COMMISSIONERS:  Jon Leibowitz, Chairman  
Pamela Jones Harbour  
William E. Kovacic  
J. Thomas Rosch  

In the Matter of  

ONYX GRAPHICS, INC.,  
a corporation.  

DOCKET NO. C-4270  

COMPLAINT  

The Federal Trade Commission, having reason to believe that Onyx Graphics, Inc. ("respondent") has violated the provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act, and it appearing to the Commission that this proceeding is in the public interest, alleges:

1. Respondent Onyx Graphics, Inc. ("Onyx Graphics") is a Delaware corporation with its principal office or place of business at 6915 South High Tech Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101.

2. Respondent is in the business of developing and marketing commercial printing software and solutions for the digital color printing marketplace, including through a website (www.onyxgfx.com).

3. The acts and practices of respondent as alleged in this complaint have been in or affecting commerce, as “commerce” is defined in Section 4 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

4. Since at least October 2006, respondent has set forth on its website, www.onyxgfx.com, privacy policies and statements about its practices, including statements related to its participation in the Safe Harbor privacy framework agreed upon by the U.S. and the European Union (“U.S.-EU Safe Harbor Framework” or “Safe Harbor”).
5. The U.S.-EU Safe Harbor Framework provides a method for U.S. companies to transfer personal data outside of Europe that is consistent with the requirements of the European Union Directive on Data Protection (“Directive”). Enacted in 1995, the Directive sets forth European Union (“EU”) requirements for privacy and the protection of personal data. Among other things, it requires EU Member States to implement legislation that prohibits the transfer of personal data outside the EU, with exceptions, unless the European Commission (“EC”) has made a determination that the recipient jurisdiction’s laws ensure the protection of such personal data. See Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (Oct. 24, 1995), available at http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31995L0046:EN:HTM L. This determination is commonly referred to as meeting the EU’s “adequacy” standard.

6. To satisfy the EU adequacy standard for certain commercial transfers, the U.S. Department of Commerce (“Commerce”) and the EC negotiated the U.S.-EU Safe Harbor Framework, which went into effect in 2000. The Safe Harbor allows U.S. companies to transfer personal data lawfully from the EU. To join the Safe Harbor, a company must self-certify to Commerce that it complies with seven principles and related requirements that have been deemed to meet the EU’s adequacy standard.

7. Companies under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”), as well as the U.S. Department of Transportation, are eligible to join the Safe Harbor. A company under the FTC’s jurisdiction that self-certifies to the Safe Harbor principles but fails to implement them may be subject to an enforcement action based on the FTC’s deception authority under Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

8. Commerce maintains a public website, www.export.gov/safeharbor, where it posts the names of companies that have self-certified to the Safe Harbor. The listing of companies indicates whether their self-certification is “current” or “not current.” Companies are required to re-certify every year in order to retain their status as “current” members of the Safe Harbor framework. According to the Safe Harbor website, “Organizations should notify the Department of Commerce if their representation to the Department is no longer valid. Failure to do so could constitute a misrepresentation.” See Safe Harbor List, available at http://web.ita.doc.gov/safeharbor/shlist.nsf/webPages/safe+harbor+list.

VIOLATIONS OF SECTION 5 OF THE FTC ACT


10. In August 2007, respondent did not renew its self-certification to the Safe Harbor, and Commerce updated respondent’s status to “not current” on its public website. Until July
2009, respondent did not renew its self-certification to the Safe Harbor and was in “not current” status on Commerce’s website. (Exhibit A, Declaration of Damon C. Greer).

11. Since at least October 2006 to the present, respondent has disseminated or caused to be disseminated privacy policies and statements on the www.onyxgfx.com website, including, but not limited to, the following statements:

Safe Harbor Certified
ONYX is Safe Harbor [sic] Certified. For ONYX Safe Harbor Agreement, click here. For more information on being Safe Harbor Compliant, click here.

Exhibit B, Privacy Policy.

ONYX has self-certified its privacy practices as consistent with the U.S.-E.U. Safe Harbor principles as published by the US Department of Commerce (the “Principles”). These include: Notice, Choice, Onward Transfer, Access and Accuracy, Security, and Oversight/Enforcement. More information about the U.S. Department of Commerce Safe Harbor Program can be found at http://www.export.gov/safeharbor/.

Exhibit C, Onyx Safe Harbor Statement.

12. Through the means described in Paragraph 11, respondent represented, expressly or by implication, that it is a current participant in the Safe Harbor.

13. In truth and in fact, from August 2007 to July 2009, respondent was not a current participant in the Safe Harbor. Therefore, the representations set forth in Paragraph 11 were, and are, false or misleading.

14. The acts and practices of respondents as alleged in this complaint constitute unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce in violation of Section 5(a) of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

THEREFORE, the Federal Trade Commission this ninth day of November, 2009, has issued this complaint against respondent.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark
Secretary