PROPOSED SETTLEMENT IN CANADIAN AUTOMOTIVE BEARINGS PRICE-FIXING CLASS ACTION

BETWEEN 1998 AND 2020, DID YOU OR YOUR COMPANY: Purchase and/or lease, directly or indirectly, a new or used automotive vehicle in Canada or for import into Canada; and/or Purchase, directly or indirectly, Automotive Bearings. If so, you might be affected by a settlement reached in related class action.

SETTLEMENTS ACHIEVED

The Settling Defendants, AB SKF, SKF USA Inc., SKF Canada Limited, and SKF GmbH, have agreed to pay CDN\$2,100,000 in exchange for a full release of the claims against them relating to the pricing of Automotive Bearings and for the dismissal of any actions commenced in Canada by Settlement Class Members relating to the pricing of Automotive Bearings.

The proposed Settlement is a compromise of disputed claims and is not an admission of liability, wrongdoing, or fault by any of the parties.

The Ontario Settlement Approval Hearing was on February 13, 2023. The Ontario Court approved the Settlement Agreement as being fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of Settlement Class Members.

The Quebec Settlement Approval Hearing was on March 8, 2023. The Quebec Court approved the Settlement Agreement as being fair, reasonable, and in the best interests of Settlement Class Members. However, the Fonds d'aide aux actions collectives¹ sought and was granted leave to appeal the Approval Order on the basis that the Settlement Agreement had not been translated into French. The parties agreed to resolve the appeal, translate the Settlement, and publish a second notice of hearing in Quebec. The French Settlement Agreement can be viewed at www.autopartsettlement.ca.

If there are any objections to the proposed Settlement, another Settlement Approval Hearing will take place on March 8, 2024 at 2pm, by videoconference (<u>https://msteams.link/EEF0</u>)². If there are no objections, the Quebec Court will be asked to issue an order approving the Settlement Agreement, without a further hearing.

Quebec residents may present submissions on, or objections to, the proposed Settlement in writing or orally before the Court. Written submissions must be submitted on or before March 1st, 2024.

See the long-form notice online at <u>www.siskinds.com/autoparts</u> for more information.

¹ The Fonds d'aide is the organization whose function is to provide financial assistance to people wishing to bring a class action, and to disseminate information about bringing such an action.

² The User Guide to join the hearing can be found at the following address: https://www.justice.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/user_upload/ contenu/documents/Fr_francais_/centredoc/publications/systeme-judiciaire/MJQ_Guide_Audience_Teams-public_VF.pdf

DISTRIBUTION OF THE AUTOMOTIVE BEARINGS SETTLEMENT FUNDS

The Ontario, Quebec and BC Courts approved a protocol for the distribution of the aggregate Settlement Funds from the Automotive Bearings action, plus accrued interest, less Court-approved legal fees and other expenses. A copy of the approved Distribution Protocol is available at <u>www.autopartsettlement.ca</u>.

To be eligible for compensation, a Settlement Class Member must have purchased and/or leased one or more of the following: new passenger car, sport utility vehicle, van, and/or light truck (up to 10,000 lbs) (the "Affected Vehicles").

Class Action	Automakers	Event Period	Post Event Period
Automotive	Honda/Acura, Nissan/Infiniti,	Jan 1, 2000 to	Jan 1, 2014 to
Bearings	Toyota/Lexus	Dec 31, 2013	Sept 30, 2016

No wrongdoing is alleged against the Automakers listed above. They are not defendants in the class action. The class action was brought against automotive part manufacturers who allegedly price-fixed Automotive Bearings. The Automakers were unaware of any alleged price-fixing in respect of any of the automotive parts that they purchased for their automotive vehicles.

The claims process in the Automotive Bearings will run in conjunction with the previously approved Second Omnibus Distribution Protocol, and settlement benefits will be calculated in the same manner as disclosed in the Second Omnibus Distribution Protocol. The claims process under the Second Omnibus Distribution Protocol, which will include the settlement benefits from the Automotive Bearings actions has already commenced.

October 30, 2023 was the deadline to submit claims in the Second Omnibus Distribution. Since it will not cause a delay to the administration, Settlement Class Members with a claim ID and PIN are still able to file a claim at <u>www.autopartsettlement.ca</u>. Claim IDs and PINs were sent multiple times from <u>DoNotReply@RicePoint.com</u> (most recently on October 16th and 23rd and on January 17th). Please check your spam folder. **If you have not done so, we encourage you to file your claim as soon as possible, as the claims portal will be closed shortly after the hearing on March 8, 2024**. For more information, see the documents related to the claims process available online at <u>www.autopartsettlement.ca</u>.

CLASS COUNSEL

The law firms of Siskinds Desmeules s.e.n.c.r.l., Siskinds LLP, Sotos LLP, and Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman LLP represent members of this class action.

For more information, visit <u>www.autopartsettlement.ca</u>, email at <u>autoparts@ricepoint.com</u> or call toll- free 1-866-474-4331.

