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Mitchell Repair Information Company, LLC ("Mitchell 1") and Snap-on
 Incorporated ("Snap-on") (collectively, "Plaintiffs") bring this action against
 Defendants Autel. US Inc. ("Autel US") and Autel Intelligent Technology Corp.,
 Ltd. ("Autel ITC") (collectively, "Defendants" or "Autel") and allege as follows:

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#### NATURE AND SUBSTANCE OF THE ACTION

 This case arises out of the blatant theft of Plaintiffs' proprietary information and data by Defendant Autel US and its Chinese parent company, Defendant Autel ITC.

9 2. Plaintiffs Snap-on and Mitchell 1 provide proprietary diagnostic and 10 repair information that automotive technicians use to facilitate the efficient repair of automobiles and trucks. This information is based on expert and artificial 11 12 intelligence analysis of literally billions of data points that Plaintiffs have gathered from real world repair information accumulated over a period of more than 25 13 14 years. Plaintiffs have spent over \$100 million dollars on research, analysis, and product development relating to this proprietary information over many years. No 15 other company in the world has access to even a small fraction of this volume of 16 17 real world repair data, and, as a result, no other company offers a product that 18 provides as comprehensive and detailed diagnostic and repair information.

19 3. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 offer a variety of products that allow end users 20 to access some of this information when conducting their repairs, in exchange for a 21 monthly subscription fee. As discussed in more detail below, these products range 22 from a custom handheld diagnostic computer that connects directly to the vehicle 23 and sells for an MSRP of just under \$10,000, to separate web-based services for 24 vehicles and for medium and heavy trucks that allow users to access some of this 25 proprietary information online. Plaintiffs' products combine access to their proprietary information with comprehensive Original Equipment Manufacturer 26 27 ("OEM") information, much of which requires Mitchell 1 to pay substantial annual licensing fees. 28

4. Autel competes with Snap-on and Mitchell 1, and has its own
 handheld diagnostic computer tool. But it does not have access to anywhere near
 the same level of real world repair information. Further, Autel has not invested the
 years of time and money that would be required to analyze and usefully categorize
 this repair information. Instead, Autel decided to steal the information from Snap on and Mitchell 1.

7 5. Autel US and Autel ITC have done so by improperly syphoning data from three separate products, in at least three different ways: (1) circumventing the 8 9 security measures on Plaintiffs' handheld diagnostic computers to "spoof" those 10 devices and engage in mass, automated downloads of Plaintiffs' proprietary 11 information; (2) stealing the user name and password of a different company to 12 surreptitiously and systematically pull Plaintiffs' proprietary data from its online TruckSeries product, which provides diagnostic and repair information for medium 13 14 and heavy trucks; and (3) improperly pulling large quantities of Plaintiffs' proprietary information through Mitchell 1's ProDemand product in violation of the 15 terms of that product's End User License Agreement. 16

17 6. This theft of vehicle repair data is part of a familiar pattern for Autel.
18 It has been sued twice before by Ford and by GM for stealing their repair-related
19 information.

7. Autel has concealed its conduct by, among other things, masking its
attacks on Plaintiffs' data by using more than 300 different IP addresses, copying
the authentication information from Snap-on's handheld diagnostic devices,
pretending to be making requests for data through over four hundred devices, and
secretly operating behind the username and password of a different registered user.
Plaintiffs have taken countermeasures to stop this conduct, but Autel has morphed
its behavior in return and, undeterred, continues to try to steal Plaintiffs' data.

8. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 accordingly bring this action for temporary,
preliminary, and permanent injunctive relief to stop Autel from making use of the

information it has taken and from taking any further data, and for damages for
 Autel's flagrant violations of law.

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# **PARTIES**

9. Plaintiff Mitchell 1 is a Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business at 16067 Babcock Street, San Diego, California 92127.

6 10. Plaintiff Snap-on is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of
7 business at 2801 80th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53143.

8 11. Defendant Autel US is a New York corporation with its principal place
9 of business located at 175 Central Ave., Suite 200, Farmingdale, New York 11735.
10 Upon information and belief, Autel US is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Autel ITC.

Defendant Autel ITC is a Chinese corporation having a principal place
 of business at 7th, 8th, and 10th Floor, Building B1, Zhiyuan Xueyuan Road, Xili,
 Nanshan, Shenzhen 518055, China and having an office in the United States at 175
 Central Ave., Farmingdale, New York 11735.

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# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

16 13. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the claims arising under
17 the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA") (17 U.S.C. §§ 1201, 1203)
18 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338.

19 14. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the claims arising under
20 the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act ("CFAA") (18 U.S.C. § 1030) pursuant to 18
21 U.S.C. § 1030(g) and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.

15. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the claims arising under
the Defend Trade Secrets Act ("DTSA") (18 U.S.C § 1836) pursuant to 18 U.S.C.

24 §§ 1836(b) and 1837, and 28 U.S.C. § 1331.

16. This Court has supplemental subject matter jurisdiction over the
related state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 because these claims are so
related to the federal claims that they form part of the same case or controversy

1 under Article III of the United States Constitution and derive from a common 2 nucleus of operative facts.

3 17. This Court has an independent basis for jurisdiction over all the claims 4 herein in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because there is diversity of citizenship 5 between the parties, and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.

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18. Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this District because 7 this action arises out of Autel's illegal conduct that intentionally targets and causes 8 injury to Plaintiffs in this District. For example, as further detailed in the allegations in this Complaint, Autel has circumvented Plaintiffs' security measures 9 10 to illegally obtain access to, and make unlawful use of, Plaintiffs' proprietary 11 diagnostic and repair information hosted by, and stored in, servers located in this 12 District. Autel has also illegally obtained access to, and made unlawful use of, Plaintiffs' products and services developed and sold in this District. Via these and 13 14 other actions, Autel has made unauthorized use of Plaintiffs' intellectual property, personal property, and proprietary data that was created in and is located in this 15 District. 16

17 19. In addition, Autel US has violated the End User License Agreement that it entered into with Plaintiff Mitchell 1 ("Mitchell 1 EULA") with respect to 18 19 opening and maintaining an account relating to the ProDemand product. Autel 20 entered into a Mitchell 1 EULA by at least 2016, and reaffirmed its acceptance of 21 Mitchell 1's EULA at least as recently as December 2020. A copy of Autel's 2016 22 Mitchell 1 order form with the EULA signature page, and a copy of the 2016 23 Mitchell 1 EULA are attached as Exhibits 1-2. The Mitchell 1 EULA requires that parties to the agreement "agree that jurisdiction of any claim or suit hereunder shall 24 25 be exclusively the courts located within the County of San Diego, California" and 26 specifically states that, for such claims, both parties to the agreement "hereby" 27 submit to the personal jurisdiction of such courts." Exhibit 2 at 76 (¶ 17). Autel US has signed this agreement. See Exhibit 1 at 70-71. 28

1 20. A copy of Autel's 2020 Mitchell 1 order form with the signature page, 2 and a copy of the 2020 Mitchell 1 "Order Terms and Conditions" are attached as 3 Exhibits 3-4. The Mitchell 1 Order Terms and Conditions state that "[t]he 4 agreement between you ("Customer") and Mitchell Repair Information Company LLC ("Mitchell 1") includes: (i) these Mitchell 1 Order Terms and Conditions; (ii) 5 6 the Order Form; and (iii) the End User License Agreement as may be updated from 7 time to time ("EULA")[.]" Exhibit 4 at 82 (¶ 1). Autel US has signed this 8 agreement as well, reaffirming its agreement to the Mitchell 1 EULA. See Exhibit 9 3 at 78-79.

Accordingly, this Court has exclusive jurisdiction over Mitchell 1's
 claim against Autel US for breaching the Mitchell 1 EULA by improperly using the
 ProDemand account for the purposes of determining Plaintiff Mitchell 1's
 entitlement to preliminary injunctive relief for that claim.

14 22. In addition, Autel markets, sells, furnishes, and supports its competing diagnostic products and services throughout the United States (a fact which has 15 16 already been established against Autel in multiple written opinions, see Service 17 Solutions U.S., LLC, v. Autel. US, Inc., et al., 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 150036, \*11-16 (E.D. Mich. Oct. 18, 2013), Ford Motor Co. v. Autel. US Inc. et al., 2015 U.S. 18 Dist. LEXIS 133201, \*32-35 (E.D. Mich. Sept. 30, 2015), General Motors L.L.C. et 19 20 al. v. Autel. US Inc. et al., 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 40902, \*10-12 (E.D. Mich. Mar. 21 29, 2016)) including in the State of California to California residents. Upon 22 information and belief, Autel ITC's competing products are sold and distributed by 23 Autel US in the United States. Autel ITC is aware of where these products are to be sold and distributed by Autel US, and therefore intends that these products be 24 25 sold and delivered to those locations. Such products are purposefully sold and promoted for sale to customers in California, including customers residing in the 26 Southern District of California. 27

At the public website https://www.auteltech.com, which has a notice
 identifying Autel ITC as the owner of the site, users in California can access and
 download software, user manuals, and other materials for Autel's diagnostic tools.
 Users in California can also purchase Autel's diagnostic tools at this site.

5 24. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391, at least
6 because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims of this
7 complaint occurred in this district, and a substantial part of property that is the
8 subject of the action is situated in this district.

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### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

### A. Snap-on and Mitchell 1

11 25. Snap-on has been a leading designer and manufacturer of tools
12 essential to automotive and truck repair since its founding over 100 years ago.

13 26. Snap-on's industry-leading automotive and truck repair equipment includes both traditional hand tools and cutting-edge portable diagnostic computers. 14 In tandem with the automotive industry's advent of vehicular on-board diagnostic 15 ports in the 1980s, Snap-on developed handheld diagnostic computers capable of 16 17 interfacing with these ports. These sophisticated devices are able to understand 18 "trouble codes" output by vehicles' diagnostic ("OBD-II") ports, initiate testing within the vehicle relating to these codes, and offer diagnostic and repair solutions 19 20 to problems causing these codes.

For more than 30 years, Snap-on has designed and developed varieties 21 27. 22 of these handheld diagnostic computers. As discussed more below, these tools' 23 features and capabilities have become increasing sophisticated over the years. For example, Snap-on's diagnostic tools now can display for users a wealth of cloud-24 25 hosted proprietary expert diagnostic and repair information and OEM sourced repair information. These and other advances are made possible, in part, by Snap-26 27 on's roughly 12,000 employees worldwide, almost a third of whom are part of Snap-on's Repair Systems and Information Group. 28

28. These advances were also made possible, in part, by Snap-on's
 acquisition of Mitchell 1 in 1996. Mitchell 1 has been a fixture in the San Diego
 community for over 100 years, and has established itself as an industry-leading
 provider of resources to automotive and truck technicians and repair shops.

5 29. Like Snap-on, Mitchell 1 has long recognized the importance of 6 technological resources for vehicle technicians. In the 1980s, Mitchell 1 began 7 releasing electronic repair information and estimator systems. In 1995, Mitchell 1 released its Manager<sup>™</sup> shop management and service writing software to 8 9 automotive repair shops across the country. This software functions to facilitate 10 customer vehicle repairs and contains features such as cost-estimating tools, 11 integration with electronic parts catalogs, and customer and marketing management 12 functions. This software has gathered repair data for vehicles logged in the system since the mid-1990s. 13

30. Snap-on recognized the importance of Mitchell 1's offerings and the 14 15 potential impact Mitchell 1's software and repair data could have on the capabilities 16 of Snap-on's diagnostic devices. As such, since acquiring Mitchell 1 over 25 years 17 ago, Snap-on has closely integrated Mitchell 1's software and repair data into the 18 Snap-on ecosystem. For example, Mitchell 1's Manager software is now sold as a 19 component of the Snap-on product ShopKey<sup>®</sup>. Mitchell 1's software is used in 20 over 32,000 repair shops nationwide and has become by far the most popular shop 21 management software. As a result of this software's widespread use, Snap-on and 22 Mitchell 1 have gathered billions of vehicle repair records. These records contain information such as descriptions of symptoms, diagnosis, and replacement/repair 23 24 techniques for all logged vehicle repairs. None of Snap-on or Mitchell 1's 25 competitors appear to have even a fraction of this repair data.

31. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 have used this repair data to develop
proprietary diagnostic and repair information. This proprietary information is the
result of over 100 million dollars of research, analysis, and product development

based on both expert and artificial intelligence analysis of billions of repair records.
 As discussed more below, this proprietary information is offered through Snap-on's
 diagnostic device services, and some of the information is also offered as part of
 Mitchell 1's standalone paid subscription service, ProDemand.

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## B. Autel

6 32. Autel US is the U.S. subsidiary of a Chinese company, Autel ITC.
7 Autel is one of Plaintiffs' main competitors in the automotive diagnostic and repair
8 space. It offers products directed to automotive repair shops, including its own
9 handheld devices. Autel products are available nationwide through AutoZone
10 stores and other distributors. On information and belief, Autel has a U.S.
11 headquarters in New York, where Autel US is located.

33. Autel has been sued twice before for stealing data and intellectual
property relating to automotive vehicle repairs. *See General Motors LLC v. Autel. US Inc. et al.*, 4:14-cv-14864 (E.D. Mich.), ECF No. 1 (Complaint) (Dec. 22,
2014), *Ford Motor Co. v. Autel US Inc. et al.*, 4:14-cv-13760 (E.D. Mich.), ECF
No. 28 (Second Amended Complaint) (Nov. 11, 2015).

17 In *Ford*, Autel was accused of unauthorized access to and use of 34. Ford's Integrated Diagnostic System ("IDS system"), which includes hardware and 18 19 software components Ford developed to diagnose problems with Ford vehicles. See 20 generally, Ford, 4:14-cv-13760, ECF No. 28 (Second Am. Compl.) at 8-37. Ford 21 alleged Autel created a program that circumvented Ford's security measures and 22 provided Autel access to Ford's data. Id. at 36-37. Ford alleged Autel then stole 23 this data, which included copyrighted and trade secret material (*id.* at 8-9), and used it in its own products (id. at 9-33). Autel's motion to dismiss challenging Ford's 24 25 claims for copyright infringement, counterfeiting, breach of contract, and trademark dilution was denied. See Ford Motor Co. v. Autel US Inc. et al., 2016 U.S. Dist. 26 LEXIS 85875, \*6-8, 10-16 (E.D. Mich. July 1, 2016). But, the parties settled 27 28

1	before final adjudication of Ford's claims. See Ford, 4:14-cv-13760, ECF No. 109								
2	(Dismissal Order).								
3	35. In <i>General Motors</i> , Autel was accused of unauthorized access to and								
4	use of GM's proprietary vehicle servicing software and unauthorized use of GM's								
5	trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. See generally, General Motors, 4:14-cv-								
6	14864, ECF No. 1 (Complaint) at 12-26. Although the parties settled before GM's								
7	claims were decided on the merits, see id., ECF. No. 42 (Dismissal Order), Autel's								
8	Rule 12(b)(6) motion to dismiss GM's DMCA, CFAA, trade secret, and unjust								
9	enrichment claims was denied. See General Motors LLC v. Autel. US Inc. et al.,								
10	2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 40902, *17-33 (E.D. Mich. Mar. 29, 2016).								
11	C. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 Offer Sophisticated Diagnostic and Repair Products Powered by Proprietary Information and Databases								
12	36. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 offer three different products for diagnostic								
13	and repair that are at issue in this lawsuit: diagnostic handheld computers,								
14	ProDemand, and TruckSeries.								
15	Diagnostic Handheld Computers								
10	37. Snap-on currently offers various types of handheld diagnostic								
1 / 1 0	computers. One example is the ZEUS <sup>™</sup> device, pictured below, which will serve								
10	as an example to illustrate some of the features offered in Snap-on diagnostic								
19	systems:								
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25 26									
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27 28									
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38. This device contains hardware and software allowing it to
communicate with a connected vehicle. When connected, ZEUS's scanner function
identifies the year, make, model, and engine of the vehicle. The technician may
then use ZEUS to scan the vehicle for trouble codes, which are communicated via
the vehicle's OBD-II port. After scanning, ZEUS allows the technician to view
trouble codes resulting from the scan. The technician can then select to "diagnose"
any of those active trouble codes.

39. In response to a technician choosing to "diagnose" an active trouble code, ZEUS provides the technician various types of proprietary diagnostic and repair information relevant to the trouble codes detected on the connected vehicle. As discussed above, this information has been (and continues to be) developed from billions of repair records collected in Mitchell 1's Manager software, and is the result of enormous amounts of Plaintiffs' labor and expenditure. The following represent categories of tailored information that may be displayed to a technician (via "cards" on the ZEUS display) relevant to a vehicle's specific trouble code: 

40. <u>Top Repairs</u>: Top Repairs lets a technician quickly understand what
 the most likely repairs will be for the vehicle at issue. The Top Repair card
 presents a graph depicting the most common repairs performed for a certain vehicle
 with certain trouble codes, at particular mileages, along with the frequency of those
 repairs. An exemplary Top Repairs graph for a P0441 (evaporative emissions)
 trouble code on a 2015 Toyota Camry appears below:



41. This Top Repairs graph is based on a real-world understanding of the most common fixes for a specific vehicle's trouble codes, which is based on
Plaintiffs' sophisticated analysis of billions of repair records. Top Repairs therefore can save both the technician and the vehicle owner significant time and money. No other company offers such a comprehensive and specific data set.

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42. <u>Real Fixes</u>: Real Fixes provides trouble code-specific recommendations on performing the most common vehicle repairs. These recommendations include information on the behavior associated with the code, the

1 likely cause (including recommended troubleshooting steps), and the desired results 2 of troubleshooting. Real Fixes includes procedures and tests gathered from real-3 world repair orders. The narratives for these entries are written by Snap-on expert 4 technicians, who have created millions of unique Real Fix entries. Real Fix data is continually updated and revised to reflect new repair data and new vehicle model 5 6 years. Each Real Fix card includes a Fixed It count derived from the real-world data. The Fixed It count shows how many times the vehicle problem was solved 7 with the solution described in the Real Fix. Real Fixes are prioritized based on the 8 9 Fixed It count to help the technician choose the course of action with the highest 10 probability of success.

43. <u>Troubleshooter tips</u>: This card provides tips written by Snap-on expert
technicians and other industry experts relevant to the vehicle in question. For
example, these tips may include time-saving suggestions for repairs, such as how to
determine the most likely components causing a particular problem. Some tips
include links to related Functional Tests that further help to diagnose the problem.

Smart Data: This card enables technicians to view relevant vehicle 16 44. 17 Parameter IDs ("PIDs"). PIDs are live readings of a vehicle's systems, which are communicated to ZEUS via a vehicle's OBD-II port from the vehicle's numerous 18 19 system controllers, which are connected to hundreds of sensors, solenoids, 20 actuators, and switches with associated PIDs. On average, a vehicle may present 21 approximately 100-200 PIDs when connected to a diagnostic scanner, which is too much data to be particularly useful to a technician trying to diagnose a specific 22 issue. But, as a result of years of collecting PID data associated with vehicle repairs 23 and expert analysis of this data, Snap-on has developed lists of PID data points 24 25 relevant to each trouble code. The Smart Data card presents the technician those PIDS that are relevant to the trouble code at issue. 26

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45. Further, Snap-on has created a "known good" range of values for 15 specific PIDs based on its over 200 billion data points and the views of its experts. 16 The Smart Data card flags specific PIDs that fall outside of Snap-on's "known good 17 range," as shown above. This immediately informs the technician that there is a 18 likely problem with that portion of the system. However, the minimum and 19 maximum values of the "good" ranges for each parameter are not shared with the 20 end user. Snap-on deliberately keeps this information confidential. No competitor 21 has a comprehensive product comparable to Snap-on's PID functionality.

46. <u>Functional tests</u>: ZEUS further displays functional tests associated
with a particular trouble code, such as system controls, resets of component
operations, and programming new vehicle components. Snap-on's experts, aided
by their billions of repair records, have determined which functional tests to
associate with particular trouble codes, and have consolidated those relevant tests
into a single easy-to-use card.

47. <u>Guided Component tests</u>: This card displays component tests
 associated with a vehicle's trouble code(s) and guides for how to perform these
 tests. These component tests are used to determine whether a particular component
 is good or bad, and are derived from Snap-on's expert analysis of its repair record
 databases. The narrative step-by-step instructions associated with these test are also
 prepared by Snap-on expert technicians.

48. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 spend millions of dollars annually to keep the
proprietary diagnostic and repair information provided through these cards up-todate. This proprietary information allows technicians to use Snap-on diagnostic
devices to efficiently resolve a vehicle's problem. No competitor has the same
volume of repair and diagnostic records, or analysis of these records.
Consequently, no competitor is capable of providing technicians a comprehensive
catalog of the exact information needed to quickly resolve a particular vehicle's

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#### **ProDemand**

problem.

Mitchell 1 offers a web-based subscription service that provides 49. 16 17 diagnostic and repair information for vehicles. ProDemand is available to users only on a subscription basis. Most subscribers must have a valid username and 18 19 password for access. For some large customer accounts, Mitchell 1 allows the 20 customer to authenticate through a designated specific company IP address, where 21 all of the traffic is routed through their corporate firewalls or routers. Owners of a 22 Snap-on handheld diagnostic device still need to pay an additional subscription fee 23 and open a ProDemand account to make use of the ProDemand features.

50. ProDemand offers its subscribers access to some of the proprietary
information described above. In addition, ProDemand organizes and displays
comprehensive repair information from vehicle OEMs, including Technical Service
Bulletins issued by the OEMs, repair instructions, and calibration information for
advanced driver-assistance systems ("ADAS"). Mitchell 1 has to pay significant

fees to license this OEM data. And Mitchell 1 incurs substantial additional labor
 and expense via its effort to both organize OEM data in a user-friendly manner and
 to map the OEM information to its own proprietary data services.

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4 51. Mitchell 1's organization and transformation of the OEM data 5 provides significant benefit to users of ProDemand attempting to efficiently access 6 this information. For example, if a user wants to learn about all of the ADAS 7 information for a vehicle, that user would normally have to search for individual items, such as the front view camera, adaptive cruise control, or other sensors on 8 9 the car. Each manufacturer organizes its information differently, and the information is normally found spread among different component categories, so 10 11 this is no easy task. With ProDemand, Mitchell 1 avoids this user headache by providing all of a vehicle's ADAS information organized into one place. Mitchell 12 1 makes this organization consistent for each vehicle manufacturer so that the 13 14 information is easy to locate. Mitchell 1 also ensures that the same taxonomy can be used across manufacturers, regardless of whether OEMs use different terms for 15 16 the same component. Mitchell 1 has a team of over 50 people responsible for 17 sorting through all of the OEM data and continually updating and organizing it.

18 In terms of proprietary information, ProDemand allows its users to 52. 19 access Top Repairs, Real Fixes, and Component Tests (described above). ProDemand also offers an additional "Top 10 Repairs" feature (pictured below), 20 21 which reports the most common symptoms, diagnostic trouble codes ("DTCs"), and 22 most commonly replaced components for a particular year, make, model, engine, and trim for a particular vehicle. This information streamlines a technician's 23 24 troubleshooting and also allows shops to provide customers with proactive 25 maintenance suggestions to avoid future part failures. The Top 10 Repairs feature 26 is only possible thanks to Plaintiffs' collection of the billions of repair records 27 described above, and the analysis and review of these records by Plaintiffs' industry experts. An example screenshot of the Top 10 Repairs feature is provided below. 28

#### Case<sub>II</sub>3:21-cv-01339-CAB-BGS Document 1 Filed 07/27/21 PageID.17 Page 17 of 67

Demand	Change Vehicle	2015 To	oyota Highland	ler 3.5L Eng H	lybrid Limited	ł		Re	calls/Campai	igns 🥐
tsearch™	-		Search	▼ Enter Co	odes, Compoi	nents or Sympto	ns 🗙 🤇	2		THE
TSB E Technical Bulletins	Common Specs	Driver Assist ADAS	Fluid Capacities	Tire Information & Lifting Points	U Reset Procedure	s DTC Index	Wiring Diagra	ms Con	nponent cations Con	nponent Tests
В	ased on Analysis	of 7,212 Re	pairs							
Co Co	mmonly Replaced	d	Common DTCs			Common Symptoms			Top Sear <b>Looku</b>	ch PS
1	. Disc Brake Pad	1,335	1. P040	1: Exhaust Ga	. 12	1. Engine Does	Not St	101	1. Wate	r Pump
2	. Brake Rotor	1,230	2. B010	3	8	2. Noise Heard	From B	62	2. Brake	Rotor
3	. Wheels	1,212	3. P010	7: Manifold Ab.	5	3. Noise Heard		37	3. Trans	mission Flui
4	. Battery	578	4. P030	0: Random Mi	. 5	4. Tpms Light	On	34	4. Drive	Belt
5	. Headlight Bulb	431	5. P142	3	5	5. Oil Leaks Fro	om Engi	25	5. Cabin	Air Filter
6	. Tire Valve Stem	415	6. C124	1	4	6. Headlights li	noperati	22	6. Alterr	nator
7	. Tire Pressure Mo	nit 308	7. P0a8	0: Replace Hy	. 4	7. Brakes Vibra	te Whe	20	7. Brake	s
8	. Tire Pressure Ser	isor 214	8. C139	1	3	8. Noise Heard	From R	16	8. P160	4
9	. Headlight	186	9. P030	4: Cylinder 4	3	9. Engine Runs	Rough	15	9. Brake	Discs/Roto
10	Brake System	179	10. P142	0	3	10. Fluid Leaks	From V.	15	10 Batte	rv

14

#### TruckSeries

53. Mitchell 1 offers another web-based subscription service, called
TruckSeries, which is directed to repair of medium and heavy commercial trucks.
It requires a separate paid subscription from ProDemand. To access this service,
most subscribers must have a valid username and password. Certain large
customers are permitted to authenticate through a specific, designated IP address, as
described above.

54. Unlike ProDemand, where most repair information comes from OEMs
and is licensed to Mitchell 1, nearly all of the diagnostic and repair information on
TruckSeries is authored by Mitchell 1. Mitchell 1 has invested enormous time and
effort into TruckSeries.

55. Mitchell 1's efforts, and the resulting proprietary information provided
by TruckSeries, saves technicians substantial time and effort when trying to
diagnose and repair medium and heavy trucks. Rather than having to go find
diagnostic and repair information in lengthy repair manuals from OEMs,

Mitchell 1's system allows technicians to quickly access relevant and applicable
 diagnostic and repair information and to return specific information to facilitate
 repairs.

56. For example, a technician who wants to quickly identify the problem
that a truck may be experiencing can use the TruckSeries "Top Search Lookups"
feature. This feature displays the top ten searches that other technicians have
performed for problems they are experiencing on a truck with a particular
configuration, giving the technician insight into the most common problems the
truck has experienced. The Top Search Lookups is regularly updated as technicians
make continued use of TruckSeries.

57. TruckSeries also offers features tailored to a particular trouble code or
particular symptoms that a technician has observed with the truck. Some of these
features include the following:

14 58. <u>Testing</u>: This provides a step-by-step narrative on how to diagnose and
15 test a problem.

16 59. <u>Photos</u>: The Component Connector and Component Location features
provide high resolution photographs and CAD drawings that have been created by
Mitchell 1 and have been highlighted, color-coded, and labeled where appropriate
to display the component and where it fits within the car. These pictures are made
by Mitchell 1.

21 60. <u>Interactive Wiring Diagrams</u>: The original diagrams that contain links
22 to other relevant portions of TruckSeries data to make troubleshooting and repairs
23 easier.

24 61. <u>Labor Time</u>: This shows estimates of how much time Mitchell 1's
25 experts believe that a repair should take. Unlike automotive manufacturers, heavy
26 truck manufacturers generally do not publish a time for how long they believe a
27 particular repair should take.

<u>RepairConnect</u>: This code diagnostic feature allows technicians to
 enter a vehicle and a trouble code and receive specific repair procedures for the
 vehicle's problem. The content in TruckSeries is proprietary to Mitchell 1, as
 Mitchell 1 prepares the diagnostic and repair information itself.

- 5 63. TruckSeries also includes ADAS reference tables, torque
  6 specifications, step-by-step guidance on how to remove and replace parts, and after
  7 repair information describing steps that need to be taken once the repair is
  8 completed.
- 9 10

# D. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 Spent Years Developing Their Proprietary Data

64. Transforming the billions of repair records collected by Mitchell 1's
Manager software into useable, searchable databases has required an enormous
undertaking by both Snap-on and Mitchell 1. For this data to be useful, Plaintiffs
knew they had to create a set of databases able to associate specific symptoms or
trouble codes with specific repairs and component failures, and to associate those
pieces of information with the repair, diagnostic, and test information to display to
the technician.

18 65. This task was an immense challenge in part due to the difficulty inherent in organizing and analyzing such a massive volume of data. But the task 19 20 was made even harder because the underlying repair records were prepared by technicians lacking a common vernacular. For example, technicians across the 21 22 country often use different naming conventions for vehicle components, use shorthand, or introduce typographical errors or phonetic spellings of vehicle 23 components. There are over three thousand variations or misspellings for the term 24 25 "oxygen sensor" in Plaintiffs' dataset. And some repair records are simply incorrect. To address this, in 2012 Snap-on formed a team of special developers, 26 27 experts, and editors to solve the problems presented by these service records. The team worked to categorize various terminologies and link related concepts across 28

the products. Ultimately, the team built a comprehensive taxonomy and ontology
 to organize repair terminologies across all vehicle makes, models, and engine
 systems in the databases.

66. Further, reviewing, analyzing, and organizing Plaintiffs' proprietary
data so that it can be displayed in a user-friendly form has taken years, and still
requires constant human review alongside review by a proprietary artificial
intelligence ("AI") algorithm, which employs machine learning and natural
language processing to further analyze the processing repair records. This
proprietary AI has taken a lead role in data processing and now processes billions
of repair records, with constant fine-tuning by human reviewers.

11 67. As one specific example, Snap-on has expended enormous effort to 12 create and maintain its filtered PID data. Properly-filtered PID data is valuable to technicians because it provides real-time, objective information for various aspects 13 14 of the vehicle's operation. But a vehicle may display roughly 100 to 200 PID sensors, most of which are not relevant to any given problem. Moreover, 15 technicians typically have no effective way of knowing whether each of the PID 16 17 values being reported by the car is within the acceptable range. This results in data 18 pollution, making it difficult to use sensor data to diagnose a vehicle.

19 68. To overcome PID data pollution, Snap-on's experts spent years
20 organizing data for use by repair technicians. This involved creating a proprietary
21 code-to-component metadata structure, with the assistance of proprietary AI
22 technology that associates vehicle problems with probable components, and those
23 components with the relevant PIDs. By utilizing this metadata structure the Smart
24 Data function is able to provide curated PID sensor data for only the most relevant
25 components.

69. Snap-on has also analyzed PIDs and over 200 billion data frames
through a combination of human expert analysis and machine learning to determine
the normal distributions of PID data, in order to identify minimum and maximum

accepted values, and a "known good" range. This initial process involved millions
of dollars in resources. And Snap-on's data continues to be constantly tuned by its
subject matter experts. Snap-on's min/max PID data, and the metadata needed to
present that PID data in response to particular vehicles and symptoms, is highly
proprietary and is of immeasurable competitive value to Snap-on. Plaintiffs do not
share the "known good range" for the PID data with their subscribers, even on an
individual vehicle basis.

70. Snap-on's and Mitchell 1's software engineers have also spent years 8 9 developing custom code to manage their data and to organize data requests from products to their data servers. Invisible to the user, this software formats a user's 10 request for certain proprietary diagnostic and repair information into a "call" or 11 12 "query string" that will be recognized by the application programing interface ("API") for Plaintiffs' data servers. The query contains identifying information for 13 14 the particular vehicle at issue, as well as data on the problem with the vehicle. These query strings are created by, and unique to, Snap-on and Mitchell 1 and are 15 16 based on their software engineers' decisions for naming and categorization of the 17 underlying vehicle characteristics.

18 71. Underlying these queries are tens of thousands of lines of code that are
19 used to manage Plaintiffs' proprietary data and to retrieve the appropriate data to
20 provide to end users. This code is used to organize, manage, and search over 430
21 million individual artifacts of data, so that a response to a query can be presented to
22 an automotive technician almost instantaneously.

23

# E. Snap-on's and Mitchell 1's Security Measures

24 72. Because the proprietary diagnostic and repair information is so
25 important to Snap-on and Mitchell 1, they have put in place many measures to
26 make sure it remains confidential.

27 73. The core commercial value of Plaintiffs' products lies in the uniquely
28 comprehensive coverage and the broad scope of their combined data, covering

diagnostic and repair information for vehicles going back over 20 years. Thus,
while end users can make individual queries in the system (subject to certain
restrictions and agreements), this combined data as a whole is not accessible to
them. Snap-on products do not allow users to comprehensively pull batches of
information about, for example, all of the different repairs for multiple cars or
multiple trouble codes.

7

# **Internal Security Measures**

8 74. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 employees who work with their proprietary
9 diagnostic and repair information must agree to confidentiality policies with
10 restrictions on the use and disclosure of confidential business information and
11 comply with confidentiality provisions expressed in various documents outlining
12 the companies' standards. Among other things, these employees must sign a
13 confidentiality agreement governing treatment of the proprietary and diagnostic
14 information, technical data, trade secrets, and other confidential information.

15 75. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 also train their employees in the proper
handling of confidential information, including the proprietary diagnostic and repair
data. Each year, employees are required to complete various training modules
relating to information security, cyber security, and the protection of data and
intellectual property.

76. The proprietary diagnostic and repair information is stored on
password-protected servers, which are accessible only by those with a need to use
them. Even internal users need special access permissions to access these servers.
Visitors must sign in and be escorted when they go through company facilities.

24 77. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 do not license their comprehensive data set to25 anyone.

26

# Snap-on Handheld Diagnostic Units

27 78. Snap-on implements data protection measures to authenticate
28 legitimate device usage and prevent unauthorized actors from retrieving data from

its servers. Snap-on's security process is designed to require physical possession of
 a Snap-on handheld diagnostic unit and the purchase of a current version bundle of
 software.

4 79. Prior to obtaining any diagnostic data from Plaintiffs' servers, each device must pass authorization and authentication challenges. Upon initiation, each 5 6 diagnostic device must first authenticate by exchanging a particular set of 7 credentials with a security server located in San Diego, California, and then it must 8 again obtain new temporary authorization every five minutes. A device that does not pass either of these two steps cannot access Plaintiffs' data. This authentication 9 and authorization process is implemented through over 30,000 lines of custom code 10 written by Plaintiffs' in-house software engineers.<sup>1</sup> 11

12 80. In addition, the proprietary diagnostic and repair information features 13 work only when the handheld diagnostic unit is connected to an OBD-II port and 14 reading trouble codes. As a result, the user must either be physically connected to each vehicle subject to an information request or have built a vehicle simulator 15 16 device for each vehicle, with active trouble code(s). Such simulators are not 17 commercially available but would need to be custom built by vehicle communication engineering groups who have had access to the individual vehicles 18 19 or the vehicles' controllers. As a result, it is difficult to build simulators that 20 comprehensively address all the potential trouble codes and conditions that a 21 specific vehicle could present.

81. Even with these layers of security in place, Snap-on still does not
provide users with access to more data than is necessary to perform the repair(s) at
issue. The diagnostic unit only displays information relevant to the particular
trouble code(s) detected on the vehicle. Moreover, Snap-on does not display its
highly proprietary PID min/max data to the user at all. Rather, the handheld

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This authentication and authorization process is not described in more detail here to avoid filing the Complaint under seal.

diagnostic unit identifies specific PID values that exceed the known good range
 turning a flag red without showing the user what that range is, as depicted in
 paragraph 44 above.

4

4 82. Use of Snap-on's handheld diagnostic units is also governed by a 5 EULA that must be agreed to by the user or by a Snap-on franchisee on the user's 6 behalf when the device is first purchased and then accepted each time the device 7 software is upgraded. In addition, every time the user starts the diagnostic device software, a URL for the Snap-on EULA is displayed, along with a reference to the 8 9 terms and conditions for use of the device. This screen states "Use of Software is 10 governed by the terms and conditions of the End User License Agreement." A true 11 and correct copy of this screen is attached as Exhibit 5. As described in more detail 12 below, the Snap-on EULA prohibits, among other things, reverse engineering of the 13 device software, running the software on multiple computers, or providing the 14 software to a third party.

15

# **ProDemand and TruckSeries**

83. All users of Mitchell 1's web-based ProDemand and TruckSeries 16 17 repair information products must have an active subscription, along with user 18 credentials tied to that subscription. To access ProDemand or TruckSeries, the user 19 typically must have a valid username and password. For some of Mitchell 1's 20 largest customer accounts, technicians may authenticate without a username and 21 password by using a designated company IP address through which the customer routes their technician network traffic. The data that are transferred between the 22 23 user and ProDemand or TruckSeries (and vice versa) during use of these services is 24 encrypted through HTTPS encryption.

84. Both ProDemand and TruckSeries use an authorization process similar
to the one described above for Snap-on's diagnostic units, utilizing much of the
same custom-built code, which requires a new temporary authorization every five
minutes in order to make a valid request for data.

Mitchell 1 has an anti-piracy team responsible for monitoring account
 access and usage and preventing misuse of its services. This team monitors server
 traffic for, among other things, suspicious or inconsistent IP addresses using an
 account, or unusual account access patterns that are indicative of unauthorized use.

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86. The anti-piracy team will investigate suspicious account traffic and, if it is unable to confirm that the account is being used consistently with the EULA, will reset the account's credentials, block suspect IP addresses, or otherwise escalate the issue as appropriate.

9 87. Mitchell 1 account holders for both ProDemand and TruckSeries must 10 also agree to a EULA when placing an order for an account subscription. As 11 described in more detail below, among other things, this EULA permits usage of 12 data only to provide vehicle repairs and estimates and conduct vehicle shop 13 management. Further, the EULA expressly prohibits allowing the Product or data from the Product to be made available to any other person; transferring or passing 14 along the data, the Product or access to the Product; and translating, reverse 15 16 engineering, decompiling, or otherwise accessing the source codes.

17

#### F. Recent Intrusion into Snap-on's and Mitchell 1's Data Servers

18 88. In mid-November 2020, Snap-on began detecting unusual spikes in
19 traffic that impacted the performance of its diagnostic device network.

89. 20 Snap-on suspected this unusual activity was associated with illicit automated use of its diagnostic devices because legitimate users' access to Snap-21 22 on's data servers do not typically cause spikes in server traffic of this nature and 23 because the speed at which requests were being made was faster than a human 24 could make them. These requests were inconsistent with how Snap-on's product is 25 normally used for repair. For example, a technician fixing a vehicle will typically look up specific service information related to the finite problems exhibited on that 26 27 vehicle and the technician will linger on the material relating to that code for at least a few minutes as it is being reviewed. A technician attempting to resolve a 28

specific problem on a real vehicle will not systematically run through the catalog of 1 2 information available for a particular make and model of a vehicle. Nor will the 3 technician quickly look through the same information across many vehicles. This 4 is particularly impossible for Snap-on diagnostic devices because the devices are 5 designed to display information for only the trouble codes on the vehicle that is 6 connected to the device. To quickly move from the trouble codes from one vehicle 7 to those from another vehicle and then to those from another, or to a large number of trouble codes, the device would need to be rapidly connected to various vehicles. 8

9 90. Over a three-day period from November 11 to 13, 2020, Snap-on 10 observed over 5.6 million of such search queries seeking Plaintiffs' proprietary data. The intensity and speed of these requests is exemplified by the fact that on 11 12 November 12, between the hours of 2:00 and 3:00 a.m. Pacific Time, Snap-on's IT 13 group observed over 200,000 individual requests for data in the span of a single hour—and at a time when automotive technicians would not normally even be 14 working in the United States. On November 13, between the same one-hour time 15 period of 2:00 and 3:00 a.m. Pacific Time, the IT team observed over 600,000 16 17 requests.

18 91. As a result of this activity, legitimate customers began to complain that
19 they were being locked out of their devices and could not access the appropriate
20 proprietary diagnostic and repair information. This appeared to be an effect of the
21 bad actor "spoofing" these customers' device credentials.

92. After discovering this bad actor activity, Snap-on blacklisted a set of
approximately 40 IP addresses associated with the traffic and continued monitoring
network traffic to block additional IP addresses engaged in suspicious activity. But,
notwithstanding this blocking, the intrusions continued.

93. During the four-day period between November 21 and 25, more than
5 *million additional* anomalous requests for Plaintiffs' proprietary data were made
from new IP addresses that had not yet been blocked. The activity was so bad that,

to protect its data, Snap-on had to shut down access to its diagnostic servers
 worldwide to users of an older version of its software that was associated with the
 bad actor activity, cutting off access to over 15% of its legitimate customers.
 Periodically, over the next several weeks, during the evenings Pacific Time and on
 weekends, Snap-on was forced to continue shutting down access to devices using
 the older version of the software.

On or around December 7, 2020, Snap-on began generating daily 7 94. reports designed to show instances where multiple devices appeared to be making 8 9 requests for proprietary repair and diagnostic information through a single IP 10 address. The daily reports reflect a significant amount of additional bad actor activity during the month of December. For example, the report for the night of 11 12 December 10 through the morning of December 11 shows that at one time four 13 different IP addresses were each making data requests, purportedly on behalf of 45 14 different devices *each*. This is very abnormal traffic, particularly for IP addresses coming from China, where Snap-on does not sell the ZEUS device. A report from 15 16 December 12 shows that nine IP addresses in China were each making requests, 17 purportedly on behalf of 44 devices each. A report from December 18 shows four IP addresses in China requesting data, purportedly on behalf of between 18 to 41 18 19 devices each. And a report from December 19 showed one IP address in China was 20 purportedly making requests on behalf of 72 devices at one time, and a second IP 21 address was purportedly making requests on behalf of another 40 devices.

95. In response to these observations, Snap-on began adding additional
security mechanisms on its ZEUS devices and network, as well as additional
monitoring functions to allow more detailed tracking of network activity. First,
Snap-on blocked all suspected IP addresses at the firewall level. Then, on
December 28, 2020, Snap-on unblocked these addresses and began sending
"confused," randomized data associated with different makes and models of
vehicles, rather than the actual repair and diagnostic information requested by those

IPs, and blocking unknown IP addresses from China, which was the source of much
 of the bad actor traffic.

3 96. The illicit activity still continued. Most notably, during three days in
4 January 2021, the bad actor made over 240,000 requests for Plaintiffs' proprietary
5 PID data. However, Plaintiffs were unable to identify the bad actor behind these
6 activities at the time.

7 97. These are just examples of the illicit activity of which Plaintiffs are
8 currently aware. Plaintiffs' investigation into the wrongful conduct is continuing.

9

#### G. Autel Gets Caught

98. The improper efforts to continue to access Plaintiffs' proprietary
diagnostic and repair information continued after this time, though in lower
volumes. It was these continued efforts that would eventually tip off Snap-on and
Mitchell 1 that the activity was coming from Autel. In the middle of May 2021,
after noticing additional suspicious activity, Plaintiffs hired outside counsel, who
retained an independent forensic expert.

16

#### **Snap-on Handheld Diagnostic Units**

17 99. The expert has prepared a declaration that is being filed in support of
18 Plaintiffs' motion for a temporary restraining order and order to show cause. That
19 declaration reports that there are numerous links between Autel and the attack on
20 Plaintiffs' proprietary data.

100. For example, between December 29, 2020 and July 3, 2021, at least
eight different ZEUS device serial numbers were used to connect to the Plaintiffs'
Authentication API from the main static IP address associated with Autel US's
ProDemand account (discussed below). Seven of these devices have been used
with a total of 86 IP addresses to obtain Plaintiffs' proprietary data, including IP
addresses from China that were associated with the bad actor activity.

27 101. Plaintiffs' logs show that Autel US and Autel ITC were working in
28 parallel to steal Plaintiffs' data, making many requests during the same time

periods, and that they were coordinated. On one notable occasion, Autel US and
 Autel ITC made identical requests for the same car and problem code within one
 minute of each other from Autel US's IP address and from an IP address in China.
 At that time, the Chinese IP address was being sent confused data, while the Autel
 US IP address was not, and Defendants were likely comparing the data that each
 one was receiving.

7 8 102. Autel has continued requesting Plaintiffs' proprietary data by spoofing devices throughout this time period, including as late as July 15, 2021.

9 103. Plaintiffs have no record of Autel ever purchasing even one of Snap10 on's handheld diagnostic units, or purchasing or paying for a software upgrade to
11 one of those units.

12 104. Autel has "spoofed" over 400 devices to request data from Plaintiffs'
13 data servers, presenting the requests as coming from legitimate devices by using
14 their serial numbers. Many of these serial numbers were authenticated and
15 activated on the days of November 9 and 14, 2020. On November 9—right before
16 the mass attack on Plaintiffs' servers that took place from November 11 to 13—a
17 bad actor sequentially activated over 400 device serial numbers. These activation
18 requests were extremely unusual both because of their high volume and their speed.

19 105. Then, on November 14, the day after Plaintiffs had blocked traffic to
20 the bad actor IP addresses associated with the barrage of requests that took place
21 from November 11 to 13, the same pattern was repeated, and over 600 device serial
22 numbers were authenticated and activated on November 14, again in a highly
23 abnormal, rapid-fire sequential order.

24 106. Of these over 1,000 devices that were activated due to these November
25 requests, at least 276 devices were associated with high-volume anomalous data
26 requests.

- 27
- 28

#### **ProDemand**

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107. Autel US has maintained a ProDemand account since a large national
customer of Mitchell 1 requested that Autel be provided with an account. The
account was to be used by Autel to confirm whether its customer could access its
ProDemand subscription with Mitchell 1 on the Autel devices purchased by the
customer. Autel ITC has never had an account to ProDemand.

7 108. Plaintiffs' logs show that Autel US has been using the account in breach of the license terms of the Mitchell 1 EULA and has evidently shared its 8 9 password with Autel ITC. Since at least October 1, 2020, both Autel US and Autel 10 ITC have been systematically obtaining data from ProDemand relating to different 11 features. Together they have made at least 9,600 search actions. Over 4,000 of 12 those search actions have targeted ADAS features. These requests have been so 13 extensive that Autel has made the second-highest number of requests for ADAS data of any of Plaintiffs' customers during this time period—far exceeding the 14 number of requests even by national automobile chains with dozens of ProDemand 15 16 users in multiple locations throughout the country.

17 109. Defendants' efforts escalated during the first two weeks of July 2021,
18 and they continued to request this data until Mitchell 1 shut down Defendants'
19 account on July 14, 2021, which took effect July 15, 2021.

20

# <u>TruckSeries</u>

110. Neither Autel US nor Autel ITC has an account to TruckSeries, which
requires a separate account and subscription from ProDemand. Nonetheless, it
appears that they have been obtaining Plaintiffs' proprietary data from TruckSeries
as well, through an account issued to another company, Tom Machine Equipment
& Repair ("Tom Machine").

26 111. Autel's US IP address has been used to sign into the Tom Machine
27 account to make requests for data. In addition, two other IP addresses have been
28 used by both the Autel US IP account and the Tom Machine account. These were

the only three IP addresses that have been used to sign into the Tom Machine
 account since October 1, 2020.

3 112. Other factors point to Autel using the Tom Machine account as a front 4 to obtain Plaintiffs' proprietary medium and heavy truck data. Every TruckSeries and ProDemand account has a "ship to," "bill to," and "tech account(s)" associated 5 6 with it, which contain information that Plaintiffs use to communicate with and bill 7 their customers. The customer-provided email address for the technician account 8 associated with Autel's ProDemand account is the same as the billing email address 9 provided by the Tom Machine TruckSeries account. The individual listed as the billing contact for the Tom Machine account is identified as an Autel consultant on 10 11 the International Automotive Technicians Network website and in his blog online.

113. Since October 1, 2020, at least 800 search actions for Plaintiffs'
proprietary diagnostic and repair truck information have been made through the
Tom Machine account. And just between July 7 and July 12, 2021, over 470 print
requests were made for that account.

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# H. Autel's Competing Diagnostic Devices Recently Introduced an "Intelligent Diagnostics" Feature

114. Autel sells diagnostic device products that compete directly with Plaintiffs' products, including its recently released MaxiSys Ultra device, which Autel describes as its "most ambitious diagnostics tablet designed to maximize technician intelligence." *See* https://www.autel.com/c/www/mk3/3525.jhtml.

115. The MaxiSys Ultra device purportedly includes an "intelligent diagnostics" feature. This feature is explained in an Autel Global video released on January 22, 2021 titled "Autel MaxiSys Ultra: How to use intelligent diagnostics" and available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LKtVq5Kwlg.

116. The Autel intelligent diagnostics feature purports to provide many of the same categories of diagnostic and repair information as Snap-on and Mitchell 1's products. The Autel tutorial video linked above explains that

intelligence diagnostics "provides diagnostic solutions to help you fix vehicles with 1 2 its step-by-step guidance." Upon accessing the intelligent diagnostics interface, a user is shown different cards titled "Technical service bulletin," "DTC analysis," 3 "Repair assist," "Repair tips," and "Component measurement." The video 4 describes the types of information each of these cards should display. For example, 5 the "Repair assist" card is intended to "integrate diagnostic devices, wiring 6 7 diagrams, and measurement tools into one, guiding you to find reasons and solutions step by step." 8

9 117. However, while it purports to provide similar diagnostic and repair
10 information, Autel does not have the depth of proprietary data that Snap-on and
11 Mitchell 1 have obtained from their analysis of the billions of repair records that
12 they uniquely possess. Even in the demonstration video that Autel has prepared, it
13 is apparent that its device is missing data. For example, in the intelligent
14 diagnostics interface shown in this tutorial video, there is no data underlying the
15 "Repair tips" card for the car being demonstrated:

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COMPLAINT

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#### Case 3:21-cv-01339-CAB-BGS Document 1 Filed 07/27/21 PageID.34 Page 34 of 67 1 GM B 仚 e 2 VCN0 (211.8) GM > Au Intelligent diagnostics 3 Engine control module P0113-00 Intake air temperature (IAT) sensor circuit high voltage -4 Technical service bulletin 5 ilt code weights and provide deta 6 ated to the fault code enance measures to intell guide users to solve fault: No data available for the time being! 7 **DTC** analysis Repair Assist 8 Repair tips 9 Displays the detailed steps of detecting and clearing DTCs. Related repair steps area for reference only. No data available for the time b 10 IN 101RASE43FU116631 ESC 11 00 VCN' 17 0 •0 1 50 B O T Small

13 119. As shown above, the MaxiSys Ultra already has the structure to make 14 use of Plaintiffs' proprietary diagnostic and repair information, and the 15 comprehensive set of data that Plaintiffs pay significant fees to license from OEMs. That data is of great value to Autel, because this data could allow Autel to both fill 16 17 in the many data points it is missing and determine the accuracy of the data it has 18 provided. Autel simply cannot obtain the same level of comprehensive data as 19 Snap-on and Mitchell 1 because it does not have access to the billions of repair 20 orders that Snap-on and Mitchell 1 do, and even if it did, it would have to spend 21 years organizing and analyzing the data as Snap-on and Mitchell 1 have done. This 22 provides Snap-on and Mitchell 1 with a unique competitive advantage in the market 23 and years of lead time over Autel. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 will be irreparably 24 harmed if Autel is permitted to use their data to compete against them or if Autel 25 discloses their data to third parties.

26 120. Further, while the MaxiSys Ultra provides information relating to
27 automobiles, Autel has recently expanded its products in the truck market as well.

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1 In addition, on May 17, 2021, Autel announced that it has "introduced a diagnostic 2 tablet for commercial vehicles, which is compatible with more than 80 models of 3 light- medium- and heavy-duty vehicles," the MaxiSys MS909CV. See 4 https://www.truckinginfo.com/10143412/autel-adds-commercial-vehicle-5 diagnostics-tablet. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 have spent years compiling and 6 developing the repair and diagnostic information contained in TruckSeries, which has been authored by them to provide a uniquely detailed and comprehensive set of 7 8 data for medium and heavy truck repair. Snap-on and Mitchell 1 will be irreparably 9 harmed if Autel were to disclose this data or use it in its own diagnostic truck 10 product. 11 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION** 12 <u>DMCA - Circumvention of Security Measures under 17 U.S.C. § 1201</u> (Against Both Defendants) 13 14 121. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through 120 as if fully set forth herein. 15 122. Autel US and Autel ITC have each violated the DMCA, 17 U.S.C. § 16 17 1201(a)(1)(A), by unauthorized circumvention of technological measures for 18 Plaintiffs' handheld diagnostic computers that control access to Plaintiffs' databases 19 of proprietary diagnostic and repair information and associated software protected 20 by the Copyright Act. 21 123. As described in more detail above, Plaintiffs have implemented 22 numerous technological measures which control access to their diagnostic and 23 repair information and the associated data services software used to manage it. For 24 example, Snap-on implements an authentication and authorization process that is 25 designed to require possession of a Snap-on handheld diagnostic device and the 26 appropriate version of associated software in order to access Snap-on's proprietary 27 diagnostic and repair information, and the software that manages that data. Snapon made extensive efforts to create this security software, which consists of more 28

1 than 30,000 lines of code and took two to three software developers three years to 2 implement, working nearly full time. Among other things, this process requires 3 two pieces of unique device identifying information that must be authenticated. A 4 device that passes the authentication process must then obtain new temporary authorization every five minutes. A device that does not pass these authentication 5 6 and authorization steps cannot access either Snap-on's proprietary diagnostic and 7 repair information or the data server software that manages it and returns the data. Therefore, this process is a technological measure that controls access to Snap-on's 8 9 proprietary diagnostic and repair information and associated software.

10 124. Additionally, to gain access to Snap-on's proprietary diagnostic and 11 repair information, the diagnostic device must be connected to a vehicle's OBD-II port and reading trouble codes. This means that a user must physically connect 12 their device to a vehicle or have built a vehicle emulator for the device, which 13 14 would have to be custom made. And, even when a device is connected to a vehicle, the diagnostic and repair information presented via the device's software is limited 15 16 to information that corresponds to the year/make/model/engine of the vehicle and 17 the particular repair at issue. Therefore, these technological measures also control 18 access to aspects of Snap-on's proprietary data.

19 125. As described above, Autel US and Autel ITC have each engaged in 20 unauthorized circumvention of Snap-on's above-described technological processes 21 to "spoof" multiple devices, presenting the wrongfully obtained credentials of 22 hundreds of devices to authenticate those devices, and then obtaining the required 23 authorization for each device and regularly refreshing that authorization, thereby 24 obtaining access to Snap-on's proprietary diagnostic and repair data contained on 25 Plaintiffs' servers and the software used to manage it and to search for and return 26 the data in response to requests. Further, rather than obtaining data only for 27 vehicles that were connected to the diagnostic device, Autel US and Autel ITC made use of an automated process to systematically make requests directly for 28

vehicle makes and models that it never connected to the devices, thereby
 circumventing Plaintiffs' technological measures to protect its compilation of
 proprietary data.

4 126. This proprietary diagnostic and repair data and its associated software comprise "works" subject to copyright protection under 17 U.S.C. § 102. The 5 6 proprietary diagnostic and repair information provided by this software (e.g., Real 7 Fixes, Smart Data) was created, compiled, and organized by Plaintiffs based on a 8 combination of many years of compiling real world data, expert analysis of that 9 data, and artificial intelligence software. In addition to all of the unique data points 10 that were determined based on this analysis, the proprietary diagnostic and repair information includes literally millions of original narrative descriptions, all of 11 12 which are uniquely created, arranged, and organized by Plaintiffs. Moreover, 13 Plaintiffs built a comprehensive taxonomy and ontology to organize diagnostic and 14 repair terminologies across all vehicle makes, models, and engine systems in the databases. Thus, Plaintiffs' proprietary diagnostic and repair data comprises 15 "works" subject to copyright protection due to both (1) the original content 16 17 included in this data and (2) the original data compilation as a whole. Further, the data services software created for managing and returning data from Plaintiffs' 18 19 massive databases of information is original source code that was created in-house 20 over a period of years, that easily amounts to tens of thousands of lines of code or more, and that took eight to ten person-years to create. Many original design 21 22 choices were made in the course of creating this code, and it is thus protected as an 23 original literary work.

24 127. Autel US and Autel ITC have each further violated section
25 1201(a)(1)(A) of the DMCA via their unauthorized circumvention of technological
26 measures that control access to Mitchell 1's TruckSeries product and the data
27 services software that manages it.

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1 128. Mitchell 1 has implemented technological measures which control 2 access to its web-based proprietary TruckSeries product. As described above, 3 access to the TruckSeries product requires users to purchase a monthly 4 subscription, and to create a user name, and password (or in the case of certain 5 larger customers, authentication through use of a specific, designated IP address). 6 A user who does not meet these requirements and possess an active subscription 7 cannot access TruckSeries. Further, TruckSeries uses an authorization process similar to the one described above for Snap-on's diagnostic units, utilizing much of 8 9 the same custom-built code, which requires a new temporary authorization every 10 five minutes in order to make a valid request for data. A request that is unauthorized cannot access the TruckSeries data or data services software. 11

12 129. The TruckSeries product provides diagnostic and troubleshooting 13 information for medium and heavy duty trucks. It is an original work of authorship 14 comprising a unique compilation of proprietary content. The TruckSeries web program and the proprietary content within are "works" subject to copyright 15 16 protection under 17 U.S.C. § 102. The content is authored by Plaintiffs and is 17 copyright protected. It includes, among other things, high resolution photographs and CAD drawings created by Mitchell 1 that have been highlighted, color-coded, 18 and labeled, interactive original wiring diagrams, labor estimates for how much 19 20 time Snap-on's experts believe a repair should take, ADAS reference tables, written 21 narratives, and more, all uniquely arranged and organized. In addition to the 22 copyright protection afforded to these original works, the proprietary content 23 provided by this software was compiled and organized by Mitchell 1 and is 24 therefore protected at least as an original data compilation. The TruckSeries product 25 utilizes the same data services software described above, that was created in-house 26 over a period of several years and is thus protected as an original literary work. 27 130. Neither Autel US nor Autel ITC has a registered account to

28 TruckSeries. Neither Autel US nor Autel ITC has a legitimate username or

password. They have circumvented the technological measures that control access
 to Plaintiffs' TruckSeries product by accessing TruckSeries and its proprietary
 content using an account registered to another company, Tom Machine, and
 presenting their data queries as though they were authorized queries coming from a
 legitimate authenticated account.

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131. The Mitchell 1 EULA that applies to TruckSeries (as well as ProDemand) provides that "Customer may not . . . allow the Product or data from the Product to be made available to any person other than Customer" or "assign, sell, transfer or pass along the data, the Product or access to the Product." Exhibit 2 at 75 ( $\P$  4(b)).

11 132. In addition to their individual violations, Autel US and Autel ITC 12 conspired with one another to breach 17 U.S.C. § 1201(a)(1)(A) with respect to 13 Snap-on's handheld diagnostic devices and the TruckSeries account through the 14 conduct described above. Autel US and Autel ITC agreed to work together to circumvent the technological measures designed to control access to Plaintiffs' 15 databases of proprietary diagnostic and repair information and associated software 16 17 for these two products that are protected by the Copyright Act, and gained improper access to this information and software from IP addresses associated with Autel US 18 as well as from Chinese IP addresses associated with Autel ITC. At least seven 19 20 different "spoofed" ZEUS devices were observed attempting to improperly access 21 Snap-on's data servers from both an Autel US IP address and various IP addresses 22 from China associated with this scraping activity. As just one example of this concerted behavior, on March 8, 2021, parallel requests for the same PID data from 23 a 2015 Chevy Cruze were made from the main, static Autel US IP address and a 24 25 Chinese IP address within one minute of each other. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the conspiracy by engaging in the wrongful acts described above. 26 27

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1 133. In addition, Autel ITC has violated section 1201(a)(1)(A) of the 2 DMCA via its unauthorized circumvention of technological measures that control 3 access to Mitchell 1's ProDemand product.

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4 134. Access to the ProDemand product is protected by the same technological measures which control access to Mitchell 1's web-based proprietary TruckSeries product, including the authentication and authorization processes described above and the requirement for a subscription account with a user name and password. Autel ITC does not have a subscription to ProDemand and does not 9 have a legitimate user name or password to an account. Autel ITC circumvented 10 the technological measures designed to protect access to ProDemand accounts by using the account, user name, and password of Autel US, and presenting its data 12 queries as though they were authorized queries coming from the Autel US account.

13 135. ProDemand is an original work of authorship comprising a unique 14 compilation of proprietary content and OEM content, much of which is licensed at a substantial fee. The ProDemand web program and the proprietary content within 15 are "works" subject to copyright protection under 17 U.S.C. § 102. The proprietary 16 17 content included in ProDemand that is authored by Plaintiffs includes the millions of Real Fix narratives, the TroubleShooter narratives, Top Repairs, and Top 10 18 Repairs, as described above; this proprietary content comprises protected original 19 20 works. In addition to the copyright protection afforded to these original works, the 21 proprietary content provided by this software was compiled and organized by 22 Mitchell 1 in a unique fashion and is therefore protected at least as an original data 23 compilation. The ProDemand product utilizes the same data services software 24 described above, that was created in-house over a period of several years, includes 25 tens of thousands of lines of code, and is protected as an original literary work.

26 136. Plaintiffs have been damaged by Autel's above-described 27 circumvention of various technological measures that control access to their various copyrighted works in an amount to be proven at trial. 28

1 137. Autel's above-described conduct has caused and, unless enjoined, will 2 continue to cause, irreparable harm to Plaintiffs. 3 138. As a result of Autel's unlawful circumvention, Plaintiffs are entitled to 4 an injunction, actual damages and any additional profits of Defendants pursuant to 5 17 U.S.C. § 1203(c)(2) or statutory damages pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 1203(c)(3). 6 Plaintiffs are further entitled to costs, including reasonable attorney's fees pursuant 7 to 17 U.S.C. § 1203(b). 8 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION** 9 Violation of CFAA under 18 U.S.C. § 1030(a) (Against Both Defendants) 10 139. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through 11 12 120 as if fully set forth herein. 13 140. Defendants have acted individually and conspired with one another to 14 violate various provisions of the CFAA. 15 141. Snap-on's handheld diagnostic computers are "protected computers" within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 1030(e)(2). Plaintiffs' servers, computers, 16 17 computer systems, and computer networks that support the functionality of their diagnostic systems and related subscription services (e.g., ProDemand and 18 TruckSeries) are also "protected computers" within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. 19 20 § 1030(e)(2). 21 142. Defendants have each individually violated the CFAA, 18 U.S.C. 22 § 1030(a)(5)(C), by intentionally accessing a protected computer without 23 authorization, and as a result of such conduct, causing damage and loss to Plaintiffs. 143. As set forth in more detail above, Autel US and Autel ITC each 24 25 circumvented the technical measures designed to protect Plaintiffs' protected computers, and then "spoofed" those devices to present authorization credentials in 26 order to access the proprietary vehicle diagnostic and repair data that are stored on 27 28

Plaintiffs' servers. Autel had no authorization to access these protected computers
 and obtain this data.

144. In addition, Autel had no authorization to access and use the
TruckSeries product. Neither Autel US nor Autel ITC have a paid subscription,
user name, or password to TruckSeries, but each has used the user name and
password issued to Tom Machine to access the TruckSeries product and the
proprietary diagnostic and repair information for medium and heavy trucks that are
stored on Plaintiffs' servers. Autel US and Autel ITC had no authorization to
access these protected computers and obtain this data.

10 145. These same facts evidence a violation of 18 U.S.C. section 1030(a)(4)
11 of the CFAA. Autel US and Autel ITC each knowingly, and with the intent to
12 defraud Plaintiffs, accessed a protected computer, without authorization or by
13 exceeding authorized access to such a computer, and by means of such conduct
14 furthered the intended fraud and obtained one or more things of value, including but
15 not limited to Plaintiffs' proprietary data.

16 146. As described above, Autel US and Autel ITC both fraudulently
17 spoofed Snap-on's handheld diagnostic computers to access proprietary vehicle
18 diagnostic and repair information stored on Plaintiffs' servers, when they had no
19 authorization to do so, disguising the requests so that they appeared to be coming
20 from legitimate devices when in fact they were not and were coming from
21 Defendants.

147. Similarly, Autel US and Autel ITC fraudulently presented the user
name and password assigned to Tom Machine to obtain access to TruckSeries and
proprietary diagnostic and repair information relating to medium and heavy trucks
from Plaintiffs' servers.

148. In addition to their individual violations, Autel US and Autel ITC
conspired with one another to breach 18 U.S.C. sections 1030(a)(4) and
1030(a)(5)(C) with respect to Snap-on's handheld diagnostic devices and the

1 TruckSeries account through the conduct described above. Autel US and Autel ITC 2 agreed to work together to siphon the proprietary data from the data servers 3 associated with these two products, and gained improper access to these data 4 servers from IP addresses associated with Autel US as well as from Chinese IP addresses associated with Autel ITC. At least seven different "spoofed" ZEUS 5 6 devices were observed attempting to improperly access Snap-on's data servers from both an Autel US IP address and various IP addresses from China associated with 7 8 this scraping activity. As just one example of this concerted behavior, on March 8, 9 2021, parallel requests for the same PID data from a 2015 Chevy Cruze were made from the main, static Autel US IP address and a Chinese IP address within one 10 11 minute of each other. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the conspiracy by 12 engaging in the wrongful acts described above.

13 149. In addition, Autel ITC violated sections 1030(a)(4) and 1030(a)(5)(C)14 of the CFAA, by knowingly and with the intent to defraud Plaintiffs, utilized the user name and password assigned to Autel US for Mitchell 1's ProDemand service 15 16 to obtain access to at least the OEM licensed data stored on Plaintiffs' protected 17 data servers. Autel ITC does not have a ProDemand account, and was not authorized by Plaintiffs to use ProDemand. Via its use of ProDemand, knowingly 18 19 and with the intend to defraud Plaintiffs, Autel ITC accessed a protected computer, 20 without authorization, and by means of such conduct furthered the intended fraud 21 and obtained one or more things of value, violating section 1030(a)(4) of the CFAA. This conduct also violated section 1030(a)(5)(C) of the CFAA because 22 23 Autel ITC intentionally accessed a protected computer without authorization, and as 24 a result of such conduct, caused damage and loss to Plaintiffs.

150. As a result of Autel's conduct, Plaintiffs have suffered damage and
loss in an amount to be proven at trial but, in any event, in an amount far in excess
of \$5,000 aggregated over a one-year period as provided for in 18 U.S.C. §
1030(a)(4). Among other things, Plaintiffs have been forced to spend a substantial

amount of money to respond to Autel's conduct, and their service to customers was
 interrupted and impaired multiple times, as set forth in more detail above.

151. Autel's unlawful access to and theft from Plaintiffs' computers has
caused Plaintiffs irreparable injury. Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants
will continue to commit such acts. Remedies at law are not adequate to fully
compensate Plaintiffs for these injuries, entitling Plaintiffs to injunctive relief as
provided by 18 U.S.C. § 1030(g).

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#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### <u>Violation of California's Computer Data Access and Fraud Act under Cal.</u> <u>Penal Code § 502(c))</u> (Against Both Defendants)

11 152. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference all foregoing Paragraphs
12 1 through 120 and 139 through 151 as if fully set forth herein.

13 153. Defendants have acted individually and conspired with one another to
14 violate various provisions of California's Computer Data Access and Fraud Act
15 (Cal. Penal Code § 502(c)).

16 154. Defendants have each individually violated California Penal Code
17 section 502(c)(7) by knowingly and without permission accessing Plaintiffs'
18 computer, computer system, or computer network.

19 155. As described in detail above, Autel US and Autel ITC, each knowingly 20 and without permission accessed the proprietary diagnostic and repair information 21 located on Plaintiffs' data servers by spoofing Snap-on's handheld diagnostic 22 computers, disguising the requests as having come from legitimate devices to pass 23 the authentication protocol and gain access to the data servers. Autel US and Autel 24 ITC were fully aware that they had not purchased these spoofed devices and that 25 they had never purchased subscriptions for the devices, and that they had no permission to use the identifying information for the devices to request information. 26 27 156. In addition, Autel US and Autel ITC, each knowingly and without

28 permission, made use of the user name and password issued to Tom Machine to

gain access to the TruckSeries product and to Plaintiffs' computer network to
 access the proprietary diagnostic and repair information relating to medium and
 heavy trucks on Plaintiffs' data servers. Again, Autel US and Autel ITC were fully
 aware that they were not the registered users of the account and had no right to
 make use of the user name and password to obtain this data.

6 157. Further, defendant Autel ITC, knowingly and without permission, 7 made use of the user name and password issued to Autel US to gain access to the ProDemand product and to Plaintiffs' computer network to access the repair 8 9 information contained on Plaintiffs' data servers associated with that product. Autel 10 ITC was fully aware that it did not possess an account for the ProDemand product, 11 but made use of the Autel US account anyway. Further, although Autel US did 12 have a user name and password for ProDemand, it violated California Penal Code 13 section 502(c)(7) by knowingly logging into ProDemand and accessing and taking and using information from ProDemand and Plaintiffs data servers improperly. 14 Autel US's actions in siphoning Plaintiffs' data to compete against Plaintiffs 15 16 exceeded the permitted uses under the terms of the ProDemand EULA to which it 17 agreed, which were: (i) providing vehicle mechanical services; (ii) estimating 18 vehicle mechanical parts and labor cost estimates; and (iii) conducting vehicle shop management. Exhibit 2 at 75 ( $\P$  4(a)); Exhibit 4 at 82 ( $\P$  4). Autel US's actions 19 20 were also prohibited by the ProDemand EULA, which among other things, 21 provides that an End User may not (i) copy or reproduce the Product except as 22 permitted in this Agreement; or (ii) allow the Product or data from the Product to be made available to any person other than End User. Exhibit 2 at 75 ( $\P$  4(b)). By 23 24 providing its password to Autel ITC, Autel US made the data from ProDemand available to Autel ITC, fully aware that it was violating the permitted uses of its 25 26 account, which were set forth in the EULA to which it had agreed.

27 158. These facts above also constitute a violation of California Penal Code
28 section 502(c)(1), by both Autel US and Autel ITC with respect to Snap-on's

handheld diagnostic tools, the TruckSeries product, and the ProDemand product
 because Autel knowingly accessed, and without permission used Plaintiffs' data,
 computer, computer system, or computer network in order to wrongfully control or
 obtain Plaintiffs' data.

5 159. In addition Autel US and Autel ITC have each violated California. 6 Penal Code section 502(c)(5) by knowingly and without permission causing the 7 disruption of computer services and causing the denial of computer services to 8 authorized users of Plaintiffs' computers, computer system, or computer network. 9 Autel US and Autel ITC knew that they did not have permission to access the 10 proprietary data accessible through Snap-on's diagnostic devices as they were not 11 paying a subscription fee for the devices and were making use of the credentials of 12 devices that they had never purchased or registered. Autel US and Autel ITC knew 13 that this would severely impact Plaintiffs' network. They deliberately bombarded Plaintiffs' network and data servers with hundreds of thousands or millions of 14 requests over compressed time periods, at times spoofing dozens of devices from a 15 16 single IP address to carry out their raid on Plaintiffs' data. Autel US and Autel ITC 17 knew that their use of these spoofed credentials and the extreme amount of traffic 18 that they were sending to Plaintiffs' network from multiple IP addresses and devices would interfere with Plaintiffs' network and its ability to provide services 19 20 to legitimate customers and other authorized users of this network.

160. As described in more detail above, as a result of Autel US and Autel
ITC each knowingly and without permission spoofing multiple handheld diagnostic
computers, and extensively attacking Plaintiffs' data servers, service to Plaintiffs'
customers was cut off or interrupted, and Plaintiffs were forced to shut down
worldwide access to customers on their data servers on multiple occasions.

161. In addition to their individual violations, Autel US and Autel ITC
conspired to violate California Penal Code sections 502(c)(1), and 502(c)(7) with
respect to Snap-on's handheld diagnostic devices and the TruckSeries account

1 through the conduct described above. Autel US and Autel ITC conspired, agreed, 2 and had a common plan and design to work together to siphon the proprietary data 3 from the data servers associated with these two products, and gained improper 4 access to these data servers from IP addresses associated with Autel US as well as from Chinese IP addresses associated with Autel ITC. At least seven different 5 6 "spoofed" ZEUS devices were observed attempting to improperly access Snap-on's 7 data servers from both an Autel US IP address and various IP addresses from China 8 associated with this scraping activity. As just one example of this concerted 9 activity, on March 8, 2021, parallel requests for the same PID data from a 2015 10 Chevy Cruze were made from the main Autel US IP address and a Chinese IP address within one minute of each other. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the 11 12 conspiracy by engaging in the wrongful acts described above.

13 162. Further, Autel US conspired and agreed, and had a common plan and 14 design, to enable Autel ITC to clandestinely obtain access to ProDemand and to take ProDemand data from Plaintiffs' servers. They agreed to share Autel US's 15 16 user name and password, so that this information could be obtained by Autel ITC 17 without Plaintiffs' knowledge—even though they knew that Autel ITC had no permission to access this information—to coordinate to systematically take data 18 19 from ProDemand in violation of the uses permitted by the EULA. This agreement 20 is further evidenced by the parallel taking of ProDemand data from Plaintiffs' 21 servers by Autel US and Autel ITC. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the 22 conspiracy by engaging in the wrongful acts described above.

163. As a result of Autel's violations of this Act, Plaintiffs are entitled to
compensatory damages for the harm caused by their actions, and to injunctive
relief. Autel's violations of this Act have caused Plaintiffs irreparable injury.
Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants will continue to commit such acts.
Remedies at law are not adequate to fully compensate Plaintiffs for these injuries,

entitling Plaintiffs to injunctive relief as provided by California Penal Code section
 502(e)(1).

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# FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### <u>Violations of Wisconsin Computer Crimes Act under Wis. Stat. § 943.70</u> (Against both Defendants)

164. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through120 and 139 through 151 as if fully set forth herein.

8 165. As an alternative to the Third Cause of Action above, for the violation
9 of California Penal Code section 502(c), should the Court find that Wisconsin
10 statutory law applies to Autel's conduct relating to the handheld diagnostic
11 computers, Defendants are both liable for individually violating the Wisconsin
12 Computer Crimes Act, set forth in Wisconsin Statute section 943.70, and for
13 conspiring with one another to violate the Act.

- 14 166. If the Wisconsin Computer Crimes Act applies, Autel US and Autel15 ITC have each individually violated multiple sections of that statute.
- 167. Autel US and Autel ITC each violated Wisconsin Statute section 16 17 943.70(2)(a)(3) because they knowingly and without authorization accessed Snap-18 on's computer programs or supporting documentation. As described in detail 19 above, Autel US and Autel ITC knowingly and without authorization accessed 20 computer programs relating to Snap-on's handheld diagnostic computers, the 21 TruckSeries product, and the data servers containing Plaintiffs' proprietary data 22 associated with each of those products. Further, Autel ITC knowingly and without 23 authorization accessed computer programs relating to the ProDemand product.
- 168. Autel US and Autel ITC, each knowingly and without permission
  accessed the proprietary diagnostic and repair information located on Plaintiffs'
  data servers by spoofing Snap-on's handheld diagnostic computers, disguising the
  requests as having come from legitimate devices to pass the authentication protocol
  and gain access to the data servers. Autel US and Autel ITC were fully aware that

1 they had not purchased these spoofed devices and that they had never purchased 2 subscriptions for the devices, and that they had no permission to use the identifying 3 information for the devices to request information.

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169. In addition, Autel US and Autel ITC, each knowingly and without permission, made use of the user name and password issued to Tom Machine to gain access to the TruckSeries product and to Plaintiffs' computer network to access the proprietary diagnostic and repair information relating to medium and heavy trucks on Plaintiffs' data servers. Again, Autel US and Autel ITC were fully 9 aware that they were not the registered users of the account and had no right to 10 make use of the user name and password to obtain this data.

11 170. Further, defendant Autel ITC, knowingly and without permission, 12 made use of the user name and password issued to Autel US to gain access to the 13 ProDemand product and to Plaintiffs' computer network to access the repair 14 information contained on Plaintiffs' data servers associated with that product. Autel ITC was fully aware that it did not possess an account for the ProDemand product, 15 16 but made use of the Autel US account anyway.

17 171. Autel US and Autel ITC each further violated Wisconsin Statute 18 sections 943.70(2)(a)(4) and (a)(5) because they knowingly and without authorization took possession of and copied Plaintiffs' data. As described above, 19 20 Autel US and Autel ITC knowingly and without authorization each obtained from 21 Plaintiffs' data servers the proprietary diagnostic and repair information associated 22 with Snap-on's handheld diagnostic computer and the TruckSeries products. 23 Further, Autel ITC knowingly and without authorization accessed ProDemand and 24 obtained from Plaintiffs' data servers the repair information associated with the 25 ProDemand product. Therefore, Autel US and Autel ITC knowingly possessed, 26 copied, and likely still possess, Snap-on's diagnostic and repair information that 27 they were, and are, not authorized to possess.

1 172. In addition, Autel US and Autel ITC conspired with one another to 2 breach Wisconsin Statute sections 943.70(2)(a)(3), 943.70(2)(a)(4), and 3 943.70(2)(a)(5) with respect to Snap-on's handheld diagnostic devices and the 4 TruckSeries account through the conduct described above. Autel US and Autel ITC 5 conspired, agreed, and had a common plan and design, to work together to siphon 6 the proprietary data from the data servers associated with these two products, and 7 gained improper access to these data servers from IP addresses associated with 8 Autel US as well as from Chinese IP addresses associated with Autel ITC. At least 9 seven different "spoofed" ZEUS devices were observed attempting to improperly 10 access Snap-on's data servers from both an Autel US IP address and various IP 11 addresses from China associated with this scraping activity. As just one example of 12 this concerted activity, on March 8, 2021, parallel requests for the same PID data from a 2015 Chevy Cruze were made from the main Autel US IP address and a 13 14 Chinese IP address within one minute of each other. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the conspiracy by engaging in the wrongful conduct described above. 15

16 173. In addition, Autel US violated Wisconsin Statute  $\S$  943.70(2)(a)(6) by 17 disclosing restricted access information to an unauthorized entity, Autel ITC, because it disclosed its user name and password to Autel ITC, enabling Autel ITC 18 19 to access ProDemand data from Plaintiffs' data servers. Further, Autel US and 20 Autel ITC conspired and agreed, and had a common plan and design, in violation of 21 Wisconsin Statute section 943.70(2)(a)(6), by agreeing to provide the user name 22 and password of Autel US to Autel ITC to enable Autel ITC to clandestinely obtain access to ProDemand and to take ProDemand data from Plaintiffs' servers without 23 24 Plaintiffs' knowledge—even though they knew that Autel ITC had no permission to 25 access this data. This agreement is further evidenced by the parallel taking of ProDemand data from Plaintiffs' servers by Autel US and Autel ITC. Autel US 26 and Autel ITC carried out the conspiracy by engaging in the wrongful conduct 27 28 described above.

1	174. Autel's violations of the Wisconsin Computer Crimes Act have caused							
2	Plaintiffs irreparable injury. Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants will							
3	continue to commit such acts. Remedies at law are not adequate to compensate							
4	Plaintiffs for these injuries. Plaintiffs are therefore entitled to injunctive relief							
5	under Wisconsin Statute section 943.70(5).							
6	FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION							
7	<b>Breach of Contract under the Snap-on End User License Agreement</b>							
8	(Against both Defendants)							
9	175. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through							
10	120 as if fully set forth herein.							
11	176. Users of Snap-on's diagnostic devices and services are subject to an							
12	End User License Agreement ("Snap-on EULA"). A true and correct copy of this							
13	agreement is attached as Exhibit 6.							
14	177. Snap-on products are generally sold via a distribution model. Snap-on							
15	franchisees or Snap-on employees will sell the ZEUS diagnostic device directly to							
16	end user technicians or shops. Generally, the franchisee selling a diagnostic tool							
17	will explain and/or present the EULA to the customer, and will agree to the EULA							
18	on their behalf. Future software updates also require acceptance of the EULA.							
19	Because software bundles expire, and the device authentication requires a software							
20	bundle version within the current range, users must agree to the EULA to maintain							
21	their access to Snap-on's servers. Additionally, every time a user opens a Snap-on							
22	diagnostic device's software, a screen with a URL to the Snap-on EULA is							
23	provided.							
24	178. The Snap-on EULA delineates the following permitted and prohibited							
25	uses of Snap-on's diagnostic software:							
26	<b>PERMITTED USES</b> YOU MAY: (i) install the Software							
27	on a single automotive diagnostic computer, the diagnostics tool for which it was intended, provided you							
28	(ii) transfer the Software and License to another party if							

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1	the other party agrees to accept the terms and conditions of this Agreement, you retain no copies of the Software,
2	and you transfer all of the Software to such other party. Exhibit 6 at 87.
3	<b>PROHIBITED USES</b> YOU MAY NOT: (i) conv the
4	Software into any machine readable or printed form for backup or archival purposes: (ii) modify merge translate
5	decompile, reverse engineer, disassemble, decode, or
6	Software; (iii) use the Software on more than one
7	component parts for use on more than one computer; the
8	assign, rent, lease, sell, or otherwise dispose of the
9	Software on temporary or permanent basis except as expressly provided herein; (vi) use the Software in any
10	outsourcing, timesharing or service bureau arrangement; and/or (vii) provide, disclose, divulge or make available
11	to, or permit use of the Software by any third party without Snap-on's prior written consent. You will not
12	remove any proprietary notices from the Software and will include such notices on any authorized copies of the
13	Software. Exhibit 6 at 87.
14	179. The Snap-on EULA is a valid contract.
15	180. Autel agreed to the terms of the EULA when it made use of Snap-on's
16	diagnostic device software, and when it upgraded the device software. Autel has
17	made requests for Plaintiffs' proprietary data on at least software versions 20.2,
18	20.4 and 21.2.
10	181. Plaintiff Snap-on has complied with all of the conditions and
19 20	obligations of the Snap-on EULA.
20	182. Upon information and belief, Autel has breached the Snap-on EULA
21	by both exceeding the delineated "permitted uses" and engaging in the "prohibited
22	uses" of Snap-on's diagnostic software.
23	183. Autel exceeded the Snap-on EULA's "permitted uses" of Snap-on's
24	software, and engaged in prohibited uses when it made use of the software to spoof
25	multiple devices at the same time to scrape large amounts of proprietary data, when
26	it separated the software's component parts to spoof multiple devices at one time
27	and, on information and belief, when it reverse engineered or otherwise derived
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1 source code from the software that allowed it to satisfy the authentication and 2 authorization protocol for the devices and to access the data contained on Plaintiffs' 3 data servers; and when it reverse engineered or otherwise derived source code from 4 the software that allowed it to formulate properly structured and authorized queries 5 requesting data. This use goes far beyond the Snap-on EULA's permitted use of 6 "install[ing] the Software on a single automotive diagnostic computer, the diagnostics tool for which it was intended." Exhibit 6 at 87. 7 184. As a result of Autel's actions, Plaintiff Snap-on has been damaged in 8 9 an amount to be proven at trial, and is entitled to recover damages to fully 10 compensate for that harm.

11 185. In addition Autel's violations of this agreement have caused Snap-on
12 irreparable injury. Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants will continue to
13 commit such acts. Remedies at law are not adequate to fully compensate Snap-on
14 for these injuries, entitling Snap-on to injunctive relief.

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# SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Contract under the Mitchell 1 End User License Agreement) (Against Defendant Autel US only)

18 186. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through19 120 as if fully set forth herein.

20 187. As discussed above, Autel US signed the Mitchell 1 EULA when it 21 opened a ProDemand account on or around January 25, 2016. A true and correct 22 copy of Autel US's order form and EULA signature page is attached as Exhibit 1. 23 A true and correct copy of Mitchell 1's 2016 EULA (which is more legible and 24 more complete than the EULA signature page) is attached as Exhibit 2. Autel US 25 has maintained this account to ProDemand. In December 2020, Autel US signed an 26 order form for ProDemand adding five users to its license, in which it confirmed its earlier agreement to the EULA. A true and correct copy of the order form that was 27 signed by Autel US in 2020 is attached as Exhibit 3, and a true and correct copy of 28

1	the Order Terms and Conditions that accompanied that order form is attached as
2	Exhibit 4.
3	188. The 2016 and 2020 Mitchell 1 EULAs are valid agreements. Plaintiff
4	Mitchell 1 has complied with all of the conditions and obligations of the 2016
5	Mitchell 1 EULA and 2020 Mitchell 1 Order Terms and Conditions.
6	189. The 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA and 2020 Mitchell 1 Order Terms and
7	Conditions specify that the licensed use of ProDemand is solely for certain
8	purposes. The permitted uses delineated in the 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA and 2020
9	Mitchell 1 Order Terms and Conditions include:
10	"(i) providing vehicle mechanical services; (ii) estimating
11	(iii) conducting vehicle shop management. Unless the Order Form specifies otherwise, the license shall be for
12	one location; with location referring to a distinct building or site. If the Order Form authorizes more than one user
13	then the number of users shall be limited to the number set forth on the Order Form "Exhibit 2 at 75 ( $\P 4(a)$ ):
14	Exhibit 4 at 82-83 ( $\P$ 4).
15	190. The prohibited uses described in the 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA provides
16	that:
17	Customer may not (i) copy or reproduce the Product except as permitted in this Agreement: (ii) allow the
18	Product or data from the Product to be made available to any person other than Customer: (iii) assign, sell, transfer
19	or pass along the data, the Product or access to the Product: (iv) translate, reverse engineer, decompile,
20	disassemble or otherwise access the source code; and (v) provide services for a fee or otherwise use the Product
21	without prior written agreement from Mitchell 1. Exhibit 2 at 75 ( $\P$ 4(b)).
22	191. The 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA further provides that:
23	Customer acknowledges and agrees that the Services and
24	Product that is comprised of software, equipment and data, together with such other materials, data and
23 26	Mitchell 1 (all such information and materials collectively
∠0 27	called "Proprietary Materials") are the unique, valuable, confidential and proprietary product of Mitchell 1 and
∠/ 20	contain substantial trade secrets of Mitchell 1 and are entrusted to Customer in confidence to use only as
20	expressly authorized in this Agreement. Customer shall,

Case 3:21-cv-01339-CAB-BGS Document 1 Filed 07/27/21 PageID.55 Page 55 of 67 1 and shall cause its employees and any other third party, including its independent contractors, representatives, affiliates and agents, who, with the express consent of 2 Mitchell 1, has access to such Proprietary Materials to 3 keep all Proprietary Materials confidential and shall not disclose or permit access to the Proprietary Materials to 4 any person or entity other than its employees for the purpose of attaining the objects of this Agreement; and to not use the Proprietary Materials for any purpose other 5 than as expressly permitted herein. Exhibit 2 at 75 ( $\P$  9). 6 Autel US has breached the 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA by both exceeding 192. 7 the permitted purposes for access and use granted by the license and engaging in 8 conduct prohibited by the license. Autel US has breached the 2020 Mitchell 1 9 Order Terms and Conditions at least by exceeding the permitted purposes for access 10 and use granted by the license. 11 193. Autel US exceeded the 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA and 2020 Mitchell 1 12 Order Terms and Conditions' "permitted uses" and engaged in prohibited uses 13 delineated in the 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA when it used Mitchell 1's ProDemand 14 subscription services to steal large amounts of data from Plaintiffs' database servers 15 instead of using the data for "(i) providing vehicle mechanical services; (ii) 16 estimating vehicle mechanical parts and labor cost estimates; and (iii) conducting 17 vehicle shop management." Exhibit 2 at 75 ( $\P$  4(a)); Exhibit 4 at 82 ( $\P$  4). Also, the 18 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA and the 2020 Mitchell 1 Order Terms and Conditions limit 19 the purchased subscription (license) to the number of users on the order form. 20 Autel US breached this provision by allowing multiple users from Autel ITC to 21 access its ProDemand account. 22 194. Autel US also breached the 2016 Mitchell 1 EULA by using 23 Mitchell 1's products ("the Product") in additional manners prohibited by the 24 EULA. For example, upon information and belief, by providing Autel ITC access 25 to ProDemand, Autel US "allow[ed] the Product or data from the product to be 26 made available to any person other than Customer" and also "assign[ed], s[old], 27 28 55 COMPLAINT transfer[red] or pass[ed] along the data, Product or access to the Product," which
 are prohibits uses. Exhibit 2 at 75 (¶ 4(b)).

3 195. As a result of Autel US's actions, Plaintiff Mitchell 1 has been harmed
4 and has suffered damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

5 196. Further, Autel US's violations of these agreement have caused
6 Plaintiffs Mitchell 1 irreparable injury. Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants
7 will continue to commit such acts. Remedies at law are not adequate to fully
8 compensate it for these injuries, entitling Mitchell 1 to injunctive relief.

# SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### <u>Trespass to Chattels</u> (Against Both Defendants)

12 197. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through13 120 as if fully set forth herein.

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14 198. Upon information and belief, Autel US and Autel ITC each committed
15 a trespass to Plaintiffs' chattels under California law for interfering with Plaintiffs'
16 data servers, data, products, and computer system.

17 199. Plaintiffs had, and have, a possessory interest in their data servers,
18 proprietary diagnostic and repair data, and the computer system and products to
19 which customers subscribe to gain access to that data and system.

20 200. Autel US and Autel ITC intentionally interfered with Plaintiffs' use or 21 possession of their data servers, data, computer system, and products through their 22 spoofing of Snap-on devices and extensive and repeated wrongful requests for data 23 from the data servers. Autel US and Autel ITC bombarded Plaintiffs' network and 24 data servers with hundreds of thousands or millions of requests over compressed 25 time periods, at times spoofing dozens of devices from a single IP address to carry 26 out their raid on Plaintiffs' data.

27 201. As described in more detail above, as a result of Autel US and Autel
28 ITC each knowingly and without permission spoofing multiple handheld diagnostic

computers, and extensively attacking Plaintiffs' data servers, service to Plaintiffs'
 customers was cut off or interrupted, and Plaintiffs were forced to shut down
 worldwide access to customers on their data servers on multiple occasions.

4 202. Plaintiffs did not consent to Autel US or Autel ITC requesting this5 data.

6 203. In addition, Autel US and Autel ITC conspired with one another to 7 commit trespass to chattels through the conduct described above. Autel US and 8 Autel ITC conspired, agreed, and had a common plan and design, to work together 9 to carry out mass attacks to siphon the proprietary data from the data servers 10 associated with handheld diagnostic devices, and gained improper access to these 11 data servers from IP addresses associated with Autel US as well as from Chinese IP 12 addresses associated with Autel ITC. At least seven different "spoofed" ZEUS 13 devices were observed attempting to improperly access Snap-on's data servers from 14 both an Autel US IP address and various IP addresses from China associated with this scraping activity. As just one example of this concerted activity, on March 8, 15 16 2021, parallel requests for the same PID data from a 2015 Chevy Cruze were made 17 from the main Autel US IP address and a Chinese IP address within one minute of each other. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the conspiracy by engaging in the 18 19 wrongful conduct described above.

20 204. Plaintiffs were harmed as a result of Autel's conduct. Defendants'
21 extensive and repeated wrongful requests for information significantly slowed
22 down Plaintiffs' network, customers were cut off from access to their account, and
23 Plaintiffs were forced to shut down access to their databases for a segment of their
24 customers on multiple occasions.

25 205. Plaintiffs are entitled to recover damages caused by Autel's conduct.
26 In addition, Autel's trespass to chattels has caused Plaintiffs irreparable injury.
27 Unless restrained and enjoined, Defendants will continue to commit such acts.

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Remedies at law are not adequate to fully compensate Plaintiffs for these injuries,
 entitling Plaintiffs to injunctive relief.

# <u>EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION</u> <u>Misappropriation of Trade Secrets under the DTSA</u> (Against Both Defendants)

206. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through120 as if fully set forth herein.

8 207. Plaintiffs' compilation of proprietary diagnostic and repair
9 information—including at least the specific categories of information known as Top
10 Repairs, Top 10 Repairs, Real Fixes, Troubleshooting, Smart Data, Functional
11 Tests, and Component Tests—are trade secrets within the meaning of the DTSA.

12 208. Plaintiffs invested substantial time and resources in developing the proprietary diagnostic and repair information described in this Complaint. As 13 14 described in detail above, this information is derived from billions of real world 15 repair records that were accumulated over a period of over 25 years, and that have 16 been extensively reviewed and analyzed by Plaintiffs' experts and through artificial 17 intelligence. Plaintiffs have invested substantial amounts of money, analysis, and product development to incorporate this proprietary data into their products and 18 19 services in a highly useful form, over many years.

20 209. This comprehensive compilation of data derives significant economic
21 value from not being known to others in the industry, and provides Plaintiffs with a
22 substantial competitive advantage in the marketplace. No competitor has a
23 comparable set of comprehensive data.

24 210. Plaintiffs have exercised reasonable efforts to maintain the
25 confidentiality of this compilation of data. Among other things, the data is
26 maintained on a password-protected network and on password-protected servers,
27 which are accessible only to those with a need to use them. Plaintiffs limit access
28 to the data internally at the company and employees who do have access to the data

are required to maintain it in confidence. Visitors to the Plaintiffs' facilities are
 required to sign in and to have an employee escort. In addition, the full compilation
 of data is never shared with others and when subsets are shared they are shared
 pursuant to confidentiality agreements.

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211. The compilation of data is also not readily ascertainable by others or made publicly available. While individual users of Plaintiffs' products are allowed to have access to individual items of data, they are required to sign EULAs that require them to limit their use of the data. *See* Exhibit 6 at 87; Exhibit 2 at 75 (¶¶ 4(a)-(b)). The Mitchell 1 EULA further requires end users to acknowledge and agree to the confidentiality of the data. Exhibit 2 at 75 (¶ 9).

11 212. In addition, Plaintiffs' products are designed such that individuals do 12 not gain access to the compilation as a whole. As described in more detail above, 13 users of Plaintiffs' handheld diagnostic computers only gain access to proprietary diagnostic and repair information when the device is connected to a vehicle's OBD-14 II port and reading trouble codes. This means that a user must connect their device 15 to a vehicle or have built a vehicle emulator for the device, which would need to be 16 17 custom made. Moreover, even when a device is connected to a vehicle, the diagnostic information presented via the device's software is limited to data that 18 19 corresponds to the make/model/vintage of the vehicle and the particular repair at 20 issue. And the devices themselves are protected through the technological 21 measures described above. Collectively, these technological measures meaningfully control access to Plaintiffs' proprietary compilation of data. 22

23 213. While certain aspects of this proprietary data (Top Repairs, Real Fixes,
24 and Troubleshooting) are also available through ProDemand, again, only for the
25 particular trouble codes at issue, access to that product is protected by the security
26 measures described above, including a required user name and password, (or an
27 approved IP address for certain customers only by agreement with Autel), usage is
28 limited by the Mitchell 1 EULA, and Plaintiffs have an anti-piracy team that

monitors the accounts to ensure that customers are not exceeding their permitted
 usage.

214. In addition to the above, the maximum and minimum values of the
"known good ranges" for the PID data is never shared with the end user, even at an
individual level. For example, a user connecting a diagnostic device to a 2015
Toyota Camry with a particular issue code will only be able to view whether the
PIDS associated with that data fall inside or outside the acceptable range. The
range itself is never disclosed.

9 215. Determining the "known good ranges" for the PID data for all of the
10 vehicles in Plaintiffs' databases was an enormous task that took years of analysis by
11 experts, who were leveraging the billions of real world repair orders that are
12 uniquely in the possession of Plaintiffs.

216. Autel US and Autel ITC improperly gained access to this trade secret 13 information by circumventing the security measures that protected access to the 14 devices and required authorization for individual data queries, then spoofing the 15 16 devices to gain access to Plaintiffs' data servers, utilizing bots to scrape the data far 17 faster than a human person could, making millions of requests from over 300 different IP addresses, and fully bypassing the required procedure of connecting the 18 19 devices to a vehicle to obtain information that is pertinent only to the active 20 problem codes for that vehicle for a particular repair. Autel US and Autel ITC were 21 well aware that this was improper and egregious conduct. It was intended to 22 acquire the compilation of data itself, or a substantial portion of it, rather than to 23 access individual data points for the purpose of conducting repairs.

24 217. In addition, Autel US and Autel ITC conspired with one another to
25 misappropriate Plaintiffs' trade secrets through the conduct described above. Autel
26 US and Autel ITC conspired, agreed, and had a common plan and design, to work
27 together to carry out mass attacks to misappropriate Plaintiffs' trade secrets from
28 the data servers associated with handheld diagnostic devices, and gained improper

1 access to these data servers from IP addresses associated with Autel US as well as from Chinese IP addresses associated with Autel ITC. At least seven different 2 3 "spoofed" ZEUS devices were observed attempting to improperly access Snap-on's 4 data servers from both an Autel US IP address and various IP addresses from China 5 associated with this scraping activity. As just one example of this concerted 6 activity, on March 8, 2021, parallel requests for the same PID data from a 2015 7 Chevy Cruze were made from the main Autel US IP address and a Chinese IP address within one minute of each other. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the 8 9 conspiracy by engaging in the wrongful conduct described above.

10 218. The misappropriation of trade secrets by Autel US and Autel ITC was
11 willful, malicious, and fraudulent—deliberately concealing the true source of the
12 attack on Plaintiffs' data.

13 219. As a result of Autel's misappropriation, Plaintiffs have been damaged
14 in an amount to be proven at trial. Further, Autel has been unjustly enriched by
15 having the benefit of Plaintiffs' data that took many years to accumulate, review,
16 and analyze.

17 220. As a result of Autel's trade secret misappropriation, Plaintiffs are
18 entitled to recover damages both for the actual loss caused by misappropriation and
19 the unjust enrichment caused by misappropriation, or in the alternative to a
20 reasonable royalty.

21 221. In addition, because Defendants' misappropriation of trade secrets was
22 willful and malicious, Plaintiffs are entitled to exemplary damages in an amount up
23 to two times the amount of the damages awarded, and to recover attorneys' fees and
24 costs pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(3).

25 222. Further, Autel's misappropriation of Plaintiffs' trade secrets has
26 caused, and will continue to harm, irreparable harm to Plaintiffs, and Plaintiffs are
27 entitled to injunctive relief.

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# NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION

#### **Misappropriation of Trade Secrets under the California Uniform Trade** Secrets Act (Against both Defendants)

223. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through 120 and 206 through 222 as if fully set forth herein.

224. Plaintiffs' compilation of proprietary diagnostic and repair 6 information—including at least the specific categories of information known as Top Repairs, Top 10 Repairs, Real Fixes, Troubleshooting, Smart Data, Functional Tests, and Component Tests-are trade secrets within the meaning of the California 9 Uniform Trade Secrets Act. 10

225. Plaintiffs invested substantial time and resources in developing the 11 proprietary diagnostic and repair information described in this Complaint. As 12 described in detail above, this information is derived from billions of real world 13 repair records that were accumulated over a period of over 25 years, and that have 14 been extensively reviewed and analyzed by plaintiffs' experts and through artificial 15 intelligence. Plaintiffs have invested substantial amounts of money, analysis, and 16 product development to incorporate this proprietary data into their products and 17 services in a highly useful form, over many years. 18

226. This comprehensive compilation of data derives significant economic 19 value from not being known to others in the industry, and provides Plaintiffs with a 20 substantial competitive advantage in the marketplace. No competitor has a 21 comparable set of comprehensive data. 22

227. Plaintiffs have exercised reasonable efforts to maintain the 23 confidentiality of this compilation of data. Among other things, the data is 24 maintained on a password-protected network and on password-protected servers, 25 which are accessible only to those with a need to use them. Plaintiffs limit access 26 to the data internally at the company and employees who do have access to the data 27 are required to maintain it in confidence. Visitors to the Plaintiffs' facilities are 28

required to sign in and to have an employee escort. In addition, the full compilation
 of data is never shared with others and when subsets are shared they are shared
 pursuant to confidentiality agreements.

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228. The compilation of data is also not readily ascertainable by others or made publicly available. While individual users of Plaintiffs' products are allowed to have access to individual items of data, they are required to sign EULAs that require them to limit their use of the data. *See* Exhibit 6 at 87; Exhibit 2 at 75 (¶¶ 4(a)-(b)). The Mitchell 1 EULA further requires end users to acknowledge and agree to the confidentiality of the data. Exhibit 2 at 75 (¶ 9).

10 229. In addition, Plaintiffs' products are designed such that individuals do 11 not gain access to the compilation as a whole. As described in more detail above, 12 users of Plaintiffs' handheld diagnostic computers only gain access to the proprietary diagnostic and repair information when the device is connected to a 13 14 vehicle's OBD-II port and reading trouble codes. This means that a user must connect their device to a vehicle or have built a vehicle emulator for the device, 15 which would need to be custom made. Moreover, even when a device is connected 16 17 to a vehicle, the diagnostic information presented via the device's software is limited to data that corresponds to the make/model/vintage of the vehicle and the 18 19 particular problems at issue. And the devices themselves are protected through the 20 technological measures described above. Collectively, these technological 21 measures meaningfully control access to Plaintiffs' proprietary compilation of data.

22 230. While certain aspects of this proprietary data (Top Repairs, Real Fixes,
and Troubleshooting) are also available through ProDemand, again, only for the
particular trouble codes at issue, access to that product is protected by the security
measures described above, including a required user name and password, (or an
approved IP address for certain customers only by agreement with Autel), usage is
limited by the Mitchell 1 EULA, and Plaintiffs have an anti-piracy team that

monitors the accounts to ensure that customers are not exceeding their permitted
 usage.

231. In addition to the above, the maximum and minimum values of the
"known good ranges" for the PID data is never shared with the end user, even at an
individual level. For example, a user connecting a diagnostic device to a 2015
Toyota Camry with a particular issue code will only be able to view whether the
PIDS associated with that data fall inside or outside the acceptable range. The
range itself is never disclosed.

9 232. Determining the "known good ranges" for the PID data for all of the
10 vehicles in Plaintiffs' databases was an enormous task that took years of analysis by
11 experts, and it required the billions of real world repair orders that are uniquely in
12 the possession of Plaintiffs.

233. Autel US and Autel ITC improperly gained access to this trade secret 13 information by circumventing the security measures that protected access to the 14 devices and required authorization for individual data queries, and then spoofing 15 the devices to gain access to Plaintiffs' data servers, utilizing bots to scrape the data 16 17 far faster than a human person could, making millions of requests from dozens of different IP addresses, and fully bypassing the required procedure of connecting the 18 19 devices to a vehicle to obtain information that is pertinent only to the active 20 problem codes for that vehicle for a particular repair. Autel US and Autel ITC were 21 well aware that this was improper and egregious conduct. It was intended to 22 acquire the compilation of data itself, or a substantial portion of it, rather than to 23 access individual data points for the purpose of conducting repairs.

24 234. In addition, Autel US and Autel ITC conspired with one another to
25 misappropriate Plaintiffs' trade secrets through the conduct described above. Autel
26 US and Autel ITC conspired, agreed, and had a common plan and design, to work
27 together to carry out mass attacks to misappropriate Plaintiffs' trade secrets from
28 the data servers associated with handheld diagnostic devices, and gained improper

1 access to these data servers from IP addresses associated with Autel US as well as from Chinese IP addresses associated with Autel ITC. At least seven different 2 3 "spoofed" ZEUS devices were observed attempting to improperly access Snap-on's 4 data servers from both an Autel US IP address and various IP addresses from China 5 associated with this scraping activity. As just one example of this concerted 6 activity, on March 8, 2021, parallel requests for the same PID data from a 2015 7 Chevy Cruze were made from the main Autel US IP address and a Chinese IP address within one minute of each other. Autel US and Autel ITC carried out the 8 9 conspiracy by engaging in the wrongful conduct described above.

235. The misappropriation of trade secrets by Autel US and Autel ITC was
willful, malicious, and fraudulent—deliberately concealing the true source of the
attack on Plaintiffs' data.

236. As a result of Autel's misappropriation, Plaintiffs have been damaged
in an amount to be proven at trial. Further, Autel has been unjustly enriched by
having the benefit of Plaintiffs' data that took many years to accumulate, review,
and analyze.

17 237. As a result of Autel's trade secret misappropriation, Plaintiffs are
18 entitled to recover damages both for the actual loss caused by misappropriation and
19 the unjust enrichment caused by misappropriation, or in the alternative to a
20 reasonable royalty.

21 238. In addition, because Defendants' misappropriation of trade secrets was
22 willful and malicious, Plaintiffs are entitled to exemplary damages in an amount up
23 to two times the amount of the damages awarded, and to recover attorneys' fees and
24 costs pursuant to California Civil Code sections 3426.3 and 3426.4.

25 239. Further, Autel's misappropriation of Plaintiffs' trade secrets has
26 caused, and will continue to harm, irreparable harm to Plaintiffs, and Plaintiffs are
27 entitled to injunctive relief.

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1		PRAYER FOR RELIEF
2	WHE	EREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:
3	a.	For temporary, preliminary, and permanent injunctive relief, including
4		but not limited to requiring Defendants to cease taking information
5		from Plaintiffs, and prohibiting Defendants from making use of any
6		information obtained from Plaintiffs or any features that incorporate
7		information from Plaintiffs;
8	b.	For damages sufficient to fully compensate Plaintiffs for all of the
9		harm caused by Defendants' actions and for having to respond to
10		Defendants' actions;
11	с.	For profits of Defendants pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 1203(c)(2) or
12		otherwise allowable by law;
13	d.	For statutory damages pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 1203(c)(3) or otherwise
14		allowable by law;
15	e.	For damages sufficient to compensate for the unjust enrichment of
16		Defendants gained through their misappropriation of Plaintiffs' trade
17		secrets;
18	f.	Alternatively, in lieu of damages for actual loss or for unjust
19		enrichment from Defendants' misappropriation of Plaintiffs' trade
20		secrets, for a reasonable royalty;
21	g.	For exemplary damages up to two times the amount of damages
22		awarded for Defendants' misappropriation of Plaintiffs' trade secrets
23		pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1836(b)(3) and Cal. Civ. Code § 3426.3;
24	h.	For exemplary and/or punitive damages as otherwise allowable by law;
25	i.	For attorneys' fees pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 1203(b), 18 U.S.C.
26		§ 1836(b)(3), Cal. Civ. Code § 3426.4, and section 20 of the Mitchell 1
27		EULA, or as otherwise allowable by law;
28	j.	For costs of this action;

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1	k.	k. For pre-and post-judgment interest;							
2	1.	For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and							
3	proper.								
4	Plain	ntiffs demand a jury trial on all claims	s that are triable by jury.						
5									
6	Dated: July	7 27, 2021 MORRIS	SON & FOERSTER LLP						
7									
8		By: <u>/s/ k</u>	Kenneth A. Kuwayti						
9		KE KK	NNETH A. KUWAYTI Kuwayti@mofo.com						
10		Att	torneys for Plaintiffs						
11		MI INI	FORMATION COMPANY, LLC						
12		and	A SNAP-ON INCORPORATED						
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