

1 witnesses at the start of discovery and three months before trial unfairly forces that party to take
2 an important stance based on information that is at best incomplete. Furthermore, such
3 information is unlikely to be very useful, as a party's ultimate decision on who to call at trial will
4 likely change over the succeeding weeks before trial.

5 Moreover, contrary to their claim, Defendant's ability to engage in third-party discovery
6 is not at all dependant upon Plaintiffs' providing a premature witness list. Under the draft Case
7 Management Order, Defendants will obtain immediate access - in mid-March - to the third party
8 documents produced to Plaintiffs during Plaintiffs' investigation. This production will provide
9 more than a sufficient basis for Defendant to identify relevant third-party witnesses and at least
10 two and half months to pursue whatever third-party discovery it needs to take before the June 4th
11 discovery cut-off date. Defendant is also guaranteed the opportunity under the draft Case
12 Management Order to depose any witness listed on either Plaintiffs' preliminary or final witness
13 lists, which are to be exchanged on May 10th - a full six weeks before trial - and June 1st.

14 Beyond agreeing to an early exchange of third-party materials, in an attempt to resolve
15 this dispute, Plaintiffs have offered to agree to a mutual exchange of a list of organizations that
16 each party believe are likely to have discoverable information that party may use to support their
17 claims or defenses, which closely follows the type of initial exchange called for by Fed. R. Civ.
18 P. 26(a)(1)(A). Defendant has refused to agree to such a mutual exchange.

19 **2. Executive Approval ("Discount") Forms (CMS Section 4(b)(4))**

20 During Plaintiffs' Investigation of Defendant's unsolicited bid to acquire PeopleSoft,
21 Plaintiffs learned that Defendant's business practice was to discount the price of its applications
22 software when competing for sales with PeopleSoft and SAP. Plaintiffs further learned that a
23 U.S. Executive Approval Form (i.e. a "Discount" Form) was generated when a price discount
24 was being sought. Early in the investigation, pursuant to Defendant's repeated requests,
25 Plaintiffs agreed to defer production of most of these forms, but retained "the right to require a
26 complete production in a timely manner should the Division determine that the search of
27 additional files or production of additional information would be useful to our investigation."
28 After reviewing the Discount Forms that were provided, Plaintiffs confirmed that these

1 documents were among the most important evidence in the investigation. When Plaintiffs sought
2 additional Discount Forms later in the investigation, Defendant refused to provide them.
3 Plaintiffs repeatedly attempted to work out a compromise with Defendant that would provide for
4 production of the bulk of the relevant Discount Forms while minimizing the cost of production,
5 but ultimately were rebuffed.

6 These forms are unquestionably relevant to the matter now before the Court. They
7 provide first-hand accounts from Defendant's salespeople and executives of how competition
8 affects pricing. They reveal that the Defendant can and does engage in price discrimination and
9 that the identity of Defendant's competitor(s) in a deal often effects the level of discount offered
10 to the customer. The Discount Forms are among the most direct evidence that the presence of
11 PeopleSoft in the marketplace directly affects the prices and features of Defendant's software.
12 There is no reasonable basis for Defendant to continue to refuse production of these forms,
13 particularly in light of the aggressive schedule proposed in the CMS.

14 **3. Depositions of Defendant Employees and Executives (CMS Section 7(d))**

15 The parties have agreed that Plaintiffs will not depose any of Defendant's employees
16 previously deposed during Plaintiffs' Investigation for more than one additional day.
17 Depositions of Defendant employees were attended by numerous attorneys for the Defendant,
18 and in all cases were defended by Defendant's counsel who interposed a broad range of
19 objections to the questions posed by Plaintiff's attorneys. Plaintiffs believe that these depositions
20 should be available to be used for all purposes for which party depositions may be used under
21 Fed. R. Civ. P. 32.

22 Although Defendants have not pointed to any deposition, nor to any testimony, nor to any
23 example of the type of testimony that might be problematic, they are only willing to agree that
24 they will not object on hearsay grounds to the admissibility of depositions of Defendant's
25 employees during Plaintiffs' investigation. Plaintiffs respectfully submit that this is an
26 unworkable proposal, in that it suggests that Plaintiffs' may not learn until the end of discovery
27 (when deposition testimony is designated) which statements Defendant's employees made under
28 oath are not available to be used in the manner provided under the Federal Rules.

1 **4. Interrogatories (CMS Section 8(a))**

2 The parties have agreed that Interrogatories shall be limited to 15 for Plaintiffs' side and
3 25 for the Defendant. Plaintiffs believe this is an appropriate balance in the number of
4 interrogatories, even though it will mean that the various Plaintiffs will have to coordinate and
5 agree on a limited number of interrogatories they will propound.

6 Defendant seeks significantly more however, proposing to serve on Plaintiffs an
7 extensive and yet-to-be-determined number of interrogatories patterned after those propounded
8 on Defendant as part of the Antitrust Division's Request for Additional Information under the
9 Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act. Those "Second Request" interrogatories were
10 issued on June 30, 2003 and responded to by Defendant on December 16, 2003. Second Request
11 interrogatories are issued at the outset of an investigation, before virtually any other investigation
12 or discovery has occurred, and serve several purposes that are quite different than the purposes of
13 post-complaint interrogatories. These include, for example, aiding antitrust investigators (who
14 initially are likely not as familiar with an industry as an acquiring party will be) in narrowing
15 potential issues of competitive concern, focusing further investigation and, more broadly,
16 ultimately allowing the antitrust agency to reach a determination of whether to close an
17 investigation, seek settlement with merging parties, or file a Complaint seeking injunctive relief
18 to block an acquisition.

19 Plaintiffs already have agreed to allow Defendant to serve 10 interrogatories more than
20 the 15 allowed Plaintiffs. There does not seem to be any good reason for Defendant being able
21 to serve additional interrogatories. Moreover, Fed. R. Civ. P. 33 provides that a party to a case
22 may serve only 25 interrogatories on any other party. This case will proceed to trial in a
23 shortened time frame, and this is another reason why Defendant should not be entitled to serve
24 interrogatories in excess of the 25 provided for under the Federal Rules.

25 **5. The ability of Defendant's In House Counsel to View Proprietary Information Without**
26 **Notice to Parties Who Have Submitted the Information (CMS Section 9)**

27 The Parties have agreed to a Protective Order, with the exception of one discrete, but
28 important issue. The Protective Order will cover materials submitted to Plaintiffs by third parties

1 (including PeopleSoft). These third parties submitted this information with the assurance that
2 they would have an opportunity to review a Protective Order entered in this case, and determine
3 whether to designate as confidential business information particular documents and testimony to
4 prevent disclosure of such competitively sensitive information to Defendant's employees,
5 including in-house counsel. The ability to make such designations is important to some third
6 parties, due to the hostile nature of Defendant's takeover attempt, the involvement of some of
7 Defendant's in-house counsel in related litigation and the involvement of some in-house counsel
8 in competitive decision making by the Defendant. As currently drafted, Defendant's proposal
9 provides for wholesale disclosure of third-party documents and information to Defendant's in-
10 house counsel, without an explicit representation by Defendant as to the role of these counsel in
11 the hostile takeover attempt, related litigation or competitive decision making. Moreover,
12 Defendant's proposal would provide no opportunity for third parties to come into court to seek
13 additional protection from disclosure to Defendant's in-house counsel of those third-parties'
14 most sensitive and competitively important information.

15 In an effort to expedite matters while third parties are reviewing the Protective Order and
16 making appropriate designations of their documents and testimony, Plaintiffs have agreed to turn
17 over their investigative files (subject to any claims of privilege) to designated Latham & Watkins
18 attorneys at the earliest practicable time. To do more than this would violate the confidentiality
19 obligations Plaintiffs have to third parties. Plaintiff States are also similarly postured. Section
20 15.10 (I)(5) of the Texas Antitrust Act provides that the Texas Office of Attorney General may
21 not disclose material designated as confidential by a third-party without first giving 15-days
22 notice to the third-party, so that the third-party may petition the Court for a Protective Order
23 limiting the terms under which its confidential information any be disclosed. The logic of these
24 statutory provisions, and the considerable importance to third-parties of having an opportunity to
25 seek appropriate protection for their most confidential materials, easily outweigh any limited
26 inconvenience to the Defendant that might arise from two in-house counsel not having access to
27 certain materials for a limited amount of time until the Court resolves and requests further
28 protection.

1 In conclusion, Plaintiffs would note that there appears to be a common theme for the
2 areas on which the parties have not been able to reach agreement on the CMS and Protective
3 Order. That theme is Defendant's belief that they are "behind" Plaintiffs or "disadvantaged" by
4 the fact that Plaintiffs conducted an investigation of the proposed Oracle/PeopleSoft transaction.
5 Oracle, was of course, a primary participant in that investigation, they know the areas in which
6 Plaintiffs first showed interest, how those areas of interest were narrowed, what was being
7 focused on, and except for specific and proprietary third party information, the type of data and
8 information being obtained. With respect to contacts with software customers, Defendant has
9 stated that it has been in contact with many of the same customers that Plaintiffs have contacted.

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