

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**

**COMMISSIONERS:**        **Joseph J. Simons, Chairman**  
                                  **Noah Joshua Phillips**  
                                  **Rohit Chopra**  
                                  **Rebecca Kelly Slaughter**  
                                  **Christine S. Wilson**

**In the Matter of**

**FEDERAL-MOGUL MOTORPARTS LLC,  
a limited liability company.**

**DECISION AND ORDER**

**DOCKET NO. C- 4717**

**DECISION**

The Federal Trade Commission (“Commission”) initiated an investigation of certain acts and practices of the Respondent named in the caption. The Commission’s Bureau of Consumer Protection (“BCP”) prepared and furnished to Respondent a draft Complaint. BCP proposed to present the draft Complaint to the Commission for its consideration. If issued by the Commission, the draft Complaint would charge the Respondent with violations of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

Respondent and BCP thereafter executed an Agreement Containing Consent Order (“Consent Agreement”). The Consent Agreement includes: 1) statements by Respondent that it neither admits nor denies any of the allegations in the Complaint, except as specifically stated in this Decision and Order, and that only for purposes of this action, it admits the facts necessary to establish jurisdiction; and 2) waivers and other provisions as required by the Commission’s Rules.

The Commission considered the matter and determined that it had reason to believe that Respondent has violated the Federal Trade Commission Act, and that a Complaint should issue stating its charges in that respect. The Commission accepted the executed Consent Agreement and placed it on the public record for a period of 30 days for the receipt and consideration of public comments. Now, in further conformity with the procedure prescribed in Rule 2.34, the Commission issues its Complaint, makes the following Findings, and issues the following Order:

## Findings

1. The Respondent is Federal-Mogul Motorparts LLC, a Delaware limited liability company with its principal office or place of business at 27300 W. 11 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48034.
2. The Commission has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this proceeding and over the Respondent, and the proceeding is in the public interest.

## ORDER

### Definitions

For purposes of this Order, the following definitions apply:

- A. “Covered Product” means any aftermarket brake pads branded and/or marketed by Respondent for use as replacement brake pads, including Wagner OE<sup>X</sup> aftermarket brake pads and any aftermarket brake pads branded by third parties for which Respondent supplies marketing materials.
- B. “Respondent” means Federal-Mogul Motorparts LLC, a limited liability company, and its successors and assigns.

### Provisions

#### I. Prohibited Misleading and Unsubstantiated Representations about Brake Pads

**IT IS ORDERED** that Respondent, and Respondent’s officers, agents, employees, and attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them who receive actual notice of this Order, whether acting directly or indirectly, in connection with the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of any Covered Product, must not make any representation, in any manner, expressly or by implication, including through the use of a product name, endorsement, depiction, or illustration, about the braking benefits, performance, or efficacy of any Covered Product, including that such product:

- A. Will stop a vehicle significantly sooner than competing brake pads; or
- B. Reduces the risk of collisions compared to competing brake pads;

unless the representation is non-misleading, including that, at the time such representation is made, Respondent possesses and relies upon competent and reliable scientific evidence substantiating that the representation is true. For purposes of this Provision, competent and reliable scientific evidence shall consist of testing of the product that is sufficient in quality and quantity based on standards generally accepted by experts in the field of automobile brakes, when considered in light of the entire body of relevant scientific evidence, to substantiate that the representation is true. Such testing must be conducted by researchers qualified by training and experience to conduct such testing.

## **II. Acknowledgments of the Order**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent obtain acknowledgments of receipt of this Order:

A. Respondent, within 7 days after the effective date of this Order, must submit to the Commission an acknowledgment of receipt of this Order sworn under penalty of perjury.

B. For 3 years after the issuance date of this Order, Respondent must deliver a copy of this Order to: (1) all of its principals, officers, directors, and LLC managers and members; (2) all of its employees and agents with managerial responsibilities in the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of any Covered Product; and (3) any business entity engaged in the labeling, advertising, promotion, offering for sale, or sale of any Covered Product, resulting from any change in structure as set forth in the Provision titled Compliance Report and Notices. Delivery must occur within 7 days after the effective date of this Order for current personnel. For all others, delivery must occur before they assume their responsibilities.

C. From each individual or entity to which Respondent delivered a copy of this Order, Respondent must obtain, within 30 days, a signed and dated acknowledgment of receipt of this Order.

## **III. Compliance Report and Notices**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent make timely submissions to the Commission:

A. One year after the issuance date of this Order, Respondent must submit a compliance report, sworn under penalty of perjury, in which Respondent must: (a) identify the primary physical, postal, and email address and telephone number, as designated points of contact, which representatives of the Commission may use to communicate with Respondent; (b) identify all of Respondent's businesses that sell any Covered Product by all of their names, telephone numbers, and physical, postal, email, and Internet addresses; (c) describe the activities of each such business, including the goods and services offered, the means of advertising, marketing, and sales; (d) describe in detail whether and how Respondent is in compliance with each Provision of this Order, including a discussion of all of the changes the Respondent made to comply with the Order; and (e) provide a copy of each Acknowledgment of the Order obtained pursuant to this Order, unless previously submitted to the Commission.

B. For 5 years after the issuance date of this Order, Respondent must submit a compliance notice, sworn under penalty of perjury, within 14 days of any change in the following: (a) any designated point of contact; or (b) the structure of Respondent or any entity that Respondent has any ownership interest in or controls directly or indirectly that may affect compliance obligations arising under this Order, including: creation, merger, sale, or dissolution of the entity or any subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices subject to this Order.

C. Respondent must submit notice of the filing of any bankruptcy petition, insolvency proceeding, or similar proceeding by or against Respondent within 14 days of its filing.

D. Any submission to the Commission required by this Order to be sworn under penalty of perjury must be true and accurate and comply with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, such as by concluding: “I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on: \_\_\_\_\_” and supplying the date, signatory’s full name, title (if applicable), and signature.

E. Unless otherwise directed by a Commission representative in writing, all submissions to the Commission pursuant to this Order must 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: In re Federal-Mogul Motorparts LLC, FTC File No. 172-3102, Docket No. C-4717.

#### **IV. Recordkeeping**

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Respondent must create certain records for 10 years after the issuance date of the Order, and retain each such record for 5 years. Specifically, Respondent must create and retain the following records:

A. Accounting records showing the revenues from all Covered Products sold;

B. For Respondent’s personnel who provide services related to the subject matter of the Order, whether as an employee or otherwise, a record of each person’s: name; addresses; telephone numbers; job title or position; dates of service; and (if applicable) the reason for termination;

C. Records of all consumer complaints and refund requests concerning the subject matter of this Order, whether received directly or indirectly, such as through a third party, and any response;

D. All records necessary to demonstrate full compliance with each provision of this Order, including all submissions to the Commission; and

E. A copy of each unique advertisement or other marketing material for any Covered Product.

## V. Compliance Monitoring

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, for the purpose of monitoring Respondent's compliance with this Order:

A. Within 10 days of receipt of a written request from a representative of the Commission, Respondent must submit additional compliance reports or other requested information, which must be sworn under penalty of perjury, and produce records for inspection and copying.

B. For matters concerning this Order, representatives of the Commission are authorized to communicate directly with Respondent. Respondent must permit representatives of the Commission to interview anyone affiliated with Respondent who has agreed to such an interview. The interviewee may have counsel present.

C. The Commission may use all other lawful means, including posing through its representatives as consumers, suppliers, or other individuals or entities, to Respondent or any individual or entity affiliated with Respondent, without the necessity of identification or prior notice. Nothing in this Order limits the Commission's lawful use of compulsory process, pursuant to Sections 9 and 20 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 49, 57b-1.

## VI. Order Effective Dates

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Order is final and effective upon the date of its publication on the Commission's website (ftc.gov) as a final order. This Order will terminate on May 12, 2040, or 20 years from the most recent date that the United States or the Commission files a complaint (with or without an accompanying settlement) in federal court alleging any violation of this Order, whichever comes later; *provided, however*, that the filing of such a complaint will not affect the duration of:

A. Any Provision in this Order that terminates in less than 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 Provision.

*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 Provision 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.

By the Commission.

April J. Tabor  
Acting Secretary

SEAL:  
ISSUED: MAY 12, 2020