



will take such action as it may consider appropriate, or issue and serve its complaint (in such form as the circumstances may require) and decision in disposition of the proceeding.

5. This agreement is for settlement purposes only and Proposed Respondent neither admits nor denies the allegations in the draft complaint, other than jurisdictional facts, merely by entering into this agreement.

6. This agreement contemplates that, if it is accepted by the Commission, and if such acceptance is not subsequently withdrawn by the Commission pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.34 of the Commission's Rules, the Commission may, without further notice to Proposed Respondent, (1) issue its complaint corresponding in form and substance with the attached draft complaint and its decision containing the following order in disposition of the proceeding, and (2) make information about it public. When so entered, the order shall have the same force and effect and may be altered, modified, or set aside in the same manner and within the same time provided by statute for other orders. The order shall become final upon service. Delivery of the complaint and the decision and order to Proposed Respondent's address as stated in this agreement by any means specified in Section 4.4(a) of the Commission's Rules shall constitute service. Proposed Respondent waives any right it may have to any other manner of service. The complaint may be used in construing the terms of the order. No agreement, understanding, representation, or interpretation not contained in the order or in the agreement may be used to vary or contradict the terms of the order.

7. Proposed Respondent has read the draft complaint and consent order. It understands that it may be liable for civil penalties in the amount provided by law and other appropriate relief for each violation of the order after it becomes final.

## **ORDER**

### **DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this order, the following definitions shall apply:

1. Unless otherwise specified, "Respondent" shall mean Essentia Natural Memory Foam Company, Inc., also doing business as Essentia, its successors and assigns, and its officers, agents, representatives, and employees.
2. "Commerce" shall mean as defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 44.
3. "Competent and reliable scientific evidence" shall mean tests, analyses, research, or studies that have been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by qualified persons, that are generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results, and that are sufficient in quality and quantity based on standards generally accepted in the relevant scientific fields, when considered in light of the entire body of relevant and reliable scientific evidence, to substantiate that a representation is true.

4. "Covered product" shall mean any mattress or component part.
5. "Trace" level of VOCs or chemicals shall mean:
  - A. VOCs or chemicals have not been intentionally added to the product;
  - B. The presence of VOCs or chemicals at that level does not cause material harm that consumers typically associate with VOCs or chemicals, including, but not limited to, harm to the environment or human health; and
  - C. The presence of VOCs or chemicals at that level does not result in concentrations higher than would be found at background levels in the ambient air.
6. "Volatile Organic Compound" ("VOC") shall mean any compound of carbon that participates in atmospheric photochemical reactions, but excludes carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates, ammonium carbonate, and specific compounds that the EPA has determined are of negligible photochemical reactivity, which are listed at 40 C.F.R. § 51.100(s).

#### **I.**

IT IS ORDERED that Respondent, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, trade name, or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any covered product in or affecting commerce, shall not make any representation, in any manner, expressly or by implication, that:

- A. The covered product is VOC-free or free of harmful VOCs, unless the VOC emission level is zero micrograms per meter cubed ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), or Respondent possesses and relies upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that the covered product contains no more than a trace level of VOCs; or
- B. The covered product is free of chemicals.

#### **II.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, trade name, or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any covered product in or affecting commerce, shall not make any representation, in any manner, expressly or by implication, regarding:

- A. The VOC level of such product;
- B. The fact that such product is odorless, or the odor or smell of any such product in comparison to another mattress(es) or its component part(s);

- C. Any other environmental benefit or environmental attribute of such product;
- D. Any other health benefit or health attribute related to the VOC or chemical content of such product or exposure to such product;
- E. Whether the product is non-toxic; or
- F. Whether the product is made from natural materials;

unless the representation is true, not misleading, and, at the time it is made, Respondent possesses and relies upon competent and reliable scientific evidence that substantiates the representation.

### **III.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent, directly or through any corporation, subsidiary, division, trade name, or other device, in connection with the manufacturing, labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, sale, or distribution of any covered product in or affecting commerce, is hereby permanently restrained and enjoined from misrepresenting, in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of any product name or endorsement, the existence, contents, validity, results, conclusions, or interpretations of any test, study, or research.

### **IV.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent and its successors and assigns, shall, for five (5) years after the last date of dissemination of any representation covered by this order, maintain and upon request make available to the Federal Trade Commission for inspection and copying:

- A. All advertisements and promotional materials containing the representation;
- B. All materials that were relied upon in disseminating the representation; and
- C. All tests, reports, studies, surveys, demonstrations, or other evidence in its possession or control that contradict, qualify, or call into question the representation, or the basis relied upon for the representation, including complaints and other communications with consumers or with governmental or consumer protection organizations.

## V.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent and its successors and assigns, shall deliver a copy of this order to all current and future principals, officers, directors, and managers, and to all current and future employees, agents, and representatives having responsibilities with respect to the subject matter of this order, and shall secure from each such person a signed and dated statement acknowledging receipt of the order. Respondent shall deliver this order to current personnel within thirty (30) days after the date of service of this order, and to future personnel within thirty (30) days after the person assumes such position or responsibilities. Respondent shall maintain and upon request make available to the Federal Trade Commission for inspection and copying all acknowledgments of receipt of this order obtained pursuant to this Part.

## VI.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent and its successors and assigns, shall notify the Commission at least thirty (30) days prior to any change in the corporation that may affect compliance obligations arising under this order, including but not limited to a dissolution, assignment, sale, merger, or other action that would result in the emergence of a successor; the creation or dissolution of a subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices subject to this order; the proposed filing of a bankruptcy petition; or a change in the corporate name or address. Provided, however, that, with respect to any proposed change in the corporation about which Respondent learns less than thirty (30) days prior to the date such action is to take place, Respondent shall notify the Commission as soon as is practicable after obtaining such knowledge. Unless otherwise directed by a representative of the Commission in writing, all notices required by this Part shall be emailed to DEbrief@ftc.gov or sent by overnight courier (not the U.S. Postal Service) to: Associate Director for Enforcement, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580. The subject line must begin: "Essentia Natural Memory Foam Company, Inc., File No. \_\_\_\_."

## VII.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent and its successors and assigns, within sixty (60) days after the date of service of this order, shall file with the Commission a true and accurate report, in writing, setting forth in detail the manner and form of its own compliance with this order. Within ten (10) days of receipt of written notice from a representative of the Commission, it shall submit additional true and accurate written reports.

## VIII.

This order will terminate twenty (20) years from the date of its issuance, or twenty (20) years from the most recent date that the United States or the Federal Trade Commission files a complaint (with or without an accompanying consent decree) in federal court alleging any violation of the order, whichever comes later; provided, however, that the filing of such a complaint will not affect the duration of:

- A. Any Part in this order that terminates in less than twenty (20) years;
- B. This order's application to any Respondent that is not named as a defendant in such complaint; and
- C. This order if such complaint is filed after the order has terminated pursuant to this Part.

Provided, further, that if such complaint is dismissed or a federal court rules that the Respondent did not violate any provision of the order, and the dismissal or ruling is either not appealed or upheld on appeal, then the order will terminate according to this Part as though the complaint had never been filed, except that the order will not terminate between the date such complaint is filed and the later of the deadline for appealing such dismissal or ruling and the date such dismissal or ruling is upheld on appeal.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

ESSENTIA NATURAL MEMORY FOAM COMPANY, INC.

By:	JACK DEL'ACCIO CEO	_____ Date
	LEONARD L. GORDON Counsel for Essentia Natural Memory Foam Company, Inc.	_____ Date

---

ROBIN MOORE  
Counsel for Federal Trade Commission

---

Date

---

THOMAS GOODHUE  
Counsel for Federal Trade Commission

---

Date

**APPROVED:**

---

LAURA KIM  
Assistant Director  
Division of Enforcement

---

JAMES A. KOHM  
Associate Director  
Division of Enforcement

---

CHARLES A. HARWOOD  
Acting Director  
Bureau of Consumer Protection