

Court Rules in Favour of CLIFF UK and against CLIFF Electronic Components, Inc. and Andrew Brunt

The court in Topeka, Kansas, USA has issued its order in the long-running dispute between CLIFF UK and its ex-distributor Cliff Electronic Components Inc, of Topeka (CLIFF USA now trading as CHK Electronics) and Andrew Brunt. The court ruled that Cliff USA had infringed on CLIFF UK's American trademark, engaged in unfair competition with CLIFF UK, falsely designated the origin of its counterfeit goods marketed to American consumers, owes CLIFF UK an unspecified money judgment and infringement penalties yet to be determined. It also ruled that CLIFF UK is entitled to an injunction prohibiting Cliff USA and Andrew Brunt from engaging in further use of the CLIFF trademark or name. The court denied the counterclaims of CLIFF USA and Andrew Brunt, and found the latter personally liable.

The ruling confirms that only CLIFF UK, its USA subsidiary CLIFF, INC., or CLIFF authorised CLIFF resellers are entitled to sell products in the USA under the CLIFF brand name. Counterfeit products must not be marked with the CLIFF name nor sold as genuine CLIFF products. To read the court's order visit: www.cliffuk.co.uk/lawsuit

OEM who specify CLIFF parts to be used in their products should be aware that genuine parts are only sold by Cliff UK or CLIFF, INC. or an authorised reseller. Names of authorised resellers can be obtained from CLIFF, INC.

A number of components such as Stackjacks™, and some kinds of terminals, which infringe CLIFF UK's patents are being sold by unauthorised sellers, and used by some USA OEM. These parts have been marked with the CLIFF trademark in the past, but more recently have appeared with no markings. Some OEM who are known to have purchased these parts, whilst awaiting the outcome of this lawsuit, have been advised that they infringe CLIFF UK's US patents by using patent infringing clones. These OEM should now desist from using parts which infringe our patents. Any enquiries about this should be directed to CLIFF UK. sales@cliffuk.co.uk

Cliff UK. December 2011