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February 14, 2022

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VIA E-MAIL (IDTHEFT@OAG.STATE.MD.US)

Brian E. Frosh
Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Incident Notification

Dear Attorney General Frosh:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. (“Hitchiner”), to provide notice to your office concerning a security incident involving Maryland residents.¹ Hitchiner is located at 594 Elm St, Milford, New Hampshire, 03055.

Hitchiner identified a security incident that resulted in the encryption of certain systems within its environment. Hitchiner immediately took steps to contain the incident and restore operation. Hitchiner also contacted law enforcement and began an investigation with the assistance of an outside cybersecurity firm. The investigation determined that, prior to encrypting certain systems within Hitchiner’s environment, an unauthorized person obtained access to files on some of Hitchiner’s servers from November 8, 2021 to December 1, 2021. The accessed files were then reviewed to identify the content. On December 29, 2021, the review identified information in the files, including the names, Social Security numbers, and/or financial account numbers of eight Maryland residents.

Beginning on February 14, 2022, Hitchiner will mail notification letters via First Class mail to the Maryland residents in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504. Hitchiner is providing individuals a complimentary, one-year membership to identity monitoring services. Hitchiner has also established a dedicated, toll-free call center that individuals can call to obtain more information regarding the incident. Additionally, Hitchiner is taking steps to further enhance its existing security measures.

¹ This notice does not waive Hitchiner’s objection that Maryland lacks personal jurisdiction over it regarding any claims relating to this incident.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dan Pepper", written in a cursive style.

Daniel A. Pepper
Partner

Enclosure



<<Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

<<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>
<<address_1>>
<<address_2>>
<<city>>, <<state_province>> <<postal_code>>
<<country>>

Dear <<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>,

Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. ("Hitchiner") understands the importance of protecting the information we maintain. I am writing to inform you of an incident that involved some of your information. This notice explains the incident, measures we have taken, and steps that you may consider taking.

Hitchiner identified a security incident that resulted in the encryption of certain systems within our environment. We immediately took steps to contain the incident and restore operations. We also contacted law enforcement and began an investigation with the assistance of an outside cybersecurity firm. The investigation determined that, prior to encrypting certain systems within our environment, an unauthorized person obtained access to files on some of our servers from November 8, 2021 to December 1, 2021. The accessed files were then reviewed to identify the content. On December 29, 2021, the review identified information about you in the files, including your <<b2b_text_1(name, data elements)>>.

We wanted to notify you of this incident and assure you that we take it seriously. Out of an abundance of caution, we purchased services from Kroll to provide identity monitoring services at no cost to you for one year. The identity monitoring services include Credit Monitoring, Fraud Consultation, and Identity Theft Restoration.

Visit <https://enroll.krollmonitoring.com> to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

You have until <<b2b_text_6(activation deadline)>> to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: <<Membership Number s_n>>

For more information on your complimentary one-year membership, as well as additional steps you can take in response to the incident, please see the pages that follow this letter.

We regret that this incident occurred and apologize for any inconvenience. Additional steps are being taken to further enhance our existing security measures. If you have questions about this notice, please call (855) 632-1647 between 9:00 am and 6:30 pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, excluding major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

Timothy C. Sullivan
Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Services



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR IDENTITY MONITORING SERVICES

You have been provided with access to the following services from Kroll:

Triple Bureau Credit Monitoring

You will receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data at any of the three national credit bureaus—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you'll have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.

Fraud Consultation

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

Identity Theft Restoration

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator will be able to dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge.

To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.

For more information about Kroll and your Identity Monitoring services, you can visit info.krollmonitoring.com.

If you prefer to activate these services offline and receive monitoring alerts via the US Postal Service, you may activate via our automated phone system by calling 1-888-653-0511, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time, excluding major U.S. holidays. Please have your membership number located in your letter ready when calling. Please note that to activate monitoring services, you will be required to provide your name, date of birth, and Social Security number through our automated phone system.

ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

We remind you it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. To order your annual free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228. Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is as follows:

- *Equifax*, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-800-685-1111
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-916-8800

If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General's office in your state. You can obtain information from these sources about steps an individual can take to avoid identity theft as well as information about fraud alerts and security freezes. You should also contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a police report. Obtain a copy of the police report in case you are asked to provide copies to creditors to correct your records. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

- *Federal Trade Commission*, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), www.ftc.gov/idtheft

Fraud Alerts and Credit or Security Freezes:

Fraud Alerts: There are two types of general fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud—an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud

alert stays on your credit report for one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years.

To place a fraud alert on your credit reports, contact one of the nationwide credit bureaus. A fraud alert is free. The credit bureau you contact must tell the other two, and all three will place an alert on their versions of your report.

For those in the military who want to protect their credit while deployed, an Active Duty Military Fraud Alert lasts for one year and can be renewed for the length of your deployment. The credit bureaus will also take you off their marketing lists for pre-screened credit card offers for two years, unless you ask them not to.

Credit or Security Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, which makes it more difficult for identity thieves to open new accounts in your name. That's because most creditors need to see your credit report before they approve a new account. If they can't see your report, they may not extend the credit.

How do I place a freeze on my credit reports? There is no fee to place or lift a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. For information and instructions to place a security freeze, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

- **Experian Security Freeze**, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com

You'll need to supply your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number and other personal information.

After receiving your freeze request, each credit bureau will provide you with a unique PIN (personal identification number) or password. Keep the PIN or password in a safe place. You will need it if you choose to lift the freeze.

How do I lift a freeze? A freeze remains in place until you ask the credit bureau to temporarily lift it or remove it altogether. If the request is made online or by phone, a credit bureau must lift a freeze within one hour. If the request is made by mail, then the bureau must lift the freeze no later than three business days after getting your request.

If you opt for a temporary lift because you are applying for credit or a job, and you can find out which credit bureau the business will contact for your file, you can save some time by lifting the freeze only at that particular credit bureau. Otherwise, you need to make the request with all three credit bureaus.

You may contact Hitchiner by phone at (603) 673-1100 or by mail at 594 Elm Street, Milford, New Hampshire 03055.

Additional information for residents of the following states:

Maryland: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at:

Maryland Attorney General's Office, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023 / 1-410-576-6300, www.oag.state.md.us.

New York: You may contact and obtain information from these state agencies:

New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12231-0001, 518-474-8583 / 1-800-697-1220, <http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection>

New York State Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, 1-800-771-7755, <https://ag.ny.gov>

North Carolina: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at:

North Carolina Attorney General's Office, 9001 Mail Service Centre, Raleigh, NC 27699, 1-919-716-6000 / 1-877-566-7226, www.ncdoj.gov

Rhode Island: This incident involves one individual in Rhode Island. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of a police report. You also have the right to request a security freeze, as described above. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at:

Rhode Island Attorney General's Office, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, www.riag.ri.gov