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THE COURTS DOCKET

Russell F. Nelms
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS FORT WORTH DIVISION

In re:	_)	Chapter 11 Cases
HYDROSCIENCE TECHNOLOGIES, INC., SOLID SEISMIC, LLC,)))	Case No. 17-41442-rfn11 Case No. 17-41444-rfn11
Debtors.)))	Jointly Administered Under Case No. 17-41442-rfn11

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER CONFIRMING THE JOINT PLAN FOR HYDROSCIENCE TECHNOLOGIES, INC. AND SOLID SEISMIC, LLC

On January 31, 2018, the Court held a hearing to consider confirmation of the *Joint Chapter 11 Plan for Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. and Solid Seismic, LLC* (as amended, revised or modified, the "<u>Plan</u>") [Docket No. 159] filed by the debtors, Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. ('<u>HTI</u>") and Solid Seismic, LLC ("<u>SSC</u>," and together with HTI, the "<u>Debtors</u>"), as modified by the *First Modification to the Joint Chapter 11 Plan for Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. and Solid Seismic, LLC* (the "<u>First Modification</u>") [Docket No. 198]. Defined

terms used in this Order, unless otherwise specifically defined herein, shall be given the same meaning as in the Plan.

On April 3, 2017, each of the Debtors filed voluntary petitions for protection under chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division. HTl's bankruptcy case was assigned Case No. 17-41442, and SSC's bankruptcy case was assigned 17-41444.

On June 1, 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered an *Order regarding Filing of Pleadings* and *Directing Joint Administration of Cases* [Docket No. 30], which provides for the joint administration of the Debtors' respective bankruptcy cases under Case No. 17-41442 (the "Bankruptcy Case")¹

No trustee or examiner has been appointed for the Debtors which have acted, at all times, as Debtors-in-possession.

On December 28, 2018, the Bankruptcy Court entered an Order (I) Conditionally

Approving Proposed Disclosure Statement, (II) Scheduling Combined Hearing on Approval of

Disclosure Statement, Confirmation of Chapter 11 Plan, and Approval of Sale Motion and

Setting Related Deadlines, (III) Approving Form of Voting and Notice, Including Notice by

Publication, and (IV) Approving Related Matters [Docket No. 169] ("Solicitation Order").

Pursuant to the Solicitation Order, the Court, among other things, conditionally approved the

Disclosure Statement Pursuant to Section 1125 of the United States Bankruptcy Code with

respect to the Joint Chapter 11 Plan for Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. and Solid Seismic,

LLC (the "Disclosure Statement"), established procedures for the solicitation and tabulation of

votes to accept or reject the Plan, fixed deadlines for objections to the Plan, approved certain

notices to Creditors and parties-in-interest, including notice by publication, and set January 31,

2018 at 2:30 p.m. (Central Time) as the date for the hearing (the "Combined Hearing") for final

¹ Unless otherwise indicated, all references to the "Docket" refer to the Docket in Case No. 17-41442.

approval of the Disclosure Statement, confirmation of the Plan, and consideration of the Debtors' Motion for Order Approving/Authorizing (i) Sale of Substantially All of the Debtors' Assets Free and Clear of Liens, Claims, Encumbrances, and Interests, and (ii) Assumption and Assignment of Certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases in Connection with the Sale (the "Sale Motion") [Docket No. 161].

The Solicitation Order approved the following documents (collectively the "Solicitation Materials") to be served on creditors entitled to vote on the Plan (i.e., those in Classes 4 and 5):

- a) the Plan;
- b) the Disclosure Statement;
- c) the respective Ballots for Classes 4 and 5 under the Plan;
- d) the Solicitation Order;
- e) a Notice ("<u>Combined Hearing Notice</u>") [Docket Nos. 170 and 171] reflecting the deadlines and other information relating to confirmation of the Plan; and,
- f) a letter ("<u>Debtors' Letter</u>") from counsel for the Debtors relating to the confirmation of the Plan;

and authorized the Debtors to tabulate their ballots on a consolidated basis.

The Solicitation Order also approved and authorized the Debtors to send only the Combined Hearing Notice (and not the full Solicitation Materials) on creditors and equity interest holders in classes not entitled to vote on the Plan (i.e., those in Classes 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7). The Solicitation Order also approved the form of the Debtors' Letter and a form for notice by publication ("Publication Notice") to unknown Creditors.

No formal objections to the Plan were filed. Only one informal objection was raised by the Parker County Appraisal District ("<u>Parker CAD</u>"). The informal objection raised by Parker CAD has been resolved through the provisions of this Order.

The Confirmation Hearing was commenced at the time and date scheduled. Based on the testimony, exhibits, and proffered evidence presented, judicial notice of the record of this Bankruptcy Case, and the arguments of counsel, the Court makes this *Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Confirming the Joint Chapter 11 Plan for Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. and Solid Seismic, LLC* ("Order") relating to the Plan.

ACCORDINGLY, the Court hereby finds and determines as set forth below:

- A. <u>Findings and Conclusions</u>. All findings of fact or conclusions of law made by the Court on the record at the Confirmation Hearing are hereby incorporated in their entirety into this Order. The findings and conclusions set forth herein and in the record of the Confirmation Hearing constitute the Court's findings of fact and conclusions of law pursuant to Rule 52 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as made applicable herein by Bankruptcy Rule 9014. To the extent any of the following findings of fact constitute conclusions of law, they are adopted as such. To the extent any of the following conclusions of law constitute findings of fact, they are adopted as such.
- B. <u>Jurisdiction; Venue; Core Proceeding</u>. The Court has jurisdiction over this Bankruptcy Case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. sections 157(b) and 1334. The Debtors are eligible Debtors under section 109 of the Bankruptcy Code.² Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. sections 1408 and 1409. Confirmation of the Plan is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. section 157(b)(2)(A), (L) and (O) over which the Court has exclusive jurisdiction and full constitutional jurisdiction and authority to enter final orders with respect thereto.
- C. <u>Judicial Notice</u>. The Court hereby takes judicial notice of the docket of this Bankruptcy Case maintained by the Clerk of the Court and/or its duly-appointed agent, including, without limitation, all pleadings, stipulations and other documents filed with, all orders entered by, and all evidence and argument made, proffered or adduced at the hearings held before the Court during the pendency of this Bankruptcy Case.

² Unless otherwise indicated, section references are to the United States Bankruptcy Code, Title 11 of the United States Code.

- D. <u>Eligibility for Relief</u>. The Debtors qualified for relief as "Debtors" pursuant to section 109 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are the proponents of the Plan in accordance with section 1121 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- E. <u>Commencement and Administration of this Bankruptcy Case</u>. This Bankruptcy Case was commenced on April 3, 2017. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in this Bankruptcy Case.
- F. <u>Burden of Proof.</u> The Debtors have the burden of proving the elements of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code by a preponderance of the evidence. The Court finds that the Debtors have met each element of such burden. The testimony of the Debtors' witnesses in support of the Plan was credible and believable on the subjects and issues for which such testimony was offered.
- relating to the confirmation of the Plan, including the solicitation of acceptances of the Plan, are set forth in the Solicitation Order and Combined Hearing Notice. The Solicitation Order also prescribes the documents which are to be served upon Creditors and parties in interest as a part of the Solicitation Materials as described above. The Disclosure Statement, the Solicitation Materials, the Combined Hearing Notice and the Publication Notice were all approved in the Solicitation Order. The Debtors have filed a Certificate of Service [Docket No. 172] and a Supplemental Certificate of Service (collectively, the "Certificate of Service") reflecting (i) the service of the Solicitation Materials and Sale Motion upon Creditors and parties-in-interest potentially entitled to vote on the Plan (Class 4 and Class 5 Creditors); (ii) the service of the Combined Hearing Notice and the Sale Motion on all Creditors and parties-in-interest not entitled to vote on the Plan (Class 1, 2, 3, and 6 Creditors and Class 7 Interests); and (iii) service of the Combined Hearing Notice and Sale Motion on all other parties with which the Debtors did business within one year of the Petition Date. Based upon the Certificate of

Service, once the Disclosure Statement and the Solicitation Materials were served on Creditors, the Debtors were entitled to solicit Ballots accepting the Plan.

- H. Notice by Publication. The Debtors have also filed three Certificates of Publication reflecting that the Publication Notice was published in the Fort Worth Star Telegram on January 6, 2018 [Docket No. 192] and the Mineral Wells Index on January 6, 2018, January 10, 2018, and January 13, 2018 [Docket No. 191], which are the newspapers of general circulation in Mineral Wells, Texas and the surrounding area. The Debtors also filed a Certificate of Publication reflecting that the Publication Notice was published in the January 2018 print edition of Sea Technology Magazine, as well as electronically on the Sea Technology Magazine website, at www.sea-technology.com, from January 1, 2018 through January 31, 2018 [Docket No. 197], which is an industry publication generally subscribed to by individuals and entities involved in offshore oil and gas exploration. The publication of the Publication Notices as set forth above satisfies all applicable requirements for giving notice to unknown Creditors through publication.
- I. <u>Appropriate Notice</u>. Based upon the service of notice reflected in the Certificate of Service and the notice by publication reflected in the Certificates of Publication, full adequate and timely notice of the confirmation process and associated deadlines and hearings has been given to all Creditors and parties-in-interest, including any unknown Creditors.
- J. The Sale of the Purchased Assets. Consistent with their Sale Motion, the Debtors' Plan provides for the sale of substantially all of the Debtors' assets, including their Intellectual Property and related assets as defined in the Plan and Asset Purchase Agreement (the "Purchased Assets") to the Purchaser pursuant to the Asset Purchase Agreement. The Court has issued separate findings of fact and conclusions of law pertaining to the sale of the Purchased Assets pursuant through the Sale Motion in its Order Approving/Authorizing (i) Sale of Substantially All of the Debtors' Assets Free and Clear of Liens, Claims, Encumbrances, and

Interests, and (ii) Assumption and Assignment of Certain Executory Contracts and Unexpired

Leases in connection with the Sale (the "Sale Order"). The Court's findings and Conclusions set

forth in the Sale Order are equally applicable to the sale of the Purchased Assets pursuant to

the Plan, and are hereby incorporated by reference as though set forth at length herein.

- K. Adequacy of Solicitation Procedures. All procedures used to serve and distribute the Solicitation Materials to the holders of Claims potentially entitled to vote on the Plan and to tabulate the Ballots returned by such holders of Claims were fair and were conducted in good faith in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Solicitation Order. Votes for acceptance or rejection of the Plan were solicited and cast in good faith, and only after transmittal of the Disclosure Statement, and the Solicitation Materials, which contain adequate information, and otherwise in compliance with sections 1125 and 1126 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules 3017 and 3018, and N.D. Tex. L.B.R. 3018-1. The solicitation procedures by the Debtors comply with and satisfy the applicable requirements of the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules.
- L. <u>Good Faith Solicitation section 1125(e)</u>. Based on the record before the Court in this Bankruptcy Case, the Debtors and their Professionals have acted in good faith within the meaning of sections 1125(e) and 1129(a)(3), and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Solicitation Order, in connection with all of their respective activities relating to the solicitation of acceptances of the Plan and their participation in the activities described in section 1125, and are entitled to the protections afforded by section 1125(e).
- M. <u>Ballot Tabulation</u>. The Voting Deadline pursuant to the Solicitation Order for casting Ballots to accept or reject the Plan has passed. The Debtors have tabulated the Ballots submitted by all Classes entitled to vote in connection with the Plan and which is reflected in the Amended Tabulation of Ballots in Connection with Confirmation of the Joint Chapter 11 Plan for

Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. and Solid Seismic, LLC [Docket No. 200] ("Ballot Tabulation"). Pursuant to the Solicitation Order, the Ballots were tabulated on a consolidated basis. No objection has been made to the Ballot Tabulation. The Court accepts the Ballot Tabulation as accurately reflecting the Ballots cast to accept or reject the Plan by the Classes entitled to vote on the Plan.

- N. <u>Classes Deemed to Have Accepted or Rejected the Plan</u>. Pursuant to section 1126(f), Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 are conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan. Class 6, consisting of Creditors, and Class 7, consisting of Interests, are conclusively deemed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g).
- O. <u>Impaired Classes of Creditors Voting to Accept or Reject the Plan</u>. Based upon the Ballot Tabulation, the Court finds that the following Classes have voted on the Plan as follows:
 - i) Class 4 voted to accept the Plan as follows:

Ballots A	ccepting	Ballots I	Rejecting
Amount	Number	Amount	Number
\$1,997,674 100%	11 100%	\$0.00 0.00%	0 0.00%

ii) Class 5 – voted to accept the Plan as follows:

Ballots Accepting		Ballots Rejecting	
Amount	Number	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>
\$11,287,100 100%	3 100%	\$0.00 0.00%	0 0.00%

- P. <u>Plan Objections</u>. The only objection to confirmation of the Plan was an informal objection raised by Parker CAD (the "<u>Parker CAD Objection</u>"). The Parker CAD Objection has been resolved based upon the provisions of paragraph 16, below.
- Q. <u>Liquidating Trust Agreement</u>. The form of the Liquidating Trust Agreement is attached as an Exhibit to the Plan and was filed as a Plan Document. The form of the

Liquidating Trust Agreement is approved as a fair and appropriate manner to execute and perform the terms of the Plan and as being in the best interests of the beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust. A copy of the Liquidating Trust Agreement is attached as **Exhibit "A"** to this Order.

- R. <u>Liquidating Trustee</u>. William L. Roberts is nominated to act as the Liquidating Trustee. Based upon the record, Mr. Roberts is well qualified to act as Liquidating Trustee and the appointment of him in this position is in the best interests of the Creditors who will be the beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust. The nomination of Mr. Roberts to act as the Liquidating Trustee is hereby approved and he is hereby constituted and appointed as Liquidating Trustee.
- S. Reservation of Estate Claims. As set forth below, the Debtors have delineated the Estate Claims to be retained in Article IX of the Plan. The term "Estate Claims" is defined in section 1.34 of the Plan to include all claims and causes of action held by the Debtors' bankruptcy estates except any Estate Claims pertaining to the Purchased Assets being sold to the Purchaser or any Estate Claims resolved through the Plan Settlement. This is reflected in Exhibit "C" to the Plan, which sets forth the Estate Claims and Estate Defenses. Except for any Estate Claims excluded pursuant to section 1.34 of the Plan, the Plan specifically retains as Estate Claims all causes of action against the Debtors' managers as well as all Avoidance Claims against the Persons reflected as receiving transfers from the Debtors in the Schedule "1" to the Exhibit "C" to the Plan. The Court concludes that the identification and retention of the Estate Claims in the Plan is reasonable and appropriate and reflects a proper exercise of the good faith business judgment of the Debtors.

Article IX of the Plan, including Exhibit "C" thereto, contains a specific and unequivocal reservation of the Estate Claims as required under applicable Fifth Circuit

authority.³ The Court concludes that it is in the best interests of the holders of Claims, in order to maximize the value available to both the holders of Allowed Claims, that the Estate Claims be retained. The Court further concludes that all Estate Claims are expressly, specifically, and unequivocally retained and reserved pursuant to Article IX (including the Exhibit "C" thereto) of the Plan in accordance with section 1123(b)(3)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code. All Estate Claims are hereby reserved for the benefit of the Liquidating Trustee and the Liquidating Trustee shall be entitled to file, prosecute and/or settle each of the Estate Claims so reserved in accordance with the terms of the Plan and the Liquidating Trust Agreement.

- T. Transfer of Assets to the Liquidating Trust. Pursuant to sections 6.04 and 7.03 of the Plan, the Cash Proceeds and the Remaining Assets, including the Estate Claims and Estate Defenses, shall be transferred to the Liquidating Trust; provided, however, that (i) the Tokio Marine Payment shall be paid by the Debtors in full to Tokio Marine on the Effective Date in cash, and (ii) the Tokio Marine Payment shall not constitute Trust Assets. The transfer of the Cash Proceeds and the Remaining Assets to the Liquidating Trust pursuant to the Plan is hereby approved as consistent with, and authorized by, section 1123(a)(5)(B). The transfer of the Assets to the Liquidating Trust, including all Estate Claims and Estate Defenses, will be fully effectuated through this Order as of the Effective Date without the necessity of any other or further assignment or transfer.
- U. <u>Termination of the Debtors</u>. Pursuant to the Plan, the Debtors' corporate charters are to be surrendered and the Debtors wound up and dissolved after the Effective Date. This is both necessary and appropriate for the administration of the Estate and the performance of the Plan. The Liquidating Trustee is hereby authorized to retain such

³ In re Texas Wyoming Drilling, Inc., 647 F.3d 547 (5th Cir. 2011); In re United Operating, L.L.C., 540 F.3d 351 (5th Cir. 2008).

professionals, consultants or advisors as may be reasonably necessary to seasonably accomplish the winding up and dissolution of the Debtors.

- V. <u>Purchaser Not Successor</u>. The Purchaser of the Purchased Assets pursuant to the Plan shall not be considered a successor to the Debtors.
- W. <u>Plan Modifications</u>. After the entry of the Solicitation Order, but before the Confirmation Hearing, the Debtors filed the First Modification.
- X. <u>Claim Objections and Resolutions</u>. Pursuant to the Plan, the Liquidating Trustee has the sole power and exclusive standing and authority to object to any Claim on behalf of the Liquidating Trust. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Liquidating Trustee shall have the power: (a) to object to any Claim which may be asserted against the Liquidating Trust on any legal or equitable basis; (b) to seek equitable subordination of any Claim on any legal or equitable basis; (c) to assert any right of setoff or recoupment, including without limitation, any such right pursuant to section 553; (d) to assert any and all Estate Defenses to any Claim, whether legal or equitable, including any affirmative defenses or any right of setoff; (e) to assert all Estate Claims as a counterclaim against any Claim, whether arising out of the same or different transactions, both for an affirmative recovery and as an offset against any such Claim; and (f) to object to any Claims on the basis of section 502(d). Vesting such exclusive power and standing in the Plan Trustee is reasonable and appropriate, is in the best interests of the Creditors who are beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust, and is authorized by, and in compliance with, section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Y. <u>Plan Compliance with Bankruptcy Code</u>. The Plan complies with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, including the following:
- (i) <u>Proper Classification sections 1122, 1123(a)(1)</u>. The Plan designates seven (7) Classes of Claims and Interests. The Claims and Interests placed in each Class are substantially similar to other Claims and Interests, as the case may be, in each such Class.

Based upon the record of the Confirmation Hearing and the record of this Bankruptcy Case, valid business, factual, and legal reasons exist for separately classifying the various Classes of Claims and Interests created under the Plan, and such Classes do not unfairly discriminate among holders of Claims and Interests. Consequently, the Plan satisfies both sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1).

- (ii) <u>Specify Unimpaired Classes section 1123(a)(2)</u>. Article IV of the Plan specifies that Claims and Interests in Classes 1, 2, and 3 are unimpaired under the Plan.

 Therefore, the requirements of section 1123(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.
- (iii) <u>Specify Treatment of Impaired Classes section 1123(a)(3</u>). Article IV of the Plan specifies the treatment of each Impaired Class of Claims and Interests under the Plan, including Classes 4, 5, 6, and 7. Therefore, the requirements of section 1123(a)(3) have been satisfied.
- (iv) <u>No Discrimination section 1123(a)(4)</u>. The Plan provides for the same treatment for each Claim or Interest in each respective Class unless the holder of a particular Claim or Interest has agreed to a less favorable treatment of such Claim or Interest. Therefore, the requirements of section 1123(a)(4) have been satisfied.
- (v) <u>Implementation of Plan section 1123(a)(5)</u>. The Plan provides for the means for its implementation, including the provisions of Articles VI through XII of the Plan. This includes the sale of the Purchased Assets to the Purchaser pursuant to section 6.02 of the Plan, the transfer pursuant to sections 6.03 and 7.04 of the Plan of the Cash Proceeds and Remaining Assets to the Liquidating Trust, and the assumption by the Liquidating Trustee in section 6.05 of the Plan of all liabilities and obligations to make Distributions under the Plan. The Plan provides reasonable, adequate and appropriate means for its implementation, thereby satisfying section 1123(a)(5).

- (vi) <u>Selection of Officers and Directors section 1123(a)(7)</u>. Prior to the Confirmation Hearing, the Debtors properly and adequately disclosed the identity and affiliations of the Liquidating Trustee. Because the Debtors will be terminated and their organizational charters surrendered, no other or further disclosure is required pursuant to section 1123(a)(7) regarding the Debtors' officers or managers.
- (vii) <u>Sale of Substantially All Assets section 1123(b)(4)</u>. The Plan provides for the sale of the Purchased Assets of the Debtors. As a result of the sale and in accordance with the terms of the Plan, the Cash Proceeds from the sale as well as the proceeds from the liquidation of the Remaining Assets will be distributed among the holders of Claims or Interests. Therefore, section 1123(b)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code has been satisfied.
- various other provisions that are properly construed as discretionary and not required for confirmation of the Plan under the Bankruptcy Code. All such discretionary provisions comply with section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, are not inconsistent with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, and are hereby approved. The relief provided in the Plan is fair and necessary for the orderly implementation of the Plan, the administration of the Debtors' estate, the making of Distributions to holders of Allowed Claims who are the beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust. Therefore, section 1123(b) of the Bankruptcy Code has been satisfied.
- (ix) <u>Cure Amounts section 1123(d)</u>. The Plan provides for the satisfaction of any Cure Claims associated with each executory contract and unexpired lease to be assumed pursuant to the Plan in accordance with section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code. All cure amounts will be determined in accordance with the underlying agreements and applicable nonbankruptcy law. Thus, the Plan complies with section 1123(d) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Z. <u>Compliance with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3016</u>. The Plan is dated and identifies the Debtors as the proponent, thereby satisfying Bankruptcy Rule 3016(a). The filing of the

Disclosure Statement with the Court satisfies Bankruptcy Rule 3016(b). Further, the Plan, Disclosure Statement and Combined Hearing Notice describe in specific and conspicuous language all acts to be enjoined and identify the entities that are subject to the injunction, including with respect to the Plan Injunction, thereby satisfying Bankruptcy Rule 3016(c) to the extent applicable.

- AA. <u>Compliance with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3017</u>. Debtors have given notice of the Confirmation Hearing as required by Bankruptcy Rule 3017 and the Solicitation Order. The Solicitation Materials prescribed by the Plan were transmitted to the interested parties entitled to vote or provisionally allowed to vote on the Plan in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3017(d).
- BB. <u>Compliance with Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3018</u>. The solicitation of votes to accept or reject the Plan satisfies Bankruptcy Rule 3018. The Plan was transmitted to all holders of Claims and Interests entitled to vote or provisionally allowed to vote on the Plan, sufficient time was prescribed for such parties to accept or reject the Plan, and the Solicitation Materials used and solicitation procedures followed comply with sections 1125 and 1126, thereby satisfying the requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 3018. Further, the Debtors have filed the Ballot Certification at least one day prior to the Confirmation Hearing, thereby satisfying N.D. Tex. L.B.R. 3018-1.
- CC. <u>Compliance with Title 11 section 1129(a)(1)</u>. The Plan complies with the applicable provisions of Title 11 thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(1).
- DD. <u>Debtors' Compliance with Bankruptcy Code section 1129(a)(2)</u>. The Debtors, as the proponent of the Plan, have complied with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(2).
- EE. <u>Plan Proposed in Good Faith section 1129(a)(3)</u>. The Debtors have proposed the Plan in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(3). In determining that the Plan has been proposed in good faith, the Court has examined and considered the totality of the circumstances surrounding the formulation of the

Plan, including both the record at the Confirmation Hearing and the record of this Bankruptcy

Case. As a consequence, the Court has concluded that the Debtors have proposed the Plan for legitimate and honest purposes.

- payments for Services or Costs and Expenses section 1129(a)(4). All payments made by the Liquidating Trustee under the Plan for services or for costs and expenses incurred prior to the Confirmation Hearing in or in connection with this Bankruptcy Case or in connection with the Plan and incident to this Bankruptcy Case, have either been approved or are subject to final approval of the Court pursuant to the terms of the Plan, thereby satisfying section 1129(a)(4).
- GG. <u>Directors, Officers and Insiders section 1129(a)(5)</u>. The Debtors have complied with section 1129(a)(5). The identity and affiliations of the proposed Liquidating Trustee has been fully disclosed. Although the Purchaser is not a successor to the Debtors, the Woodland Employment Agreement between the Debtors' principal, Fred Woodland, and the Purchaser has also been fully disclosed. As the Debtors will be wound up and dissolved following the sale of the Purchased Assets to the Purchaser, and the Transfer of the Cash Proceeds and Remaining Assets to the Liquidating Trustee, no further disclosure is required regarding Debtors' officers, managers or insiders.
- HH. <u>No Rate Changes section 1129(a)(6)</u>. The Plan does not contain any rate changes subject to the jurisdiction of any governmental regulatory commissions and will not require governmental regulatory approval. Therefore, section 1129(a)(6) is not applicable to the Debtors or the Plan.
- II. <u>Best Interests of Creditors section 1129(a)(7)</u>. The Plan satisfies section 1129(a)(7). The liquidation analysis included in the Disclosure Statement and the exhibits and evidence proffered or adduced at the Confirmation Hearing regarding the liquidation of the Debtors' assets were persuasive and credible. The record establishes that each holder of an

impaired Claim entitled to vote on the Plan has either accepted the Plan or will receive or retain under the Plan, on account of such Claim, property of a value, as of the Effective Date, that is not less than the amount that such holder would receive or retain if the Debtors were liquidated under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code as of the Effective Date. Class 7 Interests in the Debtors are cancelled on the Effective Date. However, because the holders of such Interests would receive nothing through a Chapter 7 liquidation as of the Effective Date, the requirement of section 1129(a)(7) is also satisfied as to all holders of Class 7 Interests.

- JJ. <u>Unimpaired Classes, Acceptance of Plan by Impaired Classes section</u>

 1129(a)(8). Classes 1, 2, and 3 are unimpaired under the Plan and conclusively presumed to have accepted the Plan under section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Class 4 and Class 5 are impaired under the Plan and have each voted to accept the Plan. Classes 6 and 7 are impaired under the Plan and are deemed to have rejected the Plan under section 1126(g). Despite the deemed rejection of the Plan by Classes 6 and 7, the Plan is nevertheless confirmable because it satisfies the requirements of sections 1129(a)(10) and 1129(b), as discussed below.
- KK. <u>Treatment of Administrative, Priority, and Tax Claims section 1129(a)(9)</u>.

 Article III of the Plan addresses the treatment of unclassified Claims. The treatment of Administrative Claims and Priority Tax Claims pursuant to Article III of the Plan, and the treatment of Secured Tax Claims and Priority Non-Tax Claims pursuant to Article IV of the Plan, satisfies the requirements of section 1129(a)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- LL. <u>Acceptance by Impaired Class of Claims section 1129(a)(10)</u>. As set forth in the Ballot Tabulation, Class 4 and Class 5 voted to accept the Plan. As such, at least one Class of Claims that is impaired under the Plan has accepted the Plan without including the acceptance of the Plan by any Insider. Therefore, the requirements of section 1129(a)(10) of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied.

- MM. <u>Feasibility section 1129(a)(11)</u>. The Plan is a liquidation plan which provides adequate and appropriate means for its implementation of the liquidation through the terms of the Liquidating Trust. Accordingly, to the extent applicable to a liquidating plan, the Court finds that the Plan satisfies the requirements of section 1129(a)(11).
- NN. <u>Payment of Fees section 1129(a)(12)</u>. All fees payable under 28 U.S.C. section 1930 on or before the Effective Date, as determined by the Court, have been paid or will be paid on the Effective Date, thus satisfying the requirements of section 1129(a)(12).
- OO. <u>Continuation of Retiree Benefits section 1129(a)(13)</u>. The Debtors do not provide any retiree benefits within the meaning of section 1114. Thus, the requirements of section 1129(a)(13) are not applicable to the Plan.
- PP. <u>Domestic Support Obligations section 1129(a)(14)</u>. The Debtors are not individuals and are not required by judicial or administrative order, or by statute, to pay a domestic support obligation. Thus, the requirements of section 1129(a)(14) of the Bankruptcy Code are not applicable for the Plan.
- QQ. <u>Debtors Are Not Individuals section 1129(a)(15)</u>. The Debtors are not individuals so that section 1129(a)(15) does not apply to the Plan.
- RR. <u>Acceptance by at Least One Impaired Class section 1129(b)</u>. Classes 6 and 7 are both impaired and are deemed to have rejected the Plan. Consequently, the Court addresses the application of the cram down provisions of section 1129(b)(2) to Classes 6 and 7 as follows:
- (i) The Plan does not discriminate unfairly, and is fair and equitable, as to each Class which has not voted to accept the Plan.
- (ii) The Plan is deemed rejected by Class 6. As to Class 6, the Plan is confirmable pursuant to section 1129(b)(2)(B)(ii). All Interests in the Debtors are cancelled and

no holder of a junior Claim or a cancelled Interest will receive any Distribution pursuant to the Plan.

(iii) As to the holders of Class 7 Interests, the Plan is confirmable pursuant to section 1129(b)(2)(C)(ii). The holders of any junior Interests will not receive or retain any property on account of such junior Interest.

Based on the foregoing, the Plan satisfies the applicable requirements of section 1129(b)(2) as to each Class which did not accept the Plan.

- SS. <u>Only One Plan section 1129(c)</u>. This Confirmation Order confirms a single plan. Accordingly, the requirements of section 1129(c) have been satisfied.
- TT. <u>Principal Purpose section 1129(d)</u>. The Court has found that the Plan was proposed in good faith. Consistent with this, the Court concludes that the principal purpose of the Plan is neither the avoidance of taxes nor the avoidance of Section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933, and no governmental unit has objected to the confirmation of the Plan on any of such grounds. The Plan therefore satisfies the requirements of section 1129(d).
 - UU. Section 1129(e). This provision does not apply to the Debtors or this Plan.
- VV. <u>Executory Contracts</u>. The Debtors have exercised reasonable business judgment in determining whether to assume or reject each of the Executory Contracts as set forth in Article XI of the Plan. Upon the Effective Date, the assumption, assumption and assignment, or rejection of each such Executory Contract as reflected in, or subject to, Article XI of the Plan shall be legal, valid and binding upon the Debtors, the Estate, the Liquidating Trustee and all non-Debtors counterparties to each such Executory Contract. Any Rejection Claim based upon an Executory Contract rejected by the Debtors pursuant to the Plan must be timely filed in accordance with section 11.03 of the Plan and, if timely filed, will be administered and treated as a Class 4 Claim. Except as otherwise ordered by the Court, or agreed in writing

by the Liquidating Trustee, objections to any Rejection Claim shall be handled and resolved based on the procedures set forth in the applicable provision of the Plan.

Pursuant to section 11.01 of the Plan, the Debtors have filed a *Notice of Proposed Cure Amounts* [Docket No. 199] reflecting the Executory Contracts to be assumed pursuant to this Confirmation Order, and the proposed Cure Amounts for each such Executory Contract. The Debtors seek to assume the Executory Contracts (collectively the "Assumed Executory Contracts") reflected on **Exhibit B** hereto and assign them to the Liquidating Trustee. The Assumed Executory Contracts reflected on the attached Exhibit B, and no others, are deemed as assumed pursuant to this Order and assigned to the Liquidating Trustee.

The assumption and assignment of the Assumed Executory Contracts reflected above is hereby approved as a valid exercise of the Debtors' good faith business judgment. Any amount owing under any of the Assumed Executory Contracts on the Effective Date shall be treated as an Ordinary Course Claim subject to section 3.01 of the Plan. Any amount owing under any of the Assumed Executory Contracts from and after the Effective Date shall be treated as Trust Expenses. This satisfies the requirements of section 365(f) to assume and assign the Assumed Executory Contracts to the Liquidating Trustee.

Any objections (the "<u>Cure Claim Objections</u>") to the Cure Amounts reflected on Exhibit B hereto shall be filed no later than thirty (30) days after the entry of this Confirmation Order. Any Cure Claim Objections must be filed with the Court and served upon counsel for the Debtors as follows:

Forshey & Prostok, LLP
Attn. Jeff P. Prostok and Suzanne K. Rosen
777 Main Street, Suite 1290
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
jprostok@forsheyprostok.com
srosen@forsheyprostok.com

Except as otherwise ordered by the Court, or agreed in writing by the Liquidating Trustee, the Cure Claim Objections shall be resolved, and Cure Payments made, in accordance with section

11.02 of the Plan.

WW. <u>Exemptions from Taxes</u>. The Court finds and concludes that, in accordance with section 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfers pursuant to the Plan shall not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, mortgage tax, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax, or other similar tax or government assessment.

- XX. <u>Settlement; Releases</u>. The Court finds and concludes that, pursuant to section 1123(b)(3)(A) and Bankruptcy Rule 9019:
- (i) In consideration of the Distributions and other benefits provided under the Plan, the provisions of the Plan, including the Plan Settlement and releases contained therein, constitute a good faith compromise and settlement of all impaired Claims and Interests. Such settlements and compromises, which are made at arms'-length in exchange for good and valuable consideration, are in the best interests of the holders of Impaired Claims and Interests, are within the range of possible litigation outcomes, and are fair, equitable, and reasonable. Each element of the compromise and settlement reflected in the Plan, including the Plan Settlement and releases contained therein, is integrated and inexorably linked, and necessary to the sale of the Purchased assets and liquidation of the Cash Proceeds and Remaining Assets in accordance with the Plan.
- (ii) Based upon the representations and arguments of counsel to the Debtors and all other testimony either actually given or proffered and other evidence introduced at the Confirmation Hearing and the full record of these chapter 11 cases, this Order constitutes the Court's approval of the Plan Settlement incorporated into the Plan because, among other things:

 (a) the Plan Settlement reflects a reasonable balance between the possible success of litigation with respect to each of the settled Claims and disputes, on the one hand, and the benefits of fully and finally resolving such Claims and disputes in a timely fashion so that the Debtors may

make a distribution to their creditors, on the other hand; (b) absent the Plan Settlement reflected in the Plan, there is a likelihood of complex and protracted litigation involving, among other things, the MHI Claim, the Seamap Claim, the Tokio Marine Claim, and the Insider Claims, with the attendant expense, inconvenience, and delay that has a possibility to delay the Debtors' reorganization efforts; (c) the Plan Settlement is the product of arms'-length bargaining and good faith negotiations between sophisticated parties; and (d) the Plan Settlement is fair, equitable, and reasonable and in the best interests of the Debtors and their collective Estate. Based on the foregoing, the Plan Settlement satisfies the requirements of applicable Fifth Circuit law for approval of settlements and compromises pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019.

- YY. <u>Plan Injunction</u>. The Debtors are not eligible for a discharge pursuant to section 1141(d)(3). Consequently, section 14.03 of the Plan contains the Plan Injunction. The Plan Injunction is necessary and appropriate to facilitate the orderly distribution of the Cash Proceeds and Remaining Assets pursuant to the Plan through the Liquidating Trust. The Plan Injunction constitutes an essential and integral part of the Plan without which the holders of Claims against the Debtors could potentially interfere with the Liquidating Trustee's performance of his duties under the Liquidating Trust Agreement. The Plan Injunction protects the best interests of the holders of Allowed Claims who are the beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust and promotes and facilitates the efficient administration of the Liquidating Trust in accordance with the terms of the Plan. Consequently, the Plan Injunction is hereby approved pursuant to sections 105(a) and 1123(a)(5) and (7) and shall be incorporated into, and enforced, as an integral part of this Order.
- ZZ. <u>Retention of Jurisdiction</u>. This Court finds and concludes that this Court's retention of jurisdiction as set forth herein and in the Plan comports with 28 U.S.C., sections 157 and 1334. Consequently, the Court may properly retain jurisdiction over the matters set forth in Article IX of the Plan.

AAA. *Implementation of the Plan*. The Liquidating Trust, in conjunction with any other Plan Documents and this Order, provide reasonable and sufficient means to fully and efficiently implement the Plan. All documents necessary to implement the Plan have been filed with the Court and made available for review and objection by Creditors, holders of Interests and other interested parties, including the Liquidating Trust Agreement. Such documents have been negotiated and prepared in good faith and at arm's-length and are in the best interests of the Debtors and their Estate and shall, upon execution and subject to the occurrence of the Effective Date, be valid, binding, and enforceable in accordance with their terms. Such documents are not in conflict with federal or state law.

BBB. <u>Substantive Consolidation of the Debtors</u>. The Court finds and concludes that the substantive consolidation of the Debtors for the purpose of implementing the Plan, including for purposes of distributions under the Plan,⁴ is in the best interests of the Debtors' Estate. Substantive consolidation recognizes the Debtors' common business purpose, consolidates their respective debts, extinguishes the intercompany receivable, avoids the potentially costly litigation and expense that would be required to disentangle the Debtors' financial affairs and determine their respective claims against each other, and allows for creditors of both Debtors to share *pari passu* in the Net Liquidating Trust Assets. By recognizing the Debtors' economic realities and avoiding unnecessary and expensive litigation, the Court finds that substantive consolidation of the Debtors would improve the prospects of all creditors under the Plan by enhancing the assets available for distribution. The Court further finds that substantive consolidation of the Debtors constitutes an integral part of the Plan.

CCC. <u>Plan Modifications</u>. The First Modification is hereby approved. The First Modification does not modify the Plan or affects the rights of Creditors entitled to vote in a material way. Consequently, no additional disclosure or resolicitation is necessary.

⁴ The Court previously approved consolidated voting on the Plan in the Solicitation Order.

DDD. <u>Satisfaction of Confirmation Requirements</u>. The Debtors have established by the preponderance of the evidence that the Plan satisfies all requirements for confirmation of the Plan, including those set forth in sections 1123 and 1129.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED THAT:

- 1. <u>Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law</u>. The above-referenced findings of fact and conclusions of law are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 2. <u>Objections to Plan</u>. No formal objections were filed, and only one informal objection, the Parker CAD Objection, was raised in response to the Plan. The Parker CAD Objection has been resolved based upon paragraph 16, below.
- 3. <u>Confirmation of Plan</u>. The Plan is CONFIRMED in accordance with section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, and all terms and conditions set forth in the Plan, as modified by the First Supplement, are hereby APPROVED. The terms of the Plan are incorporated by reference into, and as an integral part of, this Confirmation Order. The Liquidating Trust Agreement is an integral part of the Plan. As a consequence, the terms of the Liquidating Trust Agreement are hereby incorporated by reference into, and as an integral part of, this Confirmation Order.
- 4. <u>Approval of the Sale</u>. The sale of the Purchased Assets to the Purchaser pursuant to section 6.02 of the Plan is hereby approved. The terms of the Sale Order are incorporated by reference into, and constitute an integral part of, this Confirmation Order.
- 5. Plan Implementation. Upon the Effective Date of the Plan, the Debtors are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to implement, effectuate or consummate the Plan, the terms of this Confirmation Order and the transactions respectively contemplated therein, and to otherwise fully perform and execute their duties under the Plan or this Confirmation Order. In the event of an appeal of this Confirmation Order, the Debtors and the Liquidating Trustee are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to make the Plan effective and, from and after the Effective Date, execute their

duties, responsibilities and obligations under the Plan, this Confirmation Order and the Plan Documents unless and until this Confirmation Order is stayed by order of a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

- 6. Approval of Plan Documents. The form and substance of the Plan Documents, including, without limitation, the Liquidating Trust, are all hereby APPROVED. The Debtors are authorized and directed, without the need for further corporate or other organizational action or further order or authorization of this Court, to take such actions and do all things as may be necessary or required to implement and effectuate the Plan Documents and to make the Plan effective.
- 7. Creation of Liquidating Trust. On the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trust shall be created and the Liquidating Trustee shall be deemed as appointed and constituted as the trustee of the Liquidating Trust. The Debtors shall execute and deliver the Liquidating Trust Agreement as of the Effective Date. William L. Roberts is hereby appointed as the Liquidating Trustee and authorized and directed to accept the delivery of the Liquidating Trustee Agreement from the Debtors as of the Effective Date. From and after the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trustee shall be fully vested with, and entitled to exercise and discharge, all rights, powers, duties and responsibilities pursuant to the Liquidating Trust Agreement. The tax treatment of the Liquidating Trust and its Distributions to beneficiaries shall be as set forth in the Plan and the Liquidating Trust Agreement, including the treatment of the Liquidating Trust as a "liquidating trust" within the meaning of Section 301.7701-4(d) of the Treasury Regulations.
- 8. Transfer of Assets and Assumption of Liabilities. On the Effective Date, without the execution of any other or further document or any further order by the Court: (a) the Cash Proceeds and all Remaining Assets of the Estate shall be deemed as fully, completely and irrevocably transferred to, and vested in, the Liquidating Trustee in accordance with sections 6.03 and 7.04 of the Plan and the Plan Documents; *provided, however*, that (i) the Tokio Marine

Payment shall be paid by the Debtors in full to Tokio Marine on the Effective Date in cash, and (ii) the Tokio Marine Payment shall not constitute Trust Assets; and (b) the Liquidating Trustee shall assume the liability for, and the obligation to make, all Distributions or payments on account of all Allowed Claims as provided in section 6.05 of the Plan. The Cash Proceeds and Remaining Assets shall not re-vest in the Debtors or the Estate.

- 9. <u>Estate Claims and Estate Defenses</u>. Upon the Effective Date, without the necessity of the execution of any further documents or further order of the Court, all Estate Claims and Estate Defenses, including without limitation all Avoidance Claims, shall be deemed as fully, completely and irrevocably transferred to, and vested in, the Liquidating Trustee. The Liquidating Trustee shall have the exclusive standing and authority to assert, prosecute, collect, compromise and settle all Estate Claims and Estate Defenses pursuant to the terms of the Plan and Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- Liquidating Trustee of the Assumed Executory Contracts is hereby approved. The Assumed Executory Contracts shall be deemed a part of the Remaining Assets assigned to the Liquidating Trustee. Any sums payable on any Assumed Executory Contract as of the Effective Date shall be treated as Ordinary Course Claims and all post-Effective Date sums so payable shall be treated as Trust Expenses. Any Cure Claim Objections shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Confirmation Order. All other Executory Contracts are deemed as rejected as of the Effective Date. All Rejection Claims must be filed within the time specified in section 11.03 of the Plan, failing which any such Rejection Claim shall be forever barred and precluded from receiving any Distribution pursuant to the Plan.
- 11. <u>Substantive Consolidation</u>. The substantive consolidation of the Debtors for purposes of distributions under the Plan is hereby approved as of the Effective Date such that on the Effective Date: (a) all assets and liabilities of the Debtors will be deemed merged; (b) all

guaranties by one Debtor of the obligations of the other Debtor will be deemed eliminated so that any Claim against any Debtor and any guarantee thereof executed by the other Debtor and any joint or several liability of the Debtors will be deemed to be one obligation of the consolidated Debtors; and (c) each and every Claim filed or to be filed in the Case of either of the Debtors will be deemed filed against the consolidated Debtors and will be deemed one Claim against and a single obligation of the consolidated Debtors.

12. <u>Discharge</u>. The Debtors are not eligible for a discharge pursuant to the Plan based on section 1141(d)(3). The Court has approved the Plan Injunction as an essential and integral part of the Plan. The Plan Injunction, as set forth in section 14.03 of the Plan, reads as follows:

PLAN INJUNCTION. THIS SECTION IS REFERRED TO HEREIN AS THE "PLAN INJUNCTION." EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED HEREIN, AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AGAINST, OR INTERESTS IN, THE DEBTOR, THE ESTATE OR ANY OF THE ASSETS THAT AROSE PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE ARE HEREBY PERMANENTLY ENJOINED AND PROHIBITED FROM THE FOLLOWING: COMMENCING OR CONTINUATION IN ANY MANNER, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF ANY ACTION, CASE, LAWSUIT OR OTHER PROCEEDING OF ANY TYPE OR NATURE AGAINST PURCHASER, THE PURCHASED ASSETS, THE LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE, LIQUIDATING TRUST, TRUST ASSETS, DEBTORS OR THE ESTATE, WITH RESPECT TO ANY SUCH CLAIM OR INTEREST ARISING OR ACCRUING BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION THE ENTRY OR ENFORCEMENT OF ANY JUDGMENT, OR ANY OTHER ACT FOR THE COLLECTION. EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF ANY CLAIM OR INTEREST AGAINST PURCHASER, THE PURCHASED ASSETS, THE ESTATE, LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE, LIQUIDATING TRUST, DEBTORS OR TRUST ASSETS: (ii) THE CREATION, PERFECTION OR ENFORCEMENT OF ANY LIEN, SECURITY INTEREST, ENCUMBRANCE, RIGHT OR BURDEN. EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, AGAINST PURCHASER, THE PURCHASED ASSETS. THE LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE, LIQUIDATING TRUST OR ANY TRUST ASSETS, OR (iii) TAKING ANY ACTION IN RELATION TO PURCHASER, THE PURCHASED ASSETS, THE DEBTORS, ESTATE, LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE, LIQUIDATING TRUST OR THE TRUST ASSETS, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, WHICH VIOLATES OR DOES NOT CONFORM OR COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PLAN APPLICABLE TO SUCH CLAIM OR INTEREST. THE PLAN INJUNCTION SHALL ALSO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE CONFIRMATION ORDER.

The Plan Injunction is hereby incorporated into this Order as an essential and integral term hereof so that the Plan Injunction shall be fully binding upon, and enforceable against, all Persons through and as a part of this Order.

- 13. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan or Trust Agreement: (a) third party professionals employed by the Liquidating Trustee shall not be released or exculpated from any losses, claims, damages, liabilities, or expenses arising from their duties and services provided to the Liquidating Trustee; and (b) any third party professionals employed by the Liquidating Trustee shall only be entitled to be indemnified by the Liquidating Trust to the extent provided by applicable law.
- Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Plan or Confirmation Order, 14. nothing in the Plan or Confirmation Order (including the Plan Injunction): (a) releases any Person other than Purchaser, the Purchased Assets, the Liquidating Trustee, Liquidating Trust, Trust Assets, Debtors, or the Estate (collectively, the "Released Parties") from any Claim or cause of action held by a Governmental Unit; or (b) enjoins, limits, impairs or delays any Governmental Unit from commencing or continuing any Claim, suit, action, proceeding, cause of action, or investigation against any Person other than the Released Parties. Moreover, nothing in the Plan or in the Confirmation Order shall discharge, release, enjoin or otherwise bar (i) any liability of the Released Parties to a Governmental Unit arising on or after the Confirmation Date with respect to events occurring after the Confirmation Date, provided that the Released Parties reserve the right to assert that any such liability is a Claim that arose on or prior to the Confirmation Date and constitutes a Claim that is subject to the Plan Injunction, (ii) any liability to a Governmental Unit that is not a Claim subject to the deadlines for filing proofs of claim, (iii) any valid right of setoff or recoupment of a Governmental Unit, and (iv) any police or regulatory action by a Governmental Unit. In addition, nothing in the Plan or Confirmation Order discharges, releases, precludes or enjoins any environmental liability to any Governmental Unit

that any Person other than the Released Parties would be subject to as the owner or operator of the property after the Effective Date. For the avoidance of any doubt, nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the application of the Plan Injunction to any Claim which was subject to any bar date applicable to such Claim.

- 15. Priority and Secured Tax Claims. The treatment of Priority Tax Claims (Article III) and Secured Tax Claims (Article IV) is specified in the Plan. Nothing in the Plan or this Confirmation Order shall modify or affect the Lien rights of a Taxing Authority under applicable non-bankruptcy law. In the event of a default on the payment of a Priority Tax Claim or Secured Tax Claim under the Plan, the Taxing Authority to which the payment is owed may pursue all administrative and judicial remedies under applicable law to collect the unpaid Priority Tax Claim or Secured Tax Claim.
- 16. Parker CAD. The informal objection to the Plan raised by Parker CAD is resolved as follows, which supplements the Plan treatment for this claim: (a) amended Proof of Claim No. 1 filed by Parker CAD (the "Parker CAD Claim") shall be and hereby is deemed Allowed in the amount of \$6,408.91; (b) Parker CAD shall be paid the full amount of the Parker CAD Claim, plus interest that has accrued from the Petition Date through the Effective Date of the Plan at the statutory rate of 1% per month pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Section 506(b) and 511, on the Effective Date; in the event the Parker CAD Claim is not paid in full by the Effective Date, Parker CAD shall receive post-Effective Date interest at the statutory rate of 12% per annum pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Sections 511 and 1129; and (c) section 8.06 of the Plan does not apply to Parker CAD; however, Parker CAD shall provide a W-9 or any other necessary withholding information, to the extent applicable.
- 17. Automatic Stay. The automatic stay pursuant to section 362 shall remain in effect until the Effective Date as to Debtors and all Assets. Upon the Effective Date, all injunctions or stays provided for in this Bankruptcy Case under sections 105 and 362 or

otherwise and in existence on the Effective Date shall terminate, and the Plan Injunction shall become effective immediately without the necessity of further order by the Court.

- 18. Setoffs. Except as otherwise expressly provided for in the Plan or this

 Confirmation Order, pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code (including section 553, applicable non-bankruptcy law, or as may be agreed to by the holder of a Claim), the Liquidating Trustee may offset against any Allowed Claim and any Distribution to be made pursuant to the Plan on account of such Allowed Claim, any and all claims, rights, Estate Defenses and Estate Claims that Debtors may hold against the holder of such Allowed Claim; provided, however, that neither the failure to effect such a setoff nor the Allowance of any Claim pursuant to the Plan shall constitute a waiver or release by the Liquidating Trustee of any such claims, rights, Estate Defenses or Estate Claims that the Liquidating Trustee may possess against such Claimant.

 Alternatively, any holder of a Claim, to the extent allowed under section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code and applicable non-bankruptcy law, may offset against any claims, rights, Estate Defenses or Estate Causes of Action of any nature that the Liquidating Trustee may hold or assert against the holder of such Allowed Claim.
- 19. Recoupment. In no event shall any holder of a Claim or Interest be entitled to recoup any Claim or Interest against any claim, right, Estate Defense or Estate Claim by the Liquidating Trustee, unless: (i) such holder actually provides notice thereof in writing to the Liquidating Trustee of its intent to perform a recoupment; and (ii) such notice includes the amount to be recouped by the holder of the Claim or Interest and a specific description of the basis for the recoupment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in the Plan shall be deemed to deprive or prevent the Liquidating Trustee or the holder of such Claim or Interest from seeking a judicial determination from the Bankruptcy Court regarding the validity and extent of such Claimant's recoupment rights.

- 20. Retained Causes of Action. The reservation of the Estate Claims is hereby APPROVED. The reservation of the Estate Claims and Defenses in Article IX of the Plan (including pursuant to the Exhibit "C" to the Plan) is express, specific and unequivocal, and constitutes an effective retention of claims under section 1123(b)(3)(B). Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the retention of all Estate Claims and Estate Defenses is explicitly approved as express, specific, and unequivocal in relation to all Estate Claims and Estate Defenses, including the Avoidance Claims.
- 21. <u>Distributions Under Plan</u>. All Distributions under the Plan shall be made by the Liquidating Trustee.
- 22. <u>Exemption from Certain Taxes</u>. Section 1146(a) shall apply to the transfer of the Cash Proceeds and the Remaining Assets to the Liquidating Trustee pursuant to the Plan.
- 23. Governmental Approvals Not Required. This Confirmation Order shall constitute all approvals and consents required, if any, by the laws, rules or regulations of any State or any other governmental authority with respect to the implementation or consummation of the Plan and any documents, instruments or agreements, and any amendments or modifications thereto, and any other acts referred to in or contemplated by the Plan, the Disclosure Statement and any documents, instruments or agreements, and any amendments or modifications thereto.
- 24. <u>Dissolution of the Debtors</u>. The Liquidating Trustee is hereby authorized and directed to dissolve the Debtors and to terminate their corporate charters as soon after the Effective Date as practicable. The Liquidating Trustee is hereby authorized to execute all documents, and take all steps necessary, to effect the dissolution of the Debtors.
- 25. <u>Professional Fee Claims</u>. All final requests for compensation or reimbursement by any Estate Professional pursuant to sections 327, 328, 330, 331, 363, 503(b) or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code must be filed no later than sixty (60) days after the Effective Date in accordance with section 3.01(e) of the Plan.

- 26. <u>Post-Effective Date Reporting</u>. From and after the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trustee shall be responsible for all reports to be filed with the Court, including any quarterly operating reports.
- 27. Other Administrative Claims. No later than thirty (30) calendar days after the Effective Date, any Person seeking allowance of an Administrative Expense pursuant to sections 3.01 of the Plan must file with the Court and serve upon the Liquidating Trustee a written notice of such Administrative Expense in compliance with section 3.01 of the Plan. Any notice of such an Administrative Expense, if properly filed and served pursuant to section 3.01, shall be Allowed unless an objection is filed and served within thirty (30) days after the filing and service of the notice of the Administrative Expense; provided, however, the above portions of this paragraph shall not apply to (i) any claim for an Administrative Expense by Estate Professionals which are subject to section 3.01(e) of the Plan and paragraph 25 above of this Order, (ii) any Claim for an Administrative Expense which has already been Allowed, (iii) any liability incurred by the Debtors in the ordinary course of its business, or (iv) any Claim for an Administrative Expense which the Liquidating Trustee has otherwise agreed in writing to pay. Any objection to a notice seeking the allowance of an Administrative Expense filed pursuant to section 3.01 shall be subject to Article III of the Plan.
- 28. <u>Filing and Recording</u>. This Confirmation Order is and shall be binding upon and shall govern the acts of all entities including, without limitation, all filing agents, filing officers, title agents, title companies, recorders of mortgages, recorders of deeds, registrars of deeds, administrative agencies, governmental departments, secretaries of state, federal, state and local officials, and all other persons and entities who may be required, by operation of law, the duties of their office, or contract, to accept, file, register or otherwise record or release any document or instruments. Each and every federal, state and local government agency is hereby directed to accept any and all documents and instruments necessary, useful or appropriate (including

Uniform Commercial Code financing statements) to effectuate, implement and consummate the transactions contemplated by the Plan and this Confirmation Order without payment of any recoding tax, stamp tax, transfer tax or similar tax imposed by state or local law.

- 29. <u>Inconsistency between Documents</u>. In the event of an inconsistency between the Plan and the Disclosure Statement, the Plan shall control. In the event of any inconsistency between the Plan or Disclosure Statement and this Confirmation Order, this Confirmation Order shall control.
- 30. References to Plan Provisions. The failure to include or reference any particular provision of the Plan in this Confirmation Order shall not diminish or impair the effectiveness of any such provision, it being the intent of the Court that the Plan be APPROVED and confirmed in its entirety.
- 31. Reversal. If any or all of the provisions of this Confirmation Order are hereafter reversed, modified, or vacated by subsequent order of this Court or any other court, such reversal, modification, or vacatur shall not affect the validity of the acts or obligations incurred or undertaken under or in connection with the Plan prior to the Liquidating Trustee's receipt of written notice of any such order. Notwithstanding any such reversal, modification, or vacatur of this Confirmation Order, any such act or obligation incurred or undertaken pursuant to, and in reliance on, this Confirmation Order prior to the effective date of such reversal, modification or vacatur shall be governed in all respects by the provisions of this Confirmation Order and the Plan (including the Plan Documents) and any amendments or modifications thereto.
- 32. <u>Applicable Non-Bankruptcy Law.</u> Pursuant to sections 1123(a) and 1142(a), the provisions of the Plan and this Confirmation Order shall apply and be enforceable notwithstanding any otherwise applicable non-bankruptcy law.
- 33. <u>Conditions Precedent to Effective Date</u>. The Plan shall not become effective until the conditions precedent set forth in section 13.01 of the Plan have been satisfied or waived, as

determined by the Debtors in the exercise of their sole discretion. Any of the Conditions

Precedent may be waived by the Debtors in the exercise of their sole discretion by filing the

Notice of Effective Date as required below.

- 34. Notice of the Effective Date. As soon as practicable after the conditions precedent in section 13.01 of the Plan have been satisfied or waived, the Liquidating Trustee shall file a *Notice of Effective Date* with the Bankruptcy Court and serve a copy of such notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rules 2002(f)(7), 2002(k) and 3020(c) on all holders of Claims and Interests and the U.S. Trustee by causing such notice to be deposited in the United States mail by first-class mail, postage prepaid, notifying such parties of the Effective Date of the Plan and certain deadlines, including those established under sections 3.01(c), 3.01(e) and 11.03 of the Plan. The filing of the *Notice of Effective Date* shall conclusively establish that all Conditions Precedent have been satisfied or waived by the Debtors and shall constitute adequate and sufficient notice to all parties entitled thereto of the occurrence of the Effective Date.
- 35. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. This Court hereby retains jurisdiction from and after the Effective Date as set forth in Article XV of the Plan.
- 36. <u>No Stay</u>. There is no stay as to this Order which shall become effective immediately upon entry.

END OF ORDER

SUBMITTED BY:

/s/ Jeff P. Prostok
Jeff P. Prostok
STATE BAR No. 16352500
Suzanne K. Rosen
STATE BAR No. 00798518
FORSHEY & PROSTOK LLP
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ATTORNEYS FOR DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION

L:\JPROSTOK\Hydroscience Tech (Solid Seismic) #5848\Plan and Disclosure Statement\Confirmation Order 1.30.18.docx

EXHIBIT "A"

LIQUIDATING TRUST AGREEMENT

This Liq	uidating Trust Agreement (the "Liquidating Trust Agreement") is made this
day of	, 2018, by and among Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. ("HTI"), Solid
Seismic, LLC ("	SSC," and together with HTI, the "Debtors"), and William Roberts, a Director
of CR3 Partners,	LLC, as trustee for the HTI-SSC Liquidating Trust (the "Liquidating
Trustee").	

RECITALS

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2017, the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas (the "<u>Bankruptcy Court</u>"); and

WHEREAS, the Debtors filed their *Joint Chapter 11 Plan for Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. and Solid Seismic, LLC* dated December 20, 2017 on December 20, 2017 (as the same may be further modified, amended, and/or supplemented from time to time, the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, on ______, 2018, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order confirming the Plan (the "<u>Plan Confirmation Order</u>"); and

WHEREAS, the Plan's Effective Date occurred on ______, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Plan contemplates, on the Effective Date, (a) the creation of a liquidating trust (the "Liquidating Trust") and the creation of the beneficial interests in the Liquidating Trust of holders of Allowed Claims entitled to Distributions as described in the Plan (collectively, the "Beneficiaries" and each, individually, a "Beneficiary"), and (b) the Liquidating Trust will be vested with the Cash Proceeds from the sale of substantially all the Debtors' Assets to the Purchaser and all Remaining Assets held by the Estate as of the Effective Date, and shall specifically include without limitation: (i) all Estate Cash, including the Cash Proceeds (ii) all Estate Accounts Receivable, (iii) all Estate Claims, (iv) all Estate Defenses, (v) all rights under Estate Insurance, (vi) any Executory Contracts assumed by the Estate, and (vii) all of the Estate's rights under any Estate Contract (all such Assets vesting in the Liquidating

WHEREAS, the Plan contemplates that, pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 301.7701-4, the Liquidating Trust shall be created for the primary purpose of liquidating the Liquidating Trust Assets and for making Distributions in accordance with the Plan and this Liquidating Trust Agreement, with no objective to continue or engage in the conduct of a trade or business, except only in the event and to the extent necessary to, and consistent with, the liquidating purpose of the Liquidating Trust; and

Trust are collectively referred to as the "Liquidating Trust Assets"), to be liquidated and

distributed to the Beneficiaries, as set forth in the Plan; and

¹ Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan.

WHEREAS, the Liquidating Trust is intended to qualify as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "IRC"), with the Beneficiaries to be treated as if they had received a distribution from the Estate of an undivided interest in each of the Liquidating Trust Assets (to the extent of the value of their respective share in the applicable assets) and then contributed such interests to the Liquidating Trust, and the Beneficiaries will be treated as the grantors and owners thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Liquidating Trustee has agreed to serve as such upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Liquidating Trust Agreement.

NOW, THEREFOR, in accordance with the Plan, in consideration of the premises, the mutual agreements of the parties contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged and affirmed, the parties hereby agree as follows:

ARTICLE I DECLARATION OF TRUST

- 1.1 <u>Creation and Purpose of the Liquidating Trust</u>. The Debtors and the Liquidating Trustee hereby create the Liquidating Trust for the primary purpose of liquidating the Liquidating Trust Assets and making Distributions in accordance with the Plan and this Liquidating Trust Agreement, with no objective to continue or engage in the conduct of a trade or business, except only in the event and to the extent necessary to, and consistent with, the liquidating purpose of the Liquidating Trust. The Liquidating Trust will not be deemed a successor-in-interest of the Estate for any purpose other than as specifically set forth in the Plan and this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- 1.2 <u>Declaration of Trust</u>. In order to declare the terms and conditions hereof, and in consideration of the confirmation of the Plan, the Debtors and the Liquidating Trustee have executed this Liquidating Trust Agreement and, effective on the Effective Date, hereby irrevocably transfer to the Liquidating Trust all of the right, title, and interests of the Debtors in and to the Liquidating Trust Assets, to have and to hold unto the Liquidating Trust and its successors and assigns forever, under and subject to the terms of the Plan and the Plan Confirmation Order, for the benefit of the Beneficiaries (to the extent of their respective legal entitlements) and their successors and assigns as provided for in this Liquidating Trust Agreement and in the Plan and Plan Confirmation Order.
- 1.3 <u>Vesting of Estate Assets</u>. On the Effective Date, pursuant to the terms of the Plan and Sections 1123, 1141 and 1146(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, all Liquidating Trust Assets shall be vested in the Liquidating Trust, which also shall be authorized to obtain, liquidate, and collect all of the Liquidating Trust Assets not in its possession and pursue all of the Estate Claims that constitute Liquidating Trust Assets under the Plan; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that the Liquidating Trustee may abandon or otherwise not accept any Liquidating Trust Assets that the Liquidating Trustee believes, in good faith, to have no value to, or will be unduly burdensome to, the Liquidating Trust. Any Liquidating Trust Assets that the Liquidating Trustee so abandons or otherwise does not accept shall not be property of the Liquidating Trust. In addition, on the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trust shall (a) take possession of all books, records, and files of

the Debtors and the Estate and (b) provide for the retention and storage of such books, records, and files until such time as the Liquidating Trust determines, in accordance with this Liquidating Trust Agreement, that retention of same is no longer necessary or beneficial. Subject to the provisions of the Plan, all Liquidating Trust Assets shall be delivered to the Liquidating Trust free and clear of all Liens, Claims, and Interests except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan or in the Plan Confirmation Order.

- 1.4 Acceptance by Liquidating Trustee. The Liquidating Trustee hereby accepts the trust imposed under this Liquidating Trust Agreement and agrees to observe and perform that trust on and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, and the Plan Confirmation Order. In connection with and in furtherance of the purposes of the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee hereby accepts the transfer of the Liquidating Trust Assets.
- 1.5 Name of the Liquidating Trust. The Liquidating Trust established hereby shall be known as the "HTI-SSC Liquidating Trust" (the "Liquidating Trust").

ARTICLE II THE LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE

- 2.1 <u>Appointment</u>. In accordance with the Plan, William L. Roberts, a Director at CR3 Partners, LLC, has been selected as the Liquidating Trustee for the Liquidating Trust. The Liquidating Trustee's appointment shall be effective as of the Effective Date and continue until the earlier of (a) the termination of the Liquidating Trust or (b) the Liquidating Trustee's resignation, death, or removal.
- 2.2 General Powers. The Liquidating Trustee shall be the exclusive trustee of the Liquidating Trust and the Liquidating Trust Assets for purposes of 31 U.S.C. § 3713(b) and 26 U.S.C. § 6012(b)(3). The Liquidating Trustee shall have all duties, obligations, rights, and benefits assumed by, assigned to, or vested in the Liquidating Trust under the Plan, the Plan Confirmation Order, this Liquidating Trust Agreement, and any other agreement entered into pursuant to or in connection with the Plan. Except as otherwise provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, or the Plan Confirmation Order, the Liquidating Trustee may control and exercise authority over the Liquidating Trust Assets, over the acquisition, management, and disposition thereof, and over the management and conduct of the business of the Liquidating Trust. No person dealing with the Liquidating Trust shall be obligated to inquire into the Liquidating Trust Assets. Without limiting the foregoing, but subject to the Plan, the Plan Confirmation Order, and other provisions of this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Liquidating Trustee shall be expressly authorized to, with respect to the Liquidating Trust and the Liquidating Trust Assets:
- (a) Exercise all power and authority that may be or could have been exercised, commence all proceedings that may be or could have been commenced, and take all actions that may be or could have been taken with respect to the Liquidating Trust Assets by any officer, partner, agent, representative, or other party acting in the name of the Debtors or the Estate with like effect as if duly authorized, exercised, and taken by action of such officer,

partner, agent, representative, or other party under Sections 704 and 1106 of the Bankruptcy Code as the Debtors' representative appointed for such purpose pursuant to Section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- (b) Open and maintain bank accounts on behalf of or in the name of the Liquidating Trust, take and exercise ownership and control over any existing Debtors in possession bank accounts, calculate and make Distributions and take other actions consistent with the Plan and the implementation thereof, including the establishment, re-evaluation, adjustment, and maintenance of appropriate reserves, in the name of the Liquidating Trust.
- (c) Receive, manage, invest, supervise, and protect the Liquidating Trust Assets, subject to the limitations provided herein.
 - (d) Hold legal title to any and all Liquidating Trust Assets.
- (e) Subject to the applicable provisions of the Plan, collect and liquidate all Liquidating Trust Assets pursuant to the Plan.
- (f) Review and, where appropriate, object to Claims and supervise and administer the resolution, settlement, and payment of all Claims and Distributions to the Beneficiaries in accordance with this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, and the Plan Confirmation Order.
- (g) Subject to Section 3.2 of this Liquidating Trust Agreement and the applicable provisions of the Plan, investigate, prosecute, compromise, and settle all Estate Claims vested in the Liquidating Trust.
- (h) (i) Seek a determination of tax liability under section 505 of the Bankruptcy Code, (ii) file any and all tax and information returns required with respect to the Debtors and the Liquidating Trust, (iii) make tax elections for and on behalf of the Debtors and the Liquidating Trust, and (iv) pay taxes or other obligations incurred by the Liquidating Trust.
- (i) Calculate and implement Distributions to applicable Beneficiaries as provided for, or contemplated by, the Plan, the Plan Confirmation Order, and this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- (j) Withhold from the amount distributable to any person such amount as may be sufficient to pay any tax or other charge which the Liquidating Trustee has determined, in its sole discretion, may be required to be withheld therefrom under the income tax laws of the United States, any foreign country, or of any state, local, or political subdivision of either.
- (k) Enter into any agreement or execute any document required by or consistent with the Plan, the Plan Confirmation Order, or this Liquidating Trust Agreement and perform all obligations thereunder.
- (l) Purchase and carry any insurance policies and pay any insurance premiums and costs that the Liquidating Trustee deems reasonably necessary or advisable.

- (m) Retain and compensate, without further order of the Bankruptcy Court, the services of employees, professionals, and consultants to advise and assist in the administration, prosecution, and distribution of the Liquidating Trust Assets.
- (n) Implement, enforce, or discharge all of the terms, conditions, and all other provisions of, and all duties and obligations under, the Plan, the Confirmation Order, and this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- (o) Resolve issues involving Claims and Interests in accordance with the Plan, including the power to file, prosecute, settle or otherwise resolve objections Claims, and to subordinate and recharacterize Claims by objection, motion, or adversary proceeding.
- (p) Undertake all administrative functions of the Bankruptcy Case, including the payment of fees payable to the Office of the United States Trustee and the ultimate closing of the Bankruptcy Case.
- (q) Appear and participate in any proceeding before the Bankruptcy Court or any other court with proper jurisdiction with respect to any matter regarding or relating to this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, the Confirmation Order, Liquidating Trust, or the Liquidating Trust Assets; and
- (r) Take all other actions consistent with the provisions of the Plan that the Liquidating Trustee deems reasonably necessary or desirable to administer the Plan.
- 2.3 <u>Limitations on the Liquidating Trustee</u>. Notwithstanding anything under applicable law, this Liquidating Trust Agreement, or the Plan to the contrary, the Liquidating Trustee shall not do or undertake any of the following:
- (a) Take any action that would jeopardize treatment of the Liquidating Trust as a "liquidating trust" for federal income tax purposes.
- (b) Exercise any investment power other than the power to invest in demand and time deposits in banks or savings institutions, or other temporary liquid investments, such as short term certificates of deposit or Treasury bills or other investments that a "liquidating trust" within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 301.7701-4(d) may be permitted to hold, pursuant to the Treasury Regulations or any Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") guidelines, whether set forth in IRS rulings, revenue procedures, other IRS pronouncements, or otherwise.
- (c) Receive or retain any operating assets of a going concern business, a partnership interest in a partnership that holds operating assets, or fifty percent (50%) or more of the stock of a corporation with operating assets, except as is absolutely necessary or required under the Plan and the Plan Confirmation Order; provided, however, that in no event shall the Liquidating Trustee receive or retain any such asset or interest that would jeopardize treatment of the Liquidating Trust as a "liquidating trust" for federal income tax purposes.
- 2.4 <u>Compensation of the Liquidating Trustee</u>. The Liquidating Trustee shall be entitled to receive reimbursement of reasonable, actual and necessary costs, fees (including attorneys' fees) and expenses incurred by the Liquidating Trustee in connection with the

performance of his duties hereunder, and compensation in accordance with the market rates generally charged by the Trustee for his services. The Liquidating Trustee's current billing rate for the services to be rendered is \$450 per hour.

- 2.5 <u>Reimbursements</u>. The Liquidating Trustee, any agents or consultants employed pursuant to this Liquidating Trust Agreement, and any professionals or representatives retained by the Liquidating Trust shall be reimbursed from the Liquidating Trust Assets for all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder in addition to any compensation received.
- 2.6 <u>Liquidating Trust Operating Expenses</u>. The Liquidating Trust Assets will be used to pay all liabilities, costs and expenses of the Liquidating Trust, including compensation then due and payable to the Liquidating Trustee, his agents, representatives, professionals and employees and all costs, expenses, and liabilities incurred by the Liquidating Trustee in connection with the performance of his duties. The reasonable fees and expenses of the Liquidating Trustee and his counsel and agents will be paid out of the Liquidating Trust Assets, without need of Bankruptcy Court approval.
- 2.7 <u>Investments</u>. The Liquidating Trust may invest Cash (including any earnings thereon or proceeds therefrom) as permitted by Section 345 of the Bankruptcy Code or in other prudent investments, <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that such investments are permitted to be made by a liquidating trust within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 301.7701-4(d), as reflected therein, or under applicable IRS guidelines, rulings, or other controlling authorities.
- 2.8 Replacement of the Liquidating Trustee. The Liquidating Trustee shall be subject to removal only by the Bankruptcy Court upon application or motion by a Beneficiary of the Liquidating Trust, after notice and a hearing, and for cause shown, including (a) the willful and continued refusal by the Liquidating Trustee to perform its duties under the Plan and this Liquidating Trust Agreement, and (b) gross negligence, willful misconduct, fraud. embezzlement, or theft. The Liquidating Trustee may resign at any time upon thirty (30) days' written notice delivered to the Bankruptcy Court, provided that such resignation shall become effective only upon the appointment of a permanent or interim successor Liquidating Trustee. In the event of the resignation or removal of the Liquidating Trustee, the successor Liquidating Trustee shall be appointed by the Bankruptcy Court, after notice and a hearing, upon request and based upon submissions from interested parties (including any Beneficiary). Upon its appointment, the successor Liquidating Trustee, without any further act, shall become fully vested with all of the rights, powers, duties, and obligations of its predecessor and all responsibilities of the predecessor Liquidating Trustee relating to the Liquidating Trust shall be terminated; provided, however, that the original Liquidating Trustee's right to indemnification shall survive termination and is subject to the provisions of Article IV hereof.
- 2.9 <u>Liquidating Trust Continuance</u>. The death, resignation, or removal of the Liquidating Trustee shall not terminate the Liquidating Trust or revoke any existing agency created by the Liquidating Trustee pursuant to this Liquidating Trust Agreement or invalidate any action theretofore taken by the Liquidating Trustee, and the successor Liquidating Trustee agrees that the provisions of this Liquidating Trust Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the successor Liquidating Trustee and all its successors or assigns.

ARTICLE III PROSECUTION AND RESOLUTION OF ESTATE CLAIMS

- 3.1 The Liquidating Trust's Exclusive Authority to Pursue, Settle, or Abandon Estate Claims. In accordance with Sections 7.09 and 9.03 of the Plan, from and after the Effective Date, prosecution and settlement of all Estate Claims transferred to the Liquidating Trust shall be the sole responsibility of the Liquidating Trust. From and after the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trust shall have exclusive rights, powers, and interests of the Estate to pursue, settle, or abandon such Estate Claims as the sole representative of the Estate pursuant to section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code. All Estate Claims that are not expressly released or waived under the Plan are reserved and preserved and vest in the Liquidating Trust in accordance with the Plan. No Person may rely on the absence of a specific reference in the Plan to a cause of action against it as any indication that the Debtors or Liquidating Trustee will not pursue any and all available Estate Claims against such Person. The Liquidating Trustee expressly reserves all Estate Claims, except for any Estate Claims against any Person that are expressly released or waived under the Plan, and, therefore, no preclusion doctrine, including the doctrines of res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, estoppel (judicial, equitable, or otherwise), or laches, shall apply to such Estate Claims upon, after, or as a consequence of confirmation or consummation of the Plan.
- 3.2 <u>Settlement of Estate Claims</u>. The Liquidating Trustee, and in accordance with the provisions of the Plan, shall have standing, authority, power, and right to assert, prosecute, and/or settle the Estate Claims, including making a claim under the Estate Insurance, based upon its powers as a bankruptcy-appointed representative of the Debtors' Estate with the same or similar abilities possessed by insolvency trustees, receivers, examiners, conservators, liquidators, rehabilitators, or similar officials. Without limiting the generality of any of the foregoing, and to avoid any doubt, the Liquidating Trustee shall have standing of an examiner, trustee, receive, liquidator or rehabilitator of the Debtors and shall have exclusive standing and authority to prosecute, settle or compromise any Claims made under any Estate Insurance.
- 3.3 <u>Preservation of Right to Conduct Investigations</u>. Any and all rights to conduct investigations pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2004 held by the Debtors prior to the Effective Date shall vest with the Liquidating Trust and shall continue until dissolution of the Liquidating Trust.
- 3.4 <u>Privilege</u>. Solely with respect to carrying out the Liquidating Trust's functions, the attorney-client privilege, work product doctrine or other privileges or immunities inuring to the benefit of the Debtors or the Committee, as applicable, or attaching to documents or communications of the Debtors or the Committee, as applicable, shall be transferred to the Liquidating Trust. The Liquidating Trustee is authorized to assert or waive any such privilege or doctrine, as necessary or appropriate for the administration of the Liquidating Trust.

ARTICLE IV LIABILITY OF LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE

4.1 <u>Standard of Care; Exculpation</u>. Neither the Liquidating Trustee nor any affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the Liquidating Trustee shall be liable for losses, claims, damages, liabilities, or expenses in connection with the affairs or

property of the Liquidating Trust to any Beneficiary of the Liquidating Trust, or any other person, for the acts or omissions of the Liquidating Trustee; provided, however, that the foregoing limitation shall not apply as to any particular person or entity as to any losses, claims, damages, liabilities, or expenses suffered or incurred by any Beneficiary that are found by a final judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction (not subject to further appeal) to have resulted primarily and directly from the fraud, gross negligence, or willful misconduct of such person or entity. Every act done, power exercised, or obligation assumed by the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee, or any affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the Liquidating Trustee pursuant to the provisions of this Liquidating Trust Agreement or the Plan shall be held to be done, exercised, or assumed, as the case may be, by the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee, or any affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the Liquidating Trustee acting for and on behalf of the Liquidating Trust and not otherwise; provided however, that none of the foregoing entities or persons are deemed to be responsible for any other such entities' or persons' actions or inactions outside of the scope of the authority provided by the Liquidating Trust. Except as provided in the proviso of the first sentence of this Section 4.1 with respect to any Beneficiary, every person, firm, corporation, or other entity contracting or otherwise dealing with or having any relationship with the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee, or any affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the Liquidating Trustee shall have recourse only to the Liquidating Trust Assets for payment of any liabilities or other obligations arising in connection with such contracts, dealings, or relationships and the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee, any director. officer, affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the Liquidating Trustee shall not be individually liable therefor.

4.2 Indemnification.

- Except as otherwise set forth in the Plan or Plan Confirmation Order, the Liquidating Trustee, and any affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the Liquidating Trustee (each, an "Indemnified Party" and collectively, the "Indemnified Parties"), shall be defended, held harmless, and indemnified from time to time by the Liquidating Trust against any and all losses, liabilities, expenses (including attorneys' fees and disbursements), damages, taxes, suits, or claims that the Liquidating Trustee or his or her professionals may incur or sustain by reason of being or having been a Liquidating Trustee or professionals of the Liquidating Trustee for performing any functions incidental to such service; provided, however, such indemnity shall not apply to any such loss, liability, expense, damages, tax, suit, or claim to the extent it is found in a final judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction (not subject to further appeal) to have resulted primarily and directly from the bad faith, willful misconduct, reckless disregard of duty, criminal conduct, gross negligence, fraud, or self-dealing of such person or entity. Satisfaction of any obligation of the Liquidating Trust arising pursuant to the terms of this Section shall be payable only from the Liquidating Trust Assets, may be advanced prior to the conclusion of such matter, and such right to payment shall be prior and superior to any other rights to receive a Distribution of the Liquidating Trust Assets.
- (b) The Liquidating Trust shall promptly pay expenses reasonably incurred by any Indemnified Party in defending, participating in, or settling any action, proceeding, or investigation in which such Indemnified Party is a party or is threatened to be made a party or otherwise is participating in connection with the Liquidating Trust Agreement or the duties, acts.

or omissions of the Liquidating Trustee, upon submission of invoices therefor, whether in advance of the final disposition of such action, proceeding, or investigation or otherwise. Each Indemnified Party hereby undertakes, and the Liquidating Trust hereby accepts its undertaking, to repay any and all such amounts so advanced if it shall ultimately be determined that such Indemnified Party is not entitled to be indemnified therefor under this Liquidating Trust Agreement.

- 4.3 No Liability for Acts of Successor/Predecessor Liquidating Trustees. Upon the appointment of a successor Liquidating Trustee and the delivery of the Liquidating Trust Assets to the successor Liquidating Trustee, the predecessor Liquidating Trustee and any director, officer, affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the predecessor Liquidating Trustee shall have no further liability or responsibility with respect thereto. A successor Liquidating Trustee shall have no duty to examine or inquire into the acts or omissions of its immediate or remote predecessor and no successor Liquidating Trustee shall be in any way liable for the acts or omissions of any predecessor Liquidating Trustee unless a successor Liquidating Trustee expressly assumes such responsibility. A predecessor Liquidating Trustee shall have no liability for the acts or omissions of any immediate or subsequent successor Liquidating Trustee for any events or occurrences subsequent to the cessation of its role as Liquidating Trustee.
- 4.4 Reliance by Liquidating Trustee on Documents or Advice of Counsel. Except as otherwise provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Liquidating Trustee and any affiliate, employee, employer, professional, agent, or representative of the Liquidating Trustee may rely, and shall be protected from liability for acting, upon any resolution, certificate, statement, instrument, opinion, report, notice, request, consent, order, or other paper or document reasonably believed by the Liquidating Trustee to be genuine and to have been presented by an authorized party. The Liquidating Trustee shall not be liable for any action taken or suffered by the Liquidating Trustee in reasonable reliance upon the advice of counsel or other professionals engaged by the Liquidating Trustee in accordance with this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- 4.5 <u>Insurance</u>. All of the Debtors' rights and their Estate's rights under any Insurance Policy to which the Debtors and/or the Debtors' Estate may be beneficiaries shall vest with the Liquidating Trust for the benefit of the Beneficiaries of the Liquidating Trust and all of the beneficiaries of such policies. The Liquidating Trust may purchase, using Liquidating Trust Assets, and carry all insurance policies and pay all insurance premiums and costs the Liquidating Trustee deems reasonably necessary or advisable, including, without limitation, purchasing any errors and omissions insurance with regard to any liabilities, losses, damages, claims, costs, and expenses it may incur, including but not limited to attorneys' fees, arising out of or due to its actions or omissions, or consequences of such actions or omissions, other than as a result of its fraud or willful misconduct, with respect to the implementation and administration of the Plan or this Liquidating Trust Agreement.

ARTICLE V GENERAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING ADMINISTRATION OF THE LIQUIDATING TRUST

- 5.1 <u>Register of Beneficiaries</u>. The Liquidating Trust shall maintain at all times a register of the names, Distribution addresses, amounts of Allowed Claims and the ratable interests in the Liquidating Trust of the Beneficiaries (the "<u>Register</u>"). The Liquidating Trustee shall cause the Register to be kept at its office or at such other place or places as may be designated by the Liquidating Trustee from time to time.
- 5.2 <u>Books and Records</u>. On the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trust shall: (a) take possession of all books, records, and files of the Debtors and the Estate; and (b) provide for the retention and storage of such books, records, and files until such time as the Liquidating Trust determines, in accordance with the Liquidating Trust Agreement, that retention of same is no longer necessary or beneficial. The Liquidating Trust shall maintain in respect of the Liquidating Trust and the Beneficiaries books and records relating to the Liquidating Trust Assets and income realized therefrom and the payment of expenses of and claims against or assumed by the Liquidating Trust in such detail and for such period of time as may be necessary to enable it to make full and proper reports in respect thereof.
- 5.3 Quarterly Reporting Obligations to Bankruptcy Court and Payment of Statutory Fees. In no event later than thirty (30) Business Days after the end of the first full quarter following the Effective Date and on a quarterly basis thereafter until all Cash in the Liquidating Trust has been released or paid out in accordance with the Plan and this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Liquidating Trustee shall file with the Bankruptcy Court a report setting forth the amounts, recipients, and dates of all Distributions made by the Liquidating Trustee under the Plan and hereunder through each applicable reporting period.
- 5.4 Filing of Monthly and Quarterly Reports and Payment of Statutory Fees. The filing of the final monthly operating report (for the month in which the Effective Date occurs) and all subsequent quarterly Liquidating Trust reports shall be the responsibility of the Liquidating Trustee. Statutory Fees shall be paid as such fees may thereafter accrue and be due and payable in accordance with the applicable schedule for payment of such fees. Any Statutory Fees relating to the period of time prior to the Effective Date shall be paid by the Debtors or Liquidating Trustee, as applicable. Statutory Fees relating to any period of time after the Effective Date shall be paid by the Liquidating Trustee from funds in the Liquidating Trust Assets. Such obligation to pay Statutory Fees shall continue until such time as the Bankruptcy Case is closed, dismissed, or converted.
- 5.5 <u>Filing of Tax Returns</u>. After the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trust shall be responsible for filing all federal, state, local, and foreign tax returns for the Debtors and the Liquidating Trust.

ARTICLE VI BENEFICIAL INTERESTS AND BENEFICIARIES

- 6.1 <u>Interest Beneficial Only</u>. The ownership of a beneficial interest in the Liquidating Trust shall not entitle any Beneficiary to any title in or to the Liquidating Trust Assets or to any right to call for a partition or division of the Liquidating Trust Assets or to require an accounting.
- 6.2 Evidence of Beneficial Interest. Ownership of a beneficial interest in the Liquidating Trust shall not be evidenced by any certificate, security, or receipt or in any other form or manner whatsoever, except as maintained on the books and records of the Liquidating Trust by the Liquidating Trustee.
- 6.3 <u>Transfers of Beneficial Interests</u>. Beneficial interests in the Liquidating Trust shall be nontransferable except upon death of the interest holder or by operation of law. The Liquidating Trust shall not have any obligation to recognize any transfer of Claims or Interests occurring after the Effective Date. Only those holders of Claims and Interests of record stated on the transfer ledgers as of the close of business on the Effective Date, to the extent applicable, shall be entitled to be recognized for all purposes hereunder.
- 6.4 <u>Absolute Owners</u>. The Liquidating Trustee may deem and treat the Beneficiary reflected as the owner of a beneficial interest on the Register as the absolute owner thereof for the purposes of receiving Distributions and payments on account thereof for federal and state income tax purposes and for all other purposes whatsoever.
- 6.5 <u>Change of Address</u>. A Beneficiary may, after the Effective Date, select an alternative Distribution address by notifying the Liquidating Trustee in writing of such alternative Distribution address. Absent such notice, the Liquidating Trustee shall not recognize any such change of Distribution address. Such notification shall be effective only upon receipt by the Liquidating Trustee.
- 6.6 Effect of Death, Dissolution, Incapacity, or Bankruptcy of Beneficiary. The death, dissolution, incapacity, or bankruptcy of a Beneficiary during the term of the Liquidating Trust shall not operate to terminate the Liquidating Trust during the term of the Liquidating Trust nor shall it entitle the representative or creditors of the deceased, incapacitated, or bankrupt Beneficiary to an accounting or to take any action in any court or elsewhere for the Distribution of the Liquidating Trust Assets or for a partition thereof nor shall it otherwise affect the rights and obligations of the Beneficiary under this Liquidating Trust Agreement or in the Liquidating Trust.
- 6.7 <u>Standing</u>. Except as expressly provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, or the Plan Confirmation Order, a Beneficiary does not have standing to direct the Liquidating Trustee to do or not to do any act or to institute any action or proceeding at law or in equity against any party (other than against the Liquidating Trustee to the extent provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement) upon or with respect to the Liquidating Trust Assets.

ARTICLE VII PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING AND TREATING DISPUTED CLAIMS

- 7.1 <u>Incorporation of Plan Provisions</u>. As of the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trust shall assume responsibility for all Claims matters established by the Plan and shall be vested with any and all rights and defenses the Debtors had with respect to any Claim or Interest immediately prior to the Effective Date.
- 7.2 Objections to Claims. The Liquidating Trustee shall be entitled to file objections to all Claims that are otherwise not deemed Allowed Claims under the Plan and Plan Confirmation Order. Any objections to Claims shall be served and filed on or before the later of (i) ninety (90) days after the Effective Date or (ii) such later date as may be fixed by the Bankruptcy Court after reasonable notice and opportunity to object. If an objection has not been filed to a Claim or the Schedules have not been amended with respect to a Claim that (a) was scheduled by the Debtors but (b) was not scheduled as contingent, unliquidated, and/or disputed, by the Claims Objection Deadline, as the same may be extended by order of the Bankruptcy Court, the Claim to which the Proof of Claim or scheduled Claim relates will be treated as an Allowed Claim if such Claim has not been Allowed earlier by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 7.3 Estimation of Claims. The Liquidating Trustee may (but is not required to) at any time request that the Bankruptcy Court estimate any Contingent Claim or Disputed Claim pursuant to section 502(c) of the Bankruptcy Code for any reason, regardless of whether an objection was previously filed with the Bankruptcy Court with respect to such Claim, or whether the Bankruptcy Court has ruled on any such objection, and the Bankruptcy Court will retain jurisdiction to estimate any Claim at any time during litigation concerning any objection to any Claim, including, without limitation, during the pendency of any appeal relating to such objection. In the event that the Bankruptcy Court estimates any Contingent Claim or Disputed Claim, the amount so estimated shall constitute either the Allowed amount of such Claim or a maximum limitation on such Claim, as determined by the Bankruptcy Court. If the estimated amount constitutes a maximum limitation on the amount of such Claim, the Liquidating Trustee may pursue supplementary proceedings to object to the allowance of such Claim; provided, however, the Liquidating Trustee may elect not to pursue such supplementary proceedings, instead electing to treat such maximum amount as the Allowed amount of such Claim.

ARTICLE VIII DISTRIBUTIONS

8.1 <u>Distributions to Beneficiaries from Liquidating Trust Assets</u>. All payments to be made by the Liquidating Trust to any Beneficiary shall be made only in accordance with the Plan, the Plan Confirmation Order, and this Liquidating Trust Agreement and from the Liquidating Trust Assets (or from the income and proceeds realized from the Liquidating Trust Assets), and only to the extent that the Liquidating Trust has sufficient Liquidating Trust Assets (or income and proceeds realized from the Liquidating Trust Assets) to make such payments in accordance with and to the extent provided for in the Plan, the Plan Confirmation Order, and this Liquidating Trust Agreement. Any Distributions to be made by or on behalf of the Debtors or the Liquidating Trustee, as applicable, pursuant to the Plan shall be made by checks drawn on

accounts maintained by the Liquidating Trustee or an electronic wire transfer, at the option of the Liquidating Trustee.

- 8.2 <u>Timing and Amount of Distributions.</u> No Distribution shall be made on account of any Claim until such Claim is Allowed, except as otherwise set forth in this Plan or otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court. No Distribution shall be made on account of any Contested Claim until such Claim is Allowed. Except as expressly set forth in the Plan or in the Confirmation Order, the Liquidating Trustee shall, in the exercise of his or her good faith business judgment, determine the timing and amount of all Distributions which are required to be made under the Plan, consistent with the goal of making such Distributions as expeditiously as reasonably possible. The Liquidating Trustee may, but shall not be required to, seek approval of, or any other appropriate relief from, the Bankruptcy Court with respect to any of such Distributions. Any Unclaimed Property may be paid into the registry of the Bankruptcy Court or otherwise distributed in accordance with the orders of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 8.3 Means of Cash Payment. Cash payments pursuant to this Plan shall be made by check drawn on, or by wire transfer from, a domestic bank, or by other means agreed to by the payor and payee.
- 8.4 Record Date for Distributions. As of the close of business on the Effective Date (the "Distribution Record Date"), the register for Class 1, 3, 4, and 5 Claims will be closed, and there shall be no further changes in the holder of record of any Claim. Although there is no prohibition against the transfer of any Claim by any Creditor, the Liquidating Trustee shall have no obligation to recognize any transfer of any Class 1, 3, 4, and 5 Claims occurring after the Distribution Record Date, and the Liquidating Trustee shall instead be authorized and entitled to recognize and deal for all purposes under this Plan, including for the purpose of making all Distributions, with only those holders of Claims so reflected as of the Distribution Record Date. However, the Liquidating Trustee may, in the exercise of its good faith business judgment, agree to recognize transfers of Claims after the Distribution Record Date, but shall have no obligation to do so.
- 8.5 <u>Delivery of Distributions.</u> All Distributions, deliveries and payments to the holders of any Allowed Class 1, 3, 4 or 5 Claims shall be made to the addresses set forth on the respective proofs of Claim filed in this Bankruptcy Case by such Claimants or, if the Distribution is to be made based on a Claim reflected as Allowed in the Schedules, at the address reflected in the Schedules. Any such Distribution, delivery or payment shall be deemed as made for all purposes relating to this Plan when deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed as required in the preceding sentence. If any Distribution is returned as undeliverable, no further Distribution shall be made on account of such Allowed Claim unless and until the Liquidating Trustee is notified of such holder's then current address, at which time all missed Distributions shall be made to the holder of such Allowed Claim. However, all notices to the Liquidating Trustee reflecting new or updated addresses for undeliverable Distributions shall be made on or before one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of the attempted Distribution or such longer period as the Liquidating Trustee may fix in the exercise of its sole discretion. After such date, all Unclaimed Property shall revert to the Liquidating Trustee and the Claim of any holder with respect to such property shall be discharged and forever barred.

- 8.6 <u>W-9 Forms.</u> Each holder of an Allowed Claim must provide a W-9 form or other such necessary information to comply with any withholding requirements of any governmental unit (collectively the "W-9 Form") to the Liquidating Trustee prior to receiving any Distribution from the Liquidating Trust. In the event a holder of an Allowed Claim does not provide a W-9 Form to the Liquidating Trustee within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trustee shall, at an appropriate time, issue a written request to each holder of an Allowed Claim that has not previously provided a W-9 Form to the Liquidating Trustee. The request shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the last address known to the Debtors or Liquidating Trustee, as appropriate. The request shall conspicuously advise and disclose that failure to provide a W-9 Form to the Liquidating Trustee within thirty (30) shall result in a waiver of any right or rights to a Distribution from the Liquidating Trust. In the event any holder of an Allowed Claim fails to provide the Liquidating Trustee with a W-9 Form within thirty (30) days after the date of written request described herein, then the holder of such Allowed Claim shall be deemed to have waived the right to receive any distribution whatsoever from the Liquidating Trust.
- 8.7 <u>Time Bar to Cash Payments.</u> Checks issued in respect of Allowed Claims shall be null and void if not cashed within ninety (90) days of the date of issuance thereof. Requests for reissuance of any check shall be made directly to the Liquidating Trustee by the holder of the Allowed Claim with respect to which such check originally was issued. Any Claim in respect of such a voided check shall be made on or before one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of issuance of such check or such longer period as the Liquidating Trustee may fix. After such date, all Claims in respect of void checks shall be discharged and forever barred.
- 8.8 <u>Cure Period.</u> Except as otherwise set forth herein, the failure by the Liquidating Trustee to timely perform any term, provision or covenant contained in this Plan, or to make any payment or Distribution required by this Plan to any Creditor, or the failure to make any payment or perform any covenant on any note, instrument or document issued pursuant to this Plan, shall not constitute an event of default unless and until the Liquidating Trustee has been given thirty (30) days written notice of such alleged default in the manner provided in this Plan, and provided an opportunity to cure such alleged default. Until the expiration of such thirty (30) day cure period, the Liquidating Trustee shall not be in default, and performance during such thirty (30) day cure period shall be deemed as timely for all purposes. Such written notice and passage of the thirty (30) day cure period shall constitute conditions precedent to declaring or claiming any default under this Plan or bringing any action or legal proceeding by any Person to enforce any right granted under this Plan.
- 8.9 <u>Distributions after Substantial Consummation.</u> All Distributions of any kind made to any Creditor after Substantial Consummation and any and all other actions taken under this Plan after Substantial Consummation shall not be subject to relief, reversal or modification by any court unless the implementation of the Confirmation Order is stayed by an order granted under Bankruptcy Rule 8005.

ARTICLE IX TAXES

9.1 <u>Income Tax Status</u>. Consistent with Revenue Procedure 94-45, 1994-2 C. B. 684, the Liquidating Trust shall be treated as a liquidating trust pursuant to Treasury Regulation

Section 301.7701-4(d) and as a grantor trust pursuant to IRC Sections 671-677. Accordingly, for federal income tax purposes, it is intended that the Beneficiaries be treated as if they had received a distribution from the Estate of an undivided interest in each of the Liquidating Trust Assets (to the extent of the value of their respective share in the applicable assets) and then contributed such interests to the Liquidating Trust, and the Beneficiaries will be treated as the grantors and owners thereof.

- 9.2 <u>Tax Returns</u>. The Liquidating Trustee shall file tax returns for the Liquidating Trust as a grantor trust pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.671-4(a) and in accordance with the Plan. The Liquidating Trust also shall annually (for tax years in which Distributions from the Liquidating Trust are made) send to each holder of a beneficial interest a separate statement setting forth the holder's share of items of income, gain, loss, deduction, or credit and all such holders shall report such items on their federal income tax returns; provided, however, that no such statement need be sent to any Class that is not expected to receive any Distribution from the Liquidating Trust. The Liquidating Trust's taxable income, gain, loss, deduction, or credit will be allocated to the Beneficiaries in accordance with their relative beneficial interests in the Liquidating Trust.
- 9.3 Withholding of Taxes and Reporting Related to Liquidating Trust Operations. The Liquidating Trust shall be responsible for filing all federal, state, and local tax returns for the Debtors and the Liquidating Trust. The Liquidating Trust shall comply with all withholding and reporting requirements imposed by any federal, state, or local taxing authority, and all distributions made by the Liquidating Trust shall be subject to any such withholding and reporting requirements. The Liquidating Trustee shall be authorized to take any and all actions that may be necessary or appropriate to comply with such withholding and reporting requirements including, without limitation, requiring that, as a condition to the receipt of a Distribution, the holder of an Allowed Claim complete the appropriate IRS Form W-8 or IRS Form W-9, as applicable to each holder. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, (a) each holder of an Allowed Claim that is to receive a Distribution from the Liquidating Trust shall have the sole and exclusive responsibility for the satisfaction and payment of any tax obligations imposed on such holder by any Governmental Unit, including income and other tax obligations, on account of such Distribution, and (b) no Distribution shall be made to or on behalf of such holder pursuant to the Plan unless and until such holder has made arrangements satisfactory to the Liquidating Trustee to allow it to comply with its tax withholding and reporting requirements. Any property to be distributed by the Liquidating Trust shall, pending the implementation of such arrangements, be treated as an undeliverable Distribution to be held by the Liquidating Trustee, as the case may be, until such time as the Liquidating Trustee is satisfied with the holder's arrangements for any withholding tax obligations.
- 9.4 <u>Valuations</u>. As soon as possible after the Effective Date, the Liquidating Trust shall make a good faith valuation of the Liquidating Trust Assets, and such valuation shall be used consistently by all parties for all federal income tax purposes. The Liquidating Trust also shall file (or cause to be filed) any other statements, returns, or disclosures relating to the Liquidating Trust that are required by any Governmental Unit for taxing purposes. The Liquidating Trust may request an expedited determination of taxes of the Debtors or of the Liquidating Trust under Section 505(b) of the Bankruptcy Code for all tax returns filed for, or on

behalf of, the Debtors and the Liquidating Trust for all taxable periods through the dissolution of the Liquidating Trust.

9.5 <u>Payment of Taxes</u>. The Liquidating Trust shall be responsible for payments of any taxes imposed on the Liquidating Trust or the Liquidating Trust Assets.

ARTICLE X TERMINATION OF LIQUIDATING TRUST

- and the Liquidating Trust shall be terminated, at such time as (i) all Disputed Claims have been resolved, (ii) all of the Liquidating Trust Assets have been liquidated, (iii) all duties and obligations of the Liquidating Trustee under the Liquidating Trust Agreement have been fulfilled, (iv) all Distributions required to be made by the Liquidating Trust under the Plan and this Liquidating Trust Agreement have been made, and (v) the Bankruptcy Case has been closed; provided, however, that in no event shall the Liquidating Trust be dissolved later than five (5) years from the Effective Date unless the Bankruptcy Court, upon motion within the six-month period prior to the fifth anniversary (or the end of any extension period approved by the Bankruptcy Court), determines that a fixed period extension (not to exceed one (1) year, together with any prior extensions, without a favorable letter ruling from the Internal Revenue Service that any further extension would not adversely affect the status of the Liquidating Trust as a liquidating trust for federal income tax purposes) is necessary to facilitate or complete the recovery and liquidation of the Liquidating Trust Assets.
- 10.2 Events Upon End of Term Termination. At the conclusion of the term of the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trust shall distribute the remaining Liquidating Trust Assets, if any, to the Beneficiaries, in accordance with the Plan, the Plan Confirmation Order, and this Liquidating Trust Agreement, provided, however, that the Liquidating Trust shall not be obligated to make Distributions to a Class of Claims if the amount of the available cash is *de minimis* and is not sufficient to warrant the incurrence of costs in making the Distribution.
- 10.3 <u>Winding Up and Discharge of the Liquidating Trustee</u>. For the purposes of winding up the affairs of the Liquidating Trust at the conclusion of its term, the Liquidating Trustee shall continue to act as Liquidating Trustee until its duties under this Liquidating Trust Agreement have been fully discharged or its role as Liquidating Trustee is otherwise terminated under this Liquidating Trust Agreement and the Plan. Upon a motion by the Liquidating Trustee, the Bankruptcy Court may enter an order relieving the Liquidating Trustee, its agents, and employees of any further duties and discharging the Liquidating Trustee.

ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

11.1 <u>Amendments</u>. The Liquidating Trustee may modify, supplement, or amend this Liquidating Trust Agreement without Bankruptcy Court approval (a) to clarify any ambiguity or inconsistency, or render this Liquidating Trust Agreement in compliance with its stated tax purposes, or (b) in any other way that is not inconsistent with the Plan or the Plan Confirmation Order, only if such modification, supplement, or amendment does not materially and adversely

affect the interests, rights, treatment, or Distributions of or to any Beneficiaries. All other modifications, supplements, and amendments shall require prior approval of the Bankruptcy Court.

- 11.2 <u>Waiver</u>. No failure by the Liquidating Trust or the Liquidating Trustee to exercise or delay in exercising any right, power, or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right, power, or privilege hereunder preclude any further exercise thereof, or of any other right, power, or privilege.
- 11.3 <u>Cumulative Rights and Remedies</u>. The rights and remedies provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement are cumulative and are not exclusive of any rights under law or in equity.
- 11.4 <u>No Bond Required</u>. Notwithstanding any state law to the contrary, the Liquidating Trustee (including any successor Liquidating Trustee) shall be exempt from giving any bond, surety, or other security in any jurisdiction.
- 11.5 <u>Irrevocability</u>. This Liquidating Trust Agreement and the Liquidating Trust created hereunder shall be irrevocable, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- Agreement is to aid in the implementation of the Plan and, therefore, this Liquidating Trust Agreement incorporates and is subject to the provisions of the Plan and the Plan Confirmation Order. In the event that any provision of this Liquidating Trust Agreement is found to be inconsistent with a provision of the Plan or the Plan Confirmation Order, the provisions of the Plan or the Plan Confirmation Order, as applicable, shall control.
- 11.7 <u>Division of Liquidating Trust</u>. Under no circumstances shall the Liquidating Trustee have the right or power to divide the Liquidating Trust unless authorized to do so by the Bankruptcy Court.
- 11.8 Applicable Law. The Liquidating Trust is made in the State of Texas, and the Liquidating Trust and this Liquidating Trust Agreement, and the rights and obligations of the Liquidating Trustee, are to be governed by and construed and administered according to the laws of the State of Texas; provided, however, that, except as expressly provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement, there shall not be applicable to the Liquidating Trust, the Liquidating Trustee, or this Liquidating Trust Agreement any provisions of the laws (statutory or common) of the State of Texas pertaining to trusts that relate to or regulate (a) the filing with any court or governmental body or agency of trustee accounts or schedules of trustee fees and charges, (b) affirmative requirements to post bonds for trustees, officers, agents, or employees of a trust, (c) the necessity for obtaining court or other governmental approval concerning the acquisition, holding, or disposition of real or personal property, (d) fees or other sums payable to trustees, officers, agents, or employees of a trust, (e) the allocation of receipts and expenditures to income or principal, (f) restrictions or limitations on the permissible nature, amount or concentration of trust investments or requirements relating to the titling, storage or other manner of holding of trust assets, or (g) the establishment of fiduciary or other standards or responsibilities or

limitations on the acts or powers of trustees that are inconsistent with the limitations or liabilities or authorities and powers of the Liquidating Trustee set forth or referenced in this Liquidating Trust Agreement.

- Retention of Jurisdiction. Notwithstanding the Effective Date, and to the fullest 11.9 extent permitted by law, the Bankruptcy Court shall retain exclusive jurisdiction over the Liquidating Trust after the Effective Date, including, without limitation, jurisdiction to resolve any and all controversies, suits, and issues that may arise in connection therewith, including, without limitation, this Liquidating Trust Agreement, or any entity's obligations incurred in connection herewith, including without limitation, any action against the Liquidating Trustee or any professional retained by the Liquidating Trustee, in its capacity as such. Each party to this Liquidating Trust Agreement and each Beneficiary of the Liquidating Trust hereby irrevocably consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Bankruptcy Court in any action to enforce, interpret, or construe any provision of this Liquidating Trust Agreement or of any other agreement or document delivered in connection with this Liquidating Trust Agreement, and also hereby irrevocably waives any defense of improper venue, forum non conveniens, or lack of personal jurisdiction to any such action brought in the Bankruptcy Court. Each party further irrevocably agrees that any action to enforce, interpret, or construe any provision of this Liquidating Trust Agreement will be brought only in the Bankruptcy Court. Each party hereby irrevocably consents to the service by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, of any process in any action to enforce, interpret, or construe any provision of this Liquidating Trust Agreement. Notwithstanding the preceding, nothing herein shall be interpreted as requiring the commencement or prosecution of any Estate Claims in the Bankruptcy Court, and all determinations regarding the proper forum for initiating any Estate Claim shall be at the discretion of the Liquidating Trust, consistent with applicable law.
- 11.10 Severability. In the event that any provision of this Liquidating Trust Agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be determined by the Bankruptcy Court to be invalid or unenforceable to any extent, the remainder of this Liquidating Trust Agreement, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstance, other than those as to which it is held invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby, and such provision of this Liquidating Trust Agreement shall be valid and enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- 11.11 <u>Limitation of Benefits</u>. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, or the Plan Confirmation Order, nothing herein is intended or shall be construed to confer upon or to give any person other than the parties hereto and the Beneficiaries any rights or remedies under or by reason of this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- 11.12 <u>Notices</u>. All notices, requests, demands, consents, and other communication hereunder shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given to a person, if delivered in person or by facsimile or if sent by overnight mail, registered mail, certified mail or regular mail, with postage prepaid, to the following addresses:

If to the Liquidating Trustee:

CR3 Partners, LLC Attn: William L. Roberts, Liquidating Trustee of the HTI-SSC Liquidating Trust 13355 Noel Road, Suite 310 Dallas, Texas 75240

If to a Beneficiary:

To the name and Distribution address set forth in the Register with respect to such Beneficiary.

The parties may designate in writing from time to time other and additional places to which notices may be sent.

- 11.13 <u>Further Assurances</u>. From and after the Effective Date, the parties hereto covenant and agree to execute and deliver all such documents and notices and to take all such further actions as may reasonably be required from time to time to carry out the intent and purposes of this Liquidating Trust Agreement, and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby.
- 11.14 <u>Integration</u>. This Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, and the Plan Confirmation Order constitute the entire agreement with, by, and among the parties hereto and thereto, and there are no representations, warranties, covenants, or obligations except as set forth herein, in the Plan, and in the Plan Confirmation Order. This Liquidating Trust Agreement, together with the Plan and the Plan Confirmation Order, supersede all prior and contemporaneous agreements, understandings, negotiations, and discussions, written or oral, of the parties hereto, relating to any transaction contemplated hereunder. Except as otherwise provided in this Liquidating Trust Agreement, the Plan, or Plan Confirmation Order, nothing herein is intended or shall be construed to confer upon or give any person other than the parties hereto and the Beneficiaries any rights or remedies under or by reason of this Liquidating Trust Agreement.
- 11.15 <u>Interpretation</u>. The enumeration and Section headings contained in this Liquidating Trust Agreement are solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Liquidating Trust Agreement or of any term or provision hereof. Unless context otherwise requires, whenever used in this Liquidating Trust Agreement the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular, and words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine and the neuter, if appropriate, and vice versa, and words importing persons shall include partnerships, associations, and corporations. The words herein, hereby, and hereunder and words with similar import, refer to this Liquidating Trust Agreement as a whole and not to any particular Section or subsection hereof unless the context requires otherwise. Any reference to the "Liquidating Trustee" shall be deemed to include a reference to the Liquidating Trust and any reference to the Liquidating Trust shall be deemed to include a reference to the "Liquidating Trustee" except for the references in which the context otherwise requires.

11.16 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Liquidating Trust Agreement may be signed by the parties hereto in counterparts, which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same document.

[Signature Pages Follow]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have either executed and acknowledged this Liquidating Trust Agreement, or caused it to be executed and acknowledged on their behalf by their duly authorized representatives, all as of the date first above written.

HYDROSCIENCE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

By:
By: Name: Fred Woodland Title: President
SOLID SEISMIC, LLC
By: Name: Fred Woodland Title: Manager
WILLLIAM ROBERTS, as Liquidating Trustee
By: Name: Wiliam Roberts, Director, CR3
Partners, LLC (and not in his personal capacity) in his capacity as Liquidating Trustee of the Liquidating Trust

EXHIBIT "B"

Hydroscience Technologies, Inc. and Solid Seismic, LLC Assumed Contracts

Name	Conrtract Type	Description	Cure Cost
Int'l Seismic Tech., Inc.	Lease; Harvey Rd.	Ranch House Offices and Adjacent Mfg. Facility	\$0.00
Matheson Tri-Gas	Misc; High Pressure Gas	Cust. No. 48430	\$1,076.52
Texedo Technologies, Inc.	Misc; IT Support		\$0.00
Wells Fargo Business Payroll Services	Services; Payroll Prep & Admin	Payroll Preparation	\$0.00
Global Shop Solutions	Software License; ERP Sys	HYD030	\$156.29
Direct Energy	Utility; Electric Service (Bldg 1) Harvey	A/C 1545250	
Direct Energy	Utility; Electric Service (Bldg 2) Harvey	A/C 1545251	
Direct Energy	Utility; Electric Service (Bldg A)	A/C 1178028	
Direct Energy	Utility; Electric Service (Bldg B & E)	A/C 1178031	
Direct Energy	Utility; Electric Service (Bldg C)	A/C 1178034	\$4,343.40
Firetrol	Utility; Fire Protection	Fire Alarm Monitor Cust no. 4300104	\$0.00
Nextlink Broadband	Utility; Internet	Acct. 10000029	\$0.00
Texas Gas Service	Utility; Natural Gas (Bldg A)	912185092 1161192 73	
Texas Gas Service	Utility; Natural Gas (Bldg B)	912185092 1598866 45	\$89.15
AT & T	Utility; Telephone and LD	Telephone and Long Distance A/C No. 940 325-8221 794 9	\$1,464.49
WC of Texas, Mineral Wells Dist.	Utility; Waste Disposal	Acct no. 5193-070074864	\$182.87
City of Mineral Wells	Utility; Water	Water Supply Meter 34348099	\$78.52
Federal Insurance Co.	Insurance	General Liability	
Federal Insurance Co.	Insurance	Business Auto	
ederal Insurance Co.	Insurance	BPP - HTI & Solid Seismic	
Federal Insurance Co.	Insurance	Umbrella	\$0.00
Nat'l American Ins. Co. (OK).	Insurance	Workers Compensation	\$0.00