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14 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
15 HYPER ICE, INC. and
16 HYPERICE IP SUBCO, LLC

17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
18 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN DIVISION

19 HYPER ICE, INC., a California
20 corporation, and HYPERICE IP
21 SUBCO, LLC, a Delaware limited
22 liability company,

23 Plaintiffs,

24 vs.

25 MERCHSOURCE, LLC,

26 Defendant.

CASE NO.

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT
INFRINGEMENT**

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Trial Date: None Set

1 contacts with the State of California and this District. On information and belief,
2 Defendant: (1) intentionally markets and sells its infringing products to residents of
3 this State; (2) enjoys substantial income from this State; and (3) maintains its principal
4 place of business in this State.

5 9. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and 28
6 U.S.C. § 1400(b) because Defendant has committed acts of infringement in this
7 District and has a regular and established place of business in this District.

8 **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

9 10. The '482 Patent is entitled "Massage Device Having Variable Stroke
10 Length" and issued on January 2, 2024, claiming priority to Application No.
11 14/317,573, filed on June 27, 2014, and Provisional Application No. 61/841,693, filed
12 on July 1, 2013. A true and correct copy of the '482 Patent is attached hereto as
13 Exhibit 1.

14 11. Philip C. Danby and John Charles Danby are the named inventors of the
15 inventions disclosed in the '482 Patent. Hyperice IP Subco, LLC, a wholly owned
16 subsidiary of Hyper Ice, Inc., is the owner of the '482 Patent. Hyper Ice, Inc. is a
17 licensee that has been granted the express, irrevocable right to, *inter alia*, sublicense,
18 enforce, and defend the '482 Patent.

19 12. This action arises out of Defendant's direct infringement of the '482
20 Patent.

21 13. Since at least 2018, Hyperice has developed, arranged for the
22 manufacture of, offered for sale, and sold the Hypervolt line of battery-powered
23 percussive massage devices, including the Hypervolt Go 2, Hypervolt 2, and
24 Hypervolt 2 Pro, all of which are covered by one or more claims of the '482 Patent.

25 14. Defendant offers for sale and/or sells products that infringe the '482
26 Patent, including but not limited to the Powerboost, Powerboost Deep Tissue,
27 Powerboost Flex Pivot, Powerboost Pro+ Hot & Cold, Powerboost Palm, and
28 Powerboost Move percussion massagers. Claim charts for all of these products are

1 attached hereto as Exhibits 2-7.

2 15. Robert Marton and Anthony Katz are the named inventors of the
3 inventions disclosed in the D'253 Patent. Hyperice IP Subco, LLC, a wholly owned
4 subsidiary of Hyper Ice, Inc., is the owner of the D'253 Patent. Hyper Ice, Inc. is a
5 licensee that has been granted the express, irrevocable right to, *inter alia*, sublicense,
6 enforce, and defend the D'253 Patent. A true and correct copy of the D'253 Patent is
7 attached hereto as Exhibit 8.

8 16. This action arises out of Defendant's direct infringement of the D'253
9 Patent.

10 17. Since at least 2018, Hyperice has developed, arranged for the
11 manufacture of, offered for sale, and sold the Hypervolt line of battery-powered
12 percussive massage devices, including but not limited to the Hypervolt 2 and
13 Hypervolt 2 Pro, which are covered by the D'253 Patent.

14 18. Defendant offers for sale and/or sells products that infringe the D'253
15 Patent, including but not limited to the Sharper Image Powerboost Deep Tissue
16 Percussion Massager. A claim chart is attached hereto as Exhibit 9.

17 19. By no later than January 16, 2024, Defendant knew of the '482 Patent
18 and the D'253 Patent and knew, or acted with willful, intentional, and conscious
19 disregard of the objectively high likelihood, that its conduct constitutes infringement
20 of the '482 Patent and the D'253 Patent. For example, on January 16, 2024, Hyperice
21 filed suit in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, alleging
22 infringement of the '482 Patent and the D'253 Patent. *Hyper Ice, Inc. v.*
23 *MerchSource, LLC*, Case No. 1:24-cv-00056. Prior to filing this suit, moreover,
24 Hyperice sent Defendant via email the claim charts attached hereto.

25 **COUNT 1 – PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

26 20. Hyperice incorporates by reference the allegations in Paragraphs 1-19
27 above.

28

1 21. Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe the '482 Patent under
2 the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C §§ 271 *et seq.* Defendant offers for
3 sale and/or sells the infringing products at issue in this case.

4 22. Defendant infringes at least Claim 1 of the '482 Patent. Defendant offers
5 for sale and/or sells infringing products, which are battery-powered percussive
6 massagers that include the following claim limitations, either literally or under the
7 doctrine of equivalents:

- 8 a. a housing;
- 9 b. a piston having a proximal end and a distal end, the distal end of
10 the piston having a substantially cylindrical bore;
- 11 c. a motor at least partially within the housing and operatively
12 connected to the proximal end of the piston, wherein the motor is configured to
13 cause the piston to reciprocate at a first speed;
- 14 d. a drive mechanism that controls a predetermined stroke length of
15 the piston; and
- 16 e. a quick-connect system comprising the distal end of the piston and
17 a first massaging head, wherein the quick-connect system is configured to
18 secure the first massaging head to the percussive massager by a proximal end
19 of the massaging head being slid into the bore while the piston reciprocates the
20 predetermined stroke length at the first speed.

21 23. Defendant's infringement of the '482 Patent has caused, and will
22 continue to cause, significant damage to Hyperice. As a result, Hyperice is entitled to
23 an award of damages adequate to compensate it for the infringement in an amount
24 that is in no event less than a reasonable royalty pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §284. Hyperice
25 is also entitled to recover prejudgment interest, post-judgment interest, and costs.

26 24. As a result of Defendant's infringement of the '482 Patent, Hyperice has
27 suffered irreparable harm and impairment of the value of its patent rights, and
28 Hyperice will continue to suffer irreparable harm and impairment of the value of its

1 patent rights, unless and until Defendant is permanently enjoined by this Court from
2 infringing the '482 Patent under 35 U.S.C. §283. Hyperice has no adequate remedy
3 at law and is entitled to a permanent injunction against Defendant.

4 25. Defendant's infringement of the '482 Patent has been and continues to
5 be willful. As noted above, Defendant has had knowledge of the '482 Patent and
6 knew, or acted with willful, intentional, and conscious disregard of the objectively
7 high likelihood, that its conduct constitutes infringement of the '482 Patent.
8 Nevertheless, Defendant continues to infringe the '482 Patent—wanton, malicious,
9 and egregious conduct that constitutes willful infringement under 35 U.S.C. §284,
10 entitling Hyperice to enhanced damages.

11 **COUNT 2 – PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

12 26. Hyperice incorporates by reference the allegations in Paragraphs 1-25
13 above.

14 27. Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe the D'253 Patent
15 under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C §§ 271 *et seq.* Defendant offers
16 for sale and/or sells the infringing products at issue in this case.

17 28. Defendant's infringement of the D'253 Patent has caused, and will
18 continue to cause, significant damage to Hyperice. As a result, Hyperice is entitled to
19 an award of damages adequate to compensate it for the infringement in an amount
20 that is in no event less than a reasonable royalty pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §284 and/or
21 Defendant's total profit pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §289. Hyperice is also entitled to
22 recover prejudgment interest, post-judgment interest, and costs.

23 29. As a result of Defendant's infringement of the D'253 Patent, Hyperice
24 has suffered irreparable harm and impairment of the value of its patent rights, and
25 Hyperice will continue to suffer irreparable harm and impairment of the value of its
26 patent rights, unless and until Defendant is permanently enjoined by this Court from
27 infringing the D'253 Patent under 35 U.S.C. §283. Hyperice has no adequate remedy
28

1 at law and is entitled to a permanent injunction against Defendant.

2 30. Defendant's infringement of the D'253 Patent has been and continues to
3 be willful. As noted above, Defendant has had knowledge of the D'253 Patent and
4 knew, or acted with willful, intentional, and conscious disregard of the objectively
5 high likelihood, that its conduct constitutes infringement of the D'253 Patent.
6 Nevertheless, Defendant continues to infringe the D'253 Patent—wanton, malicious,
7 and egregious conduct that constitutes willful infringement under 35 U.S.C. §284,
8 entitling Hyperice to enhanced damages.

9 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

10 WHEREFORE, Hyperice prays for the following relief:

11 1. That this Court enter judgment of infringement of the '482 Patent and
12 the D'253 Patent in favor of Hyperice and against Defendant;

13 2. That Defendant has willfully infringed the '482 Patent and the D'253
14 Patent;

15 3. That this Court enter a permanent injunction against Defendant from
16 infringing the '482 Patent and the D'253 Patent;

17 4. That this Court award Hyperice compensatory damages for infringement
18 of the '482 Patent and the D'253 Patent, as well as interest thereon;

19 5. That this Court award Hyperice its costs of suit;

20 6. That this Court award Hyperice increased damages in an amount not less
21 than three times the damages assessed for Defendant's infringement of the '482 Patent
22 and the D'253 Patent, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §284.

23 7. That this Court declare this an exceptional case under 35 U.S.C. §285
24 and award Hyperice its attorneys' fees and any other costs incurred in connection with
25 this action;

26 8. That this Court award Hyperice prejudgment and post-judgment interest;
27 and

28 9. That this Court grant such further relief as the Court deems just and

1 proper.

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DATED: February 27, 2024

MILLER BARONDESS LLP

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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Pursuant to Rule 38(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs
HYPER ICE, INC. and HYPERICE IP SUBCO, LLC hereby demand a trial by jury
of all issues triable by jury.

DATED: February 27, 2024 **MILLER BARONDESS LLP**

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