UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 25-cv-60315

GENIE-S INTERNATIONAL LTD.,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE INDIVIDUALS, CORPORATIONS, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES, PARTNERSHIPS, AND UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATIONS IDENTIFIED ON SCHEDULE A,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, GENIE-S INTERNATIONAL LTD. ("GENIE-S" or "Plaintiff"), by and through undersigned counsel, hereby sues Defendants, the individuals, corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships, and unincorporated associations and foreign entities identified on Schedule A¹ (collectively, "Defendants"). Defendants are promoting, selling, offering for sale, and importing goods into the United States that infringe patents to which Plaintiff has been granted licenses, within this district, through various Internet based e-commerce stores using the seller identities set forth on Schedule A (the "Seller IDs"), and alleges as follows:

INTRODUCTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement to combat e-commerce store operators who trade upon Plaintiff's reputation and goodwill by making, using, offering for sale, selling, and/or

¹ Plaintiff intends to file a Motion to Seal the Schedule A.

importing into the United States for subsequent sale or use, unauthorized and unlicensed products that utilize the technology of and inventions claimed in patents to which Plaintiff has been granted licenses, including patents covered by at least U.S. Patent Nos. 8,079,388 B2 and 8,881,775 B2 (the "Beauty Union Global Limited Utility Patents") and 9,738,437 B2, 8,978,938 B2, and 9,522,403 B2 (the "Dongguan Yixin Magnetic Disk Co. Ltd Utility Patents") (collectively the "GENIE-S Patents").²

2. The GENIE-S Patents are valid, subsisting, and in full force and effect. GENIE-S is a licensee and lawful assignee of all rights, title, and interest in and to the GENIE-S Patents, which were duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. True and correct copies of the GENIE-S Patents are attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

3. Each of the Defendants directly and/or indirectly imports, develops, designs, manufactures, distributes, markets, offers to sell, and/or sells products infringing the GENIE-S Patents (the "Infringing Products") in the United States, including in this Judicial District, and otherwise purposefully directs infringing activities to this district in connection with the Infringing Products. Defendants conduct this activity through their numerous fully interactive commercial Internet e-commerce stores operating under the online marketplace accounts and Seller IDs (collectively, the "Defendant Internet Stores"), including but not limited to the platforms Alibaba.com ("<u>Alibaba</u>"), AliExpress.com ("<u>AliExpress</u>"), Amazon.com ("<u>Mamazon</u>"), eBay.com ("<u>eBay</u>"), Shein.com ("<u>Shein</u>"), Temu.com ("<u>Temu</u>"), and Walmart.com ("<u>Walmart</u>").

4. The Defendant Internet Stores are designed to appear to be selling Plaintiff's genuine GENIE-S products (the "GENIE-S Products"), while selling inferior imitations of such

² Beauty Union Global Limited and Dongguan Yixin Magnetic Disk Co. Ltd have authorized Genie-S' use of all IP rights in and to the patents.

products that infringe one or more claims in Plaintiff's patents.

5. The Defendant Internet Stores share unique identifiers, such as design elements and similarities of the Infringing Products offered for sale, establishing a logical relationship between them and suggesting that Defendants' illegal operations arise out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or occurrences.

6. Defendants attempt to avoid liability by going to great lengths to conceal both their identities and the full scope and interworking of their illegal operation. Plaintiff is forced to file this action to combat Defendants' infringement of the GENIE-S Patents, as well as to protect unknowing consumers from purchasing Infringing Products over the Internet.

7. As a result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiff has been and continues to be irreparably damaged from the loss of its lawful patent rights to exclude others from making, using, selling, offering for sale, and importing its patented technology, and, therefore, seeks injunctive and monetary relief.

8. The harm and damages sustained by Plaintiff have been directly and proximately caused by Defendants' wrongful use, advertisement, promotion, offers to sell, and sale of the Infringing Products.

9. This Court has personal jurisdiction over each Defendant, in that each Defendant conducts significant business in Florida and in this Judicial District, and the acts and events giving rise to this lawsuit of which each Defendant stands accused were undertaken in Florida and in this Judicial District.

10. In addition, each Defendant has offered to sell and ship Infringing Products into this Judicial District.

SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over the patent infringement claim arising under the patent laws of the United States pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, §§ 271, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a), and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.

PERSONAL JURISDICTION

12. Personal jurisdiction exists over Defendants in this Judicial District pursuant to Florida Statutes §§ 48.193(1)(a)(1)–(2) and 48.193(1)(a)(6), or in the alternative, Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(k) because, upon information and belief, Defendants regularly conduct, transact, and/or solicit business in Florida and in this Judicial District, and/or derive substantial revenue from business transactions in Florida and in this Judicial District, and/or otherwise avail themselves of the privileges and protections of the laws of the State of Florida such that this Court's assertion of jurisdiction over Defendants does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice, and/or Defendants' illegal counterfeiting and infringing actions caused injury to Plaintiff in Florida and in this Judicial District, for example:

13. Upon information and belief, Defendants were and/or are systematically directing and/or targeting their business activities at consumers in the U.S., including those in Florida, in this Judicial District, through accounts with online marketplace platforms, including Alibaba, AliExpress, Amazon, eBay, Shein, Temu, and Walmart (collectively, the "Marketplace Platforms"), as well as any and all as yet undiscovered accounts with additional online marketplace platforms held by or associated with Defendants, their respective officers, employees, agents, servants and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them ("User Account(s)"). Defendants target consumers in the U.S., including Florida (and more particularly, in this Judicial District), through these marketplace platforms, in which consumers can view one or more of the

Defendant Internet Stores, use to communicate with Defendants regarding their listings for Infringing Products, and use to place orders for, receive invoices for, and purchase Infringing Products for delivery in the U.S., including Florida (and more particularly, in this Judicial District). Defendants use these platforms as a means for establishing regular business with the U.S., including Florida (and more particularly, in this Judicial District).

14. Upon information and belief, Defendants have transacted business with consumers located in the U.S., including Florida (and more particularly, in this Judicial District), for the sale and shipment of Infringing Products.

15. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)(2) and 1400(b) because Defendants have committed acts of patent infringement in this Judicial District, do substantial business in the Judicial District, have registered agents in this Judicial District, and reside or may be found in this district.

THE PLAINTIFF

16. Plaintiff GENIE-S is a limited company organized under the laws of Hong Kong with its principal place of business located in Hong Kong and is a licensee of the GENIE-S Patents referred to above, and with the corresponding federal registrations attached as Exhibit 1.

17. GENIE-S is a leading supplier and manufacturer of innovative GENIE-S products such as TRAVALO and Perfume Pod, which encompass proprietary technology claimed in at least a portion of the GENIE-S Patents, and has earned an international reputation for quality, reliability, and value.

THE GENIE-S PRODUCTS

- 18. GENIE-S is the official source of the GENIE-S Products in the United States.
- 19. GENIE-S is a licensee and lawful assignee of all rights, titles, and interest in and to

the GENIE-S Patents (attached as Exhibit 1).

20. The GENIE-S Products utilize the patented technology and inventions claimed in the GENIE-S Patents.

THE DEFENDANTS

21. Defendants are individuals and business entities who, upon information and belief, reside mainly in the People's Republic of China or other foreign jurisdictions. Defendants conduct business throughout the United States including within Florida and in this Judicial District, through the operation of fully interactive commercial websites and online marketplaces operating under the Defendant Internet Stores and Seller IDs. Each Defendant targets the United States, including Florida, and has offered to sell and, on information and belief, has sold and continues to sell, products that infringe the GENIE-S Patents to consumers within the United States, including Florida and in this Judicial District.

22. Defendants are the past and present controlling forces behind the sale and offer for sale of the products that infringe GENIE-S' intellectual property rights (as described herein), using the Seller IDs.

23. Defendants directly compete with GENIE-S by advertising, offering for sale, selling, and importing goods that infringe the GENIE-S Patents to consumers within the United States and this district through Internet based e-commerce stores using, at least, the Seller IDs and additional names or seller identification aliases not yet known to GENIE-S. Defendants have purposefully directed some portion of their illegal activities toward consumers in the State of Florida through advertisements, offers to sell, sales, and/or shipment of infringing goods into the State.

24. On information and belief, Defendants have anonymously registered and

maintained some of the Seller IDs for the sole purpose of engaging in illegal infringing activities.

25. On information and belief, Defendants will continue to register or acquire new seller identification aliases for the purpose of selling and offering for sale goods that infringe the GENIE-S Patents unless preliminarily and permanently enjoined.

THE DEFENDANTS' UNLAWFUL CONDUCT

26. The success of the GENIE-S Products has resulted in a significant number of products that infringe the GENIE-S Patents being sold in the market.

27. Plaintiff has identified numerous domain names linked to fully interactive websites and marketplace listings on platforms such as Alibaba, AliExpress, Amazon, eBay, Shein, Temu, and Walmart, which were and/or are offering for sale, selling, and importing Infringing Products to consumers in this Judicial District and throughout the United States.

28. Defendants have persisted in creating such online marketplaces and Internet stores, like the Defendant Internet Stores. In fact, such online marketplaces and stores are estimated to receive tens of millions of visits per year and to generate over \$135 billion in annual online sales. According to an intellectual property rights seizures statistics report issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security, the manufacturer's suggested retail price of goods seized by the U.S. government in fiscal year 2021 was over \$3.3 billion. Internet websites like the Defendant Internet Stores are also estimated to contribute to tens of thousands of lost jobs for legitimate businesses and broader economic damages such as lost tax revenue every year.

29. On personal knowledge and belief, Defendants facilitate sales by designing the Defendant Internet Stores so that they appear to unknowing consumers to be authorized online retailers, outlet stores, or wholesalers selling genuine GENIE-S Products.

30. Many of the Defendant Internet Stores look sophisticated and accept payment in

U.S. dollars via credit cards, Western Union, and PayPal. Defendant Internet Stores often include images and design elements that make it very difficult for consumers to distinguish such infringing sites from an authorized website.

31. Defendants further perpetuate the illusion of legitimacy by offering "live 24/7" customer service and using indicia of authenticity and security that consumers have come to associate with authorized retailers, including the McAfee® Security, VeriSign®, Visa®, MasterCard®, and PayPal® logos.

32. Plaintiff has not licensed or authorized Defendants to use the GENIE-S Patents, and none of the Defendants are authorized retailers of genuine GENIE-S Products.

33. Upon information and belief, Defendants use unauthorized search engine optimization ("SEO") tactics and social media spamming so that the Defendant Internet Stores listings show up at or near the top of relevant search results and misdirect consumers searching for genuine GENIE-S Products. Further, Defendants utilize similar illegitimate SEO tactics to propel new domain names to the top of search results after others are shut down. As such, Plaintiff also seek to disable Defendant Internet Stores owned by Defendants that are the means by which the Defendants could continue to sell Infringing Products into this District.

34. On information and belief, Defendants go to great lengths to conceal their identities and often use multiple fictitious names and addresses to register and operate their massive network of Defendant Internet Stores.

35. For example, it is common practice for infringers to register their domain names and/or User Accounts with incomplete information, randomly typed letters, or omitted cities or states.

36. And many Defendant Internet Stores use privacy services that conceal the owners'

identity and contact information. On personal knowledge and belief, Defendants regularly create new websites and online marketplace accounts on various platforms using the identities listed in Schedule A, as well as other unknown fictitious names and addresses.

37. On personal knowledge and belief, even though Defendants operate under multiple fictitious names, there are numerous similarities among the Defendant Internet Stores. For example, some of the Defendant Internet Stores have virtually identical layouts, even though different aliases were used to register the respective domain names.

38. In addition, the Infringing Products for sale in the Defendant Internet Stores bear similarities and indicia of being related to one another, suggesting that the Infringing Products were manufactured by and come from a common source and that, upon information and belief, Defendants are interrelated.

39. The Defendant Internet Stores also include other notable common features, including accepted payment methods, check-out methods, meta data, illegitimate SEO tactics, HTML user-defined variables, domain redirection, lack of contact information, identically or similarly priced items and volume sales discounts, similar hosting services, similar name servers, and the use of the same text and images.

40. In addition, Defendants in this case and defendants in other similar cases against online sellers of infringing products use a variety of other common tactics to evade enforcement efforts. For example, infringers like Defendants will often register new online marketplace accounts under User Accounts once they receive notice of a lawsuit.

41. Infringers also often move website hosting to rogue servers located outside the United States once notice of a lawsuit is received. Rogue servers are notorious for ignoring take down demands sent by intellectual property owners.

42. Infringers also typically ship products in small quantities via international mail to minimize detection by United States Customs and Border Protection. A 2012 United States Customs and Border Protection report on seizure statistics indicated that the Internet has fueled "explosive growth" in the number of small packages of counterfeit goods shipped through the mail and express carriers.

43. Further, infringers such as Defendants typically operate multiple credit card merchant accounts and PayPal accounts behind layers of payment gateways so that they can continue operation in spite of Plaintiff's enforcement efforts.

44. On personal knowledge and belief, Defendants maintain off-shore bank accounts and regularly move funds from their PayPal accounts to off-shore bank accounts outside the jurisdiction of this Court. Indeed, analysis of PayPal transaction logs from previous similar cases indicates that offshore infringers regularly move funds from U.S.-based PayPal accounts to foreign-based bank accounts outside the jurisdiction of this Court.

45. Defendants, without any authorization or license from Plaintiff, have knowingly and willfully used and continue to use the GENIE-S Patents in connection with the advertisement, distribution, offering for sale, and sale of Infringing Products into the United States and Florida over the Internet.

46. Each Defendant Internet Store offers shipping to the United States, including Florida (in this Judicial District) and, on information and belief, each Defendant has offered to sell products infringing the GENIE-S Patents into the United States, including Florida (in this Judicial District), which is likely to cause and has caused confusion, mistake, and deception by and among consumers and is irreparably harming Plaintiff.

47. Defendants are promoting, offering for sale, selling and importing into the United

States Infringing Products that directly infringe the GENIE-S Patents through at least the Internet e-commerce stores operating under the Defendant Internet Stores and Seller IDs.

48. Defendants' infringing activities are done without Plaintiff's consent or authorization.

49. Defendants' infringing activities described herein have caused and continue to cause significant harm to Plaintiff, including lost sales, price erosion, lost market share, and a significant negative impact on GENIE-S' goodwill.

50. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

51. Plaintiff is suffering irreparable injury and has suffered substantial damages as a result of Defendants' unauthorized and wrongful use of the technology of and inventions claimed in one or more claims of the GENIE-S Patents. If Defendants' infringement is not preliminarily and permanently enjoined by this Court, Plaintiff will continue to be harmed.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION UTILITY PATENT INFRINGEMENT (35 U.S.C. § 271)

52. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference herein the allegations contained in paragraphs 1–51 of this Complaint.

53. Defendants are manufacturing, distributing, offering for sale, selling, and/or importing into the United States unauthorized products that directly or indirectly infringe the GENIE-S Patents both literally and under the doctrine of equivalents.

54. For instance, examples of Defendant's infringement claims of the five GENIE-S Utility Patents are described below:



Defendant Internet Store (DOE 145) Offering
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US Patent No. 9,522,403 B2 Claim 1	Defendant Internet Store (DOE 47) Offering
A refillable spray dispenser comprises:	Sealing rubber ring to provent leakage volatilization
a bottle having a spray assembly and a compartment in fluid communication with the spray assembly;	
the bottle further having a bottom portion comprising:	
a hollow injection rod comprising a rod fill hole, a rod injection hole, and a groove along the hollow injection rod;	
bottom portion walls;	
a first seal and a second seal;	<section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><text><image/><image/><image/><image/></text></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header>
a bottom opening;	
a portion injection hole and a portion exhaust hole provided in the bottom portion walls; and	
a passage extending from the portion exhaust hole to the bottom opening,	
wherein, when the hollow injection rod is at a resting position, the first seal seals the passage, preventing communication of gas from the compartment to the bottom opening, and the second seal seals the rod injection hole, preventing communication of liquid from the rod hole to the compartment,	
wherein, when the hollow injection rod is in an extended position and the dispenser is being refilled, the first seal allows communication of gas from the compartment, via the portion exhaust hole and the passage to the bottom opening, and the second seal allows communication of liquid from the rod fill hole, via the rod injection hole, to the compartment, and	
wherein said groove allows gas to bypass said first seal since the first seal grips the entire circumference of the hollow injection rod and cannot seal the groove in the extended position.	

US Patent No. 8,881,775 B2	Defendant Internet Store (DOE 33) Offering
Claim 1 A method of refilling a perfume dispenser with a non-compressible liquid form a perfume bottle having a spraying mechanism that comprise a stem through which the non- compressible liquid is dispensed and a removable spray button, the method comprising: providing a perfume dispenser having an atomizer in an upper portion of the perfume dispenser for dispensing non- compressible liquid and a refill mechanism in a bottom portion of the perfume dispenser wherein said refill mechanism comprises a one-way check valve adapted to receive the stem of the perfume bottle; removing the spray button from the spraying mechanism of the perfume bottle to expose the stem; and pushing the stem of the perfume bottle into the check valve to allow the non- compressible liquid to flow through said check valve into the perfume dispenser.	<image/> <image/> <image/>
eneck varve into the perfunic dispenser.	

US Patent No. 8,079,388 B2 Claim 1	Defendant Internet Store (DOE 28) Offering
A portable refillable non compressible liquid dispenser adapted to receive non- compressible liquid from a bottle provided with a spraying means having a stem through which the non- compressible liquid is dispensed, the portable refillable non compressible liquid dispenser consisting of a body having an upper portion with a first opening and a bottom portion with a second opening, wherein the first opening has a vaporizer mechanism for dispensing non-compressible liquid received in the refillable dispenser, said vaporizer mechanism comprising a tube positioned within the dispenser, a pump communicating with the tube, and a nozzle communicating with the pump, through which nozzle the non- compressible liquid is sprayed in an outward direction, and wherein the second opening has a refill mechanism comprising a check valve adapted to receive the stem of the bottle so that when the stem is pushed through the check valve, the check valve is open to and receives the non- compressible liquid through the refill mechanism from the spraying means of the bottle and when the stem is withdrawn from the check valve, the check valve is closed to prevent leakage of the non-compressible liquid.	<image/> <complex-block></complex-block>

continue to do so unless enjoined by this Court. Defendants' wrongful conduct has caused Plaintiff to suffer irreparable harm resulting from the loss of their lawful patent rights to exclude others from manufacturing, distributing, selling, offering for sale, and/or importing the patented inventions as well as the loss of sales stemming from the infringing acts. Plaintiff is entitled to injunctive relief pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 283. Unless a preliminary and permanent injunction is issued enjoining Defendants and all others acting in concert therewith from infringing the GENIE- S Patents, Plaintiff will continue to be irreparably harmed.

56. Defendants' infringement of the GENIE-S Patents in connection with the Infringing Products has been and continues to be willful.

57. Based on Defendants' wrongful conduct, Plaintiff is entitled to injunctive relief as well as monetary damages and other remedies as provided by the Patent Act, including recovering damages adequate to compensate for the infringement and any other damages as appropriate pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment on all Counts of this Complaint and an award of equitable and monetary relief against Defendants as follows:

a) That Defendants, their affiliates, officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, confederates, and all persons acting for, with, by, through, under, or in active concert with them be temporarily, preliminarily, and permanently enjoined and restrained from:

i. manufacturing, importing, advertising, promoting, offering to sell, selling, distributing, or transferring any products not authorized by Plaintiff and that infringe one or more claims in the GENIE-S Patents;

ii. committing any acts calculated to cause consumers to believe that Defendants' Infringing Products are those sold under the authorization, control, or supervision of Plaintiff, or are sponsored by, approved by, or otherwise connected with Plaintiff;

iii. further infringing the GENIE-S Patents and damaging GENIE-S' goodwill;
iv. aiding, abetting, contributing to, or otherwise assisting anyone in infringing
upon the GENIE-S Patents;

v. shipping, delivering, holding for sale, transferring, or otherwise moving, storing, distributing, returning, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner, products or inventory not manufactured by or for Plaintiff, nor authorized by Plaintiff to be sold or offered for sale, and which infringe the GENIE-S Patents;

vi. using, linking to, transferring, selling, exercising control over, or otherwise owning any online marketplace accounts, the Defendant Internet Stores, or any other domain name or online marketplace account that is being used to sell or is the means by which Defendants could continue to sell Infringing Products; and

vii. operating and/or hosting online marketplace accounts at the Defendant Internet Stores that are involved with the distribution, marketing, advertising, offering for sale, or sale of any product using the technology of and/or inventions claimed in the GENIE-S Patents that is not a genuine GENIE-S Product or not authorized by Plaintiff to be sold in connection with the GENIE-S Patents;

b) Entry of an Order that Alibaba, AliExpress, Amazon, eBay, Shein, Temu, Walmart, and any other online marketplace account provider:

i. disable and cease providing services for any accounts through which Defendants engage in the sale of Infringing Products, including any accounts associated with the Defendants listed on Schedule A;

ii. disable and cease displaying any advertisements used by or associated with Defendants in connection with the sale of Infringing Products; and

iii. take all steps necessary to prevent links to the Defendant Internet Stores identified on Schedule A from displaying in search results, including, but not limited to, removing links to the Defendant Internet Stores from any search index;

c) That Plaintiff be awarded such damages as they shall prove at trial against Defendants that are adequate to compensate Plaintiff for Defendants' infringement of the GENIE-S Patents, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty for the use made of the invention by the Defendants, together with interest and costs, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

d) That the amount of damages awarded to Plaintiff to compensate Plaintiff for infringement of the GENIE-S Patents be increased by three times the amount thereof, as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 284;

e) That Plaintiff be awarded their reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and

f) Award any and all other relief that this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: February 18, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

BOIES SCHILLER FLEXNER LLP

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