the PRECISION Marks are valid and protectable trademarks. The registrations for the PRECISION Marks have been in full force and effect since their issuance. Anova owns the entire right, title, and interest in and to the

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PRECISION Marks, including the right to seek damages for past, current, and future infringement thereof.

- 54. Defendants have infringed the PRECISION Marks by selling and advertising its products using Anova's PRECISION Marks to consumers in the United States.
- 55. Defendants individually and collectively advertise, offer for sale, and sell the Precision Cookers which infringe on the PRECISION Marks on Amazon.com. Listings of Defendants' infringement of the PRECISION Marks by Perch Acquisition Co 1 LLC d/b/a Sousvide Art,¹ Upesitom (HONG KONG XING HUA TECHNOLOGY CO., LIMITED),² and Caukins (dongguanshi yingsheng keji youxiangongsi)³ are attached hereto as Exhibits 5, 10, and 11, respectively. In every instance, the term "Precision" is

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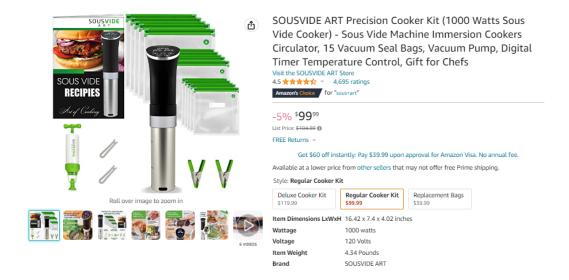
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SOUSVIDE ART <u>Precision</u> Cooker Kit (1000 Watts Sous Vide Cooker) - Sous Vide Machine Immersion Cookers Circulator, 15 Vacuum Seal Bags, Vacuum Pump, Digital Timer Temperature Control, Gift for Chefs, Amazon.com, <a href="https://a.co/d/fHiFYzW">https://a.co/d/fHiFYzW</a> (last accessed June 2, 2023); SOUSVIDE ART <u>Precision</u> Cooker Kit (Deluxe Cooker Kit) - Sous Vide Machine Immersion Cookers Circulator, 30 Vacuum Seal Bags, Vacuum Pump, Digital Timer, Temp Control, Sous Vide Cooker, Gift for Chefs, Amazon.com, <a href="https://a.co/d/9Txt2Qp">https://a.co/d/9Txt2Qp</a> (last accessed June 2, 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Upesitom Sous Vide Cooker, 1100W Sous Vide <u>Precision</u> Machine, IPX7 Waterproof Immersion Circulator with Temperature Control, Digital Timer, Low Noise & Fast Heating, Amazon.com, <a href="https://a.co/d/bF3YY8L">https://a.co/d/bF3YY8L</a> (last visited June 2, 2023); Upestiom Sous Vide Cooker 1100 W Sous Vide Machine, Immersion Circulation <u>Precision</u> Sous Vide Machine with Temperature Control, Digital Timer, IPX7 Waterproof, Low Noise & Fast Heating, Amazon.com, <a href="https://a.co/d/0vOeQmh">https://a.co/d/0vOeQmh</a> (last visited June 2, 2023)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> CAUKINS Sous Vide Machine <u>Precision</u> Cooker: Sous Vide Cooker 1100 Watts Immersion Sous Vide Low Temperature Cooker Immersion Circulator for Sous Vide, Amazon.com, <a href="https://a.co/d/7woS8PG">https://a.co/d/7woS8PG</a> (last visited June 2, 2023); CAUKINS Sous Vide Machine Suvee Cooker Sous-vide 1100 Watts Sous Vide Cooker Sous Vide Kit Immersion Circulators for <a href="https://a.co/d/a5oz0Hp">Precision</a> Cooker, Amazon.com, <a href="https://a.co/d/a5oz0Hp">https://a.co/d/a5oz0Hp</a> (last visited June 2, 2023).

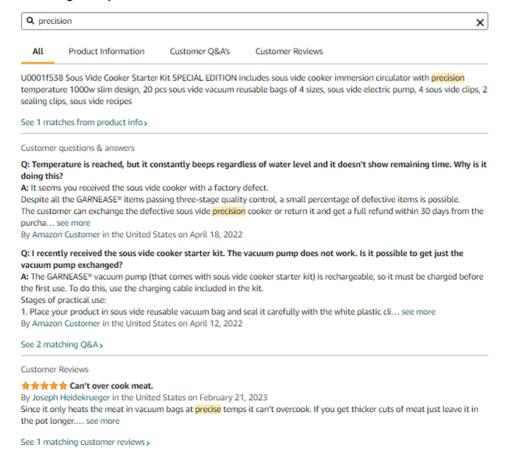
used in the product titles in direct infringement of the PRECISION Marks. Just one example is pasted below:



56. On information and belief, Garnease is responsible for the product information and FAQ portions of its listings; both of which use PRECISION Marks to refer the Accused Product. For example, on information and belief, Garnese refers to the Accused Product as a "sous vide precision cooker" as shown below (see also Exhibit 9):

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#### Looking for specific info?



- 57. On information and belief, after Anova earned rights in the PRECISION Marks, Defendants have been using the PRECISION Marks, thereby creating a likelihood of confusion with the PRECISION Marks, and creating a false association and designation of origin of the Accused Product.
- 58. Defendants' unauthorized use of the PRECISION Marks on or in connection with its sous vide products is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake or to deceive as to (i) the affiliation, connection, or association of Defendants with Anova, (ii) the origin of the parties' respective goods, and/or (iii) the sponsorship, endorsement, or approval of Defendants' goods by Anova or of Anova's goods by Defendants.



- 59. Defendants' unauthorized use of the PRECISION Marks on or in connection with its sous vide products violates Anova's exclusive rights in its PRECISION Marks and constitutes trademark infringement in violation of Section 32(1) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1114(1).
- 60. On information and belief, Defendants individually and in concert with each other have committed the foregoing acts of infringement with full knowledge of Anova's prior rights in the PRECISION Marks and with the willful intent to infringe and cause confusion and trade on Anova's goodwill.
- 61. Defendants' acts of infringement of the PRECISION Marks have caused and will continue to cause Anova immediate and irreparable harm unless such infringing activities are enjoined by this Court. This includes *inter alia* loss of customers, customer confusion, loss of market-share, price erosion, loss of customer goodwill, and harm to Anova's reputation as a leading innovator in the kitchen appliance industry. Anova has no adequate remedy at law to address these damages. Anova is thus entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction against the Defendants' further infringement of the PRECISION Marks.
- 62. Anova is entitled to, among other relief, injunctive relief and an award of actual damages, Defendants' profits, enhanced damages and profits, reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs of the action under Sections 34 and 35 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1116, 1117, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest.

## COUNT III FEDERAL UNFAIR COMPETITION

COMPLAINT - 19



# AND FALSE DESIGNATIONS OF ORIGIN AND FALSE AND MISLEADING REPRESENTATION UNDER 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a)

- 63. Anova repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 62 hereof, as if fully set forth herein.
- 64. Defendants' unauthorized use of the PRECISION Marks on or in connection with its sous vide products violates Anova's exclusive rights in its PRECISION Marks and constitutes trademark infringement, false advertising, and unfair competition in violation of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a).
- 65. Defendants' acts of infringement of the PRECISION Marks have caused and will continue to cause Anova immediate and irreparable harm unless such infringing activities are enjoined by this Court. This includes *inter alia* loss of customers, customer confusion, loss of market-share, price erosion, loss of customer goodwill, and harm to Anova's reputation as a leading innovator in the kitchen appliance industry. Anova has no adequate remedy at law to address these damages. Anova is thus entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction against the Defendants' further infringement of the PRECISION Marks.
- 66. Upon information and belief, Defendants' infringement of the PRECISION Marks has been, and continues to be knowing, intentional, and willful, and in deliberate disregard of the PRECISION Marks.
- 67. Anova is entitled to, among other relief, an award of actual damages,

  Defendants' profits, enhanced damages and profits, reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs

  COMPLAINT 20

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of the action under Sections 34 and 35 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1116 and 1117, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest.

# COUNT IV DILUTION IN VIOLATION OF 15 U.S.C. § 1125(c)

- 68. Anova repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 67 hereof, as if fully set forth herein.
- 69. As a result of the distinctiveness and widespread use and promotion throughout the United States, Anova's PRECISION Marks are distinctive and a "famous mark" within the meaning of Section 43(c) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(c).
- 70. The PRECISION Marks became distinctive and famous prior to the Defendants' acts as alleged herein.
- 71. Defendants individually and in concert with each other have are infringing on the PRECISION Marks in commerce.
- 72. Defendants' use of the PRECISION Marks has diluted and tarnished and will, unless enjoined, continue to dilute and tarnish the distinctive quality of the PRECISION Marks by undermining and damaging the valuable goodwill associated therewith in violation of Section 43(c) of the United States Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(c).
- 73. Defendants' acts of infringement of the PRECISION Marks have caused and will continue to cause Anova immediate and irreparable harm unless such infringing activities are enjoined by this Court. This includes *inter alia* loss of customers, customer



confusion, loss of market-share, price erosion, loss of customer goodwill, and harm to Anova's reputation as a leading innovator in the kitchen appliance industry. Anova has no adequate remedy at law to address these damages. Anova is thus entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction against the Defendants' further infringement of the PRECISION Marks.

- 74. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement of the PRECISION Marks has been, and continues to be knowing, intentional, and willful, and in deliberate disregard of the PRECISION Marks.
- 75. Anova is entitled to, among other relief, an award of actual damages, Defendants' profits, enhanced damages and profits, reasonable attorneys' fees, and costs of the action under Sections 34 and 35 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1116 and 1117, together with prejudgment and post-judgment interest.

### COUNT V TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT AT COMMON LAW

- 76. Anova repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 75 hereof, as if fully set forth herein.
- 77. As described above, the PRECISION Marks are valid and protectable trademarks, and have earned common law protections since they were first used in commerce. Anova owns the entire right, title, and interest in and to the PRECISION Marks, including the right to seek damages for past, current, and future infringement thereof.

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- 78. Defendants individually and collectively have infringed the PRECISION Marks by adopting the PRECISION Marks in connection with advertising and selling sous vide devices in commerce.
- 79. Defendants individually and in concert with each other have engaged in trade and commerce in the commonwealth of Washington. This trade and commerce includes the sale, marketing and advertising of its sous vide cookers in connection with the PRECISION Marks.
- 80. The acts of Defendants, individually and collectively, constitute the sale and passing-off of its products as Anova's products, infringement, imitation and misappropriation of the PRECISION Marks, unfair competition with Anova in violation of its rights at common law.
- 81. Defendants' actions as described above regarding the PRECISION Marks constitute trademark infringement in violation of Washington common law.
- 82. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement of the PRECISION Marks has been, and continues to be knowing, intentional, and willful, and in deliberate disregard of the PRECISION Marks.
- 83. Defendants' acts of infringement of the PRECISION Marks have caused and will continue to cause Anova immediate and irreparable harm unless such infringing activities are enjoined by this Court. This includes *inter alia* loss of customers, customer confusion, loss of market-share, price erosion, loss of customer goodwill, and harm to Anova's reputation as a leading innovator in the kitchen appliance industry. Anova has no adequate remedy at law to address these damages. Anova is thus entitled to a

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preliminary and permanent injunction against the Defendants' further infringement of the PRECISION Marks.

# COUNT VI COMMON LAW UNFAIR COMPETITION AND UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES UNDER WASHINGTON STATE LAW, RCW 19.86.020 ET SEQ.

- 84. Anova repeats and realleges paragraphs 1 through 83 hereof, as if fully set forth herein.
- 85. Defendants' acts as alleged herein constitute deceptive trade practices under the common law and statutory laws of the State of Washington, including, but not limited to RCW 19.86.020.
- 86. Anova has valid and protectable rights in the PRECISION Marks. Anova owns the entire right, title, and interest in and to the PRECISION Marks, including the right to seek damages for past, current, and future infringement thereof.
- 87. Defendants' individually and collectively have falsely and deceptively created the impression in commerce that Defendants' goods and services are associated with, sponsored by, or approved by Anova, and are likely to confuse the public as to the source of Defendants' goods and services. Defendants' actions and use of the PRECISION Marks injures Anova's business reputation of Anova and dilute the distinctive quality of its products.
- 88. Defendants' acts are likely to deceive the public. Defendants mislead members of the public into believing that Defendants' products come from Anova and/or

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that there is an affiliation between Anova and Defendants or between their respective products and/or that Anova endorses or sponsors or has granted a license for Defendants' products. Defendants' actions constitute unfair and deceptive practices which affect the public interest as a result of the public confusion caused by such acts.

- 89. Defendants' acts constitute the sale and passing-off of its products as Anova's products, infringement, imitation and misappropriation of the PRECISION Marks, and unjust enrichment and unfair competition with Anova in violation of its rights under Washington and federal law.
- 90. Defendants' unfair acts as alleged herein have caused and will continue to cause injury to Anova to its business and/or property. Defendants' unlawful misrepresentations have caused harm to Anova by diverting revenues that would otherwise be paid to Anova. Anova's goodwill has been undermined, and it has been forced to expend substantial attorneys' fees and time addressing and undoing such harm, including in this proceeding.
- 91. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement of the PRECISION Marks has been, and continues to be knowing, intentional, and willful, and in deliberate disregard of the PRECISION Marks.
- 92. Defendants' acts of infringement of the PRECISION Marks have caused and will continue to cause Anova immediate and irreparable harm unless such infringing activities are enjoined by this Court. This includes inter alia loss of customers, customer confusion, loss of market-share, price erosion, loss of customer goodwill, and harm to Anova's reputation as a leading innovator in the kitchen appliance industry. Anova has

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no adequate remedy at law to address these damages. Anova is thus entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction against the Defendants' further infringement of the PRECISION Marks.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

93. Pursuant to Rule 8 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Anova demands a trial by jury on all issues triable as such.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Anova requests judgment against Defendants as follows:

- A. Adjudging that Defendants have infringed, actively induced infringement of, and/or contributorily infringed the RE267 Patent, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), (b), and/or (c);
- B. Granting an injunction, preliminarily and permanently, enjoining Defendants, their employees, agents, officers, directors, attorneys, successors, affiliates, subsidiaries, and assigns, and all of those in active concert and participation with any of the foregoing persons or entities from infringing, contributing to the infringement of, or inducing infringement of the RE267 Patent and PRECISION Marks;
- C. Ordering Defendants to account and pay damages adequate to compensate Anova for Defendant's infringement of the RE267 Patent, including for any infringing acts



not presented at trial and pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and costs, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

- D. Ordering an accounting for any infringing sales not presented at trial and an award by the court of additional damages for any such infringing sales;
- E. Ordering that the damages award be increased up to three times the actual amount assessed, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- F. Declaring this case exceptional and awarding Anova its reasonable attorney's fees and expenses pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285 and/or 15 U.S.C. § 1117;
- G. Directing Defendants to use its best efforts to recall from trade and other third parties any and all infringing goods and to cease any marketing, advertising and promotional materials using products that bear the confusingly similar variations of the PRECISION Marks in the United States;
- H. Directing Defendants to file with the Court and serve on counsel for Plaintiff, within thirty days after entry of any injunction issued by the Court in this action, a sworn statement as provided in 15 U.S.C. § 1116 setting forth in detail the manner and form in which Defendants have complied with the injunction;
- I. Directing Defendants to deliver up to Anova for destruction or other disposition, within thirty days of the entry of final judgment herein, any and all infringing goods and any promotional, marketing, advertising, and promotional materials used in connection with the sale or marketing of any goods or services, now or hereafter in its possession, custody or control;



- J. Directing that Defendants account to and pay over to Anova any and all profits derived by Defendants from the sale of goods or services bearing the PRECISION Marks in accordance with Section 35(a) of the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. § 1117(a)), enhanced as appropriate to compensate Plaintiff for the damages caused thereby.
- K. Awarding Anova a monetary judgment against the Defendants for Anova's damages and Defendant's profits pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117;
- L. Trebling the amount of such award on account of Defendants' willful, intentional, and bad faith conduct pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1117;
- M. Awarding Anova a monetary judgment against the Defendants for Anova's damages and due to Defendant's unfair competition.
- N. Awarding Anova punitive damages against the Defendants due to Defendants' unfair competition.
- O. Awarding Anova interest, including prejudgment and post-judgment interest, on the foregoing sums; and
- P. Awarding such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DATED June 6, 2023.

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#### Case 2:23-cv-00843-JLR Document 1 Filed 06/06/23 Page 29 of 29

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