

3M Files Lawsuit Against China-based Thunder Finish for Patent and Trademark Infringement

3M and 3M Innovative Properties Co. filed a lawsuit today in the Western District of Wisconsin against China-based Thunder Finish Co. Ltd. alleging infringement of patent and trademark rights related to 3M's PPS™ technology used in the automotive collision repair industry.

The suit alleges certain Thunder Finish after-market spray gun paint cup products, which are made in China and sold in the U.S., infringe 3M patent rights directed to 3M™ PPS™ technology that enables the efficient mixing and spraying of coatings for automotive collision repair and other applications. The suit also alleges that Thunder Finish's marketing materials for these products infringe 3M's registered trademarks.

3M is committed to protecting its substantial investments in research and development and innovative technologies. 3M's Automotive Aftermarket Division provides a comprehensive range of products and solutions to the collision repair industry, including its PPS™ technology that enables painters to mix less paint, reduce the amount of solvent used, and speed cleanup.

About 3M

At 3M, we apply science in collaborative ways to improve lives daily. With \$30 billion in sales, our 90,000 employees connect with customers all around the world. Learn more about 3M's creative solutions to the world's problems at www.3M.com or on Twitter @3M or @3MNews.

3M and PPS are trademarks of 3M.

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