JACKLIN CHOU LEM (Cal. Bar No. 255293) MAY LEE HEYE (Cal. Bar No. 209366) HOWARD J. PARKER (Wash. Bar No. 07233) KELSEY C. LINNETT (Cal. Bar No. 274547) 3 **Antitrust Division** U.S. Department of Justice 450 Golden Gate Avenue Box 36046, Room 10-0101 5 San Francisco, CA 94102-3478 Tel: (415) 436-6660; Fax: (415) 436-6687 6 E-filing jacklin.lem@usdoi.gov 7 Attorneys for the United States 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION 11 0653 12 13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 14 **INFORMATION** ٧. VIOLATION: 15 Title 15, United States Code, 16 Section 1 (Price Fixing) MAXZONE VEHICLE LIGHTING CORP., 17 San Francisco Venue Defendant. 18 The United States of America, acting through its attorneys, charges: 19 I. 20 DESCRIPTION OF THE OFFENSE 21 MAXZONE VEHICLE LIGHTING CORP. ("defendant") is made a defendant 22 1. on the charge stated below: 23 24 2. From about April 2000 until about September 3, 2008, the defendant and its coconspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy in the United States 25 and elsewhere to suppress and eliminate competition by fixing the prices of aftermarket auto 26 lights. The combination and conspiracy engaged in by the defendant and its coconspirators 27 was an unreasonable restraint of interstate and foreign trade and commerce in violation of 28 1

INFORMATION

Maxzone Vehicle Lighting Corp.

Section 1 of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. § 1). The defendant knowingly joined and participated in the charged conspiracy from about April 2000 until about September 3, 2008.

- 3. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of a continuing agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and its coconspirators, the substantial terms of which were to agree to fix the prices of aftermarket auto lights.
- 4. For the purpose of forming and carrying out the charged combination and conspiracy, the defendant and its coconspirators did those things that they combined and conspired to do, including, among other things:
 - (a) participated in meetings, conversations, and communications in
 Taiwan, the United States, and elsewhere to discuss the prices of
 aftermarket auto lights;
 - agreed, during those meetings, conversations, and communications, to charge prices of aftermarket auto lights at certain predetermined levels;
 - issued price announcements and price lists in accordance with the agreements reached;
 - (d) collected and exchanged information on prices and sales of aftermarket auto lights for the purpose of monitoring and enforcing adherence to the agreed-upon prices;
 - (e) authorized, ordered, and consented to the participation of subordinate employees in the conspiracy; and
 - (f) took steps to conceal the conspiracy and conspiratorial contacts, conversations, and communications through various means.

II.

DEFENDANTS AND COCONSPIRATORS

5. MAXZONE VEHICLE LIGHTING CORP. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Caliornia. During the time period covered by this Information, the defendant engaged in the business of selling aftermarket auto lights in the United States as an

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exclusive distributor for Depo Auto Parts Industrial Co., Ltd., an entity organized and existing under the laws of Taiwan.

- 6. Various corporations and individuals, not made defendants in this Information, participated as coconspirators in the offense charged in this Information and performed acts and made statements in furtherance of it.
- 7. Whenever in this Information reference is made to any act, deed, or transaction of any corporation, the allegation means that the corporation engaged in the act, deed, or transaction by or through its officers, directors, employees, agents, or other representatives while they were actively engaged in the management, direction, control, or transaction of its business or affairs.

III.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

- 8. Aftermarket auto lights are lights incorporated into an automobile after its original sale, usually as repairs following a collision, but also as accessories and upgrades. Lighting components include items such as headlights, taillights, fog lights, turn signals, brake signals, and reflectors.
- 9. During the period covered by this Information, the defendant and its coconspirators sold and distributed aftermarket auto lights in a continuous and uninterrupted flow of interstate and foreign trade and commerce to customers located in states or countries other than the states or countries in which aftermarket auto lights were produced.
- 10. During the period covered by this Information, the business activities of the defendant and coconspirators that are the subject of this Information were within the flow of, and substantially affected, interstate and foreign trade and commerce.

IV. l 2 JURISDICTION AND VENUE 3 11. The combination and conspiracy charged in this Information was carried out, in part, in the Northern District of California, within the five years preceding the filing of this 4 5 Information. 6 7 ALL IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1. 8 9 10 Acting Assistant Attorney General 11 Chief, San Francisco Office 12 13 14 Scott D. Hammond Peter K. Huston Deputy Assistant Attorney General Assistant Chief, San Francisco Office 15 16 17 Terzaken John F. 18 Director of Criminal Enforcement May Lee Heye Howard J. Parker 19 Kelsey C. Linnett 20 Trial Attorneys U.S. Department of Justice 21 **Antitrust Division** 450 Golden Gate Avenue 22 Box 36046, Room 10-0101 23 United States Department of Justice San Francisco, CA 94102 **Antitrust Division** (415) 436-6660 24 25 26 27

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