SIDNEY A. MAJALYA (CA Bar No. 205047) JACKLIN CHOU LEM (CA Bar No. 255293)

MANISH KUMAR (CA Bar No. 269493)

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Antitrust Division

U.S. Department of Justice 450 Golden Gate Avenue

Box 36046, Room 10-0101 San Francisco, CA 94102

Telephone: (415) 436-6660 Fax: (415) 436-6687

sidney.majalya@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for the United States

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Defendant.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

0911

INFORMATION

VIOLATIONS:

15 U.S.C. § 1 - Conspiracy in Restraint of Trade (Counts One - Nine);

San Francisco Venue

The United States of America, acting through its attorneys, charges:

YOUNG KEUN PARK ("defendant"),

the defendant as follows:

YOUNG KEUN PARK,

- 1. During the time periods relevant to this Information, the defendant was an employee of Hitachi-LG Data Storage, Inc. ("HLDS"). The defendant was HLDS's Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer in charge of optical disk drive ("ODD") sales. The defendant had supervisory responsibility for HLDS's Dell, Inc. ("Dell"), Microsoft Corporation ("Microsoft"), and Hewlett-Packard Company ("HP") accounts.
- 2. ODDs are devices that use laser light or electromagnetic waves to read and/or write data. ODDs typically both read and write data, but some are only readers. There are

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several types of ODDs, including the following: CD-ROM, CD-RW, DVD-ROM, DVD-RW, and Combo drives. Optical disk drives can be manufactured according to varying specifications. For example, ODDs are available in different heights (e.g., half-height and slim), and use different types of interfaces to connect to a computer's motherboard (e.g., Parallel Advanced Technology Attachment (PATA) and Serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA)). HLDS and other ODD sellers typically sell their products to computer and gaming system makers such as Dell, Microsoft, and HP.

3. Whenever in this Information reference is made to any act, deed, or transaction of any corporation, the allegation means that the corporation engaged in the act, deed, or transaction by or through its officers, directors, employees, agents, or other representatives while they were actively engaged in the management, direction, control, or transaction of its business or affairs.

I.

THE DELL PROCUREMENT EVENTS

- 4. During the time periods relevant to Counts One and Two:
- (a) Dell hosted ODD procurement events in which the defendant and coconspirators participated. Dell was a major manufacturer of desktop and laptop computers, servers, and storage solutions marketed and sold to business enterprises and individual consumers. Dell purchased ODDs that were incorporated into technology products sold by Dell to businesses and individuals.
- (b) Dell's ODD procurement events were competitive bidding events in which participants would be awarded varying amounts of ODD supply depending on where participants' pricing ranked in any particular event.

COUNT ONE: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

FEBRUARY 2009 DELL PROCUREMENT EVENT

- 5. Paragraphs 1through 4 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 6. From approximately February 2009 to approximately July 2009, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and

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restrain competition for a February 2009 ODD procurement event held by Dell for the purchase of half-height SATA Tray DVD-RW drives, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.

7. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on Dell's February 2009 ODD procurement event for half-height SATA Tray DVD-RW drives; to submit collusive, noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement event; and to provide Dell with ODDs and receive payment from Dell as a result of the collusive bidding.

MEANS AND METHODS OF THE CONSPIRACY

- 8. For the purpose of forming and carrying out the charged combination and conspiracy, the defendant and co-conspirators did those things that they combined and conspired to do, including, among other things:
 - (a) participating in meetings, discussions, and communications in the United States or elsewhere to discuss bidding strategies and prices of ODDs;
 - (b) agreeing, during those meetings, discussions, and communications on how participants would bid on ODDs;
 - (c) bidding on ODDs in accordance with the agreements reached;
 - (d) exchanging information on sales, production, market share, capacity, and pricing of ODDs for the purpose of monitoring and enforcing adherence to the agreements and preparing for future conspiratorial discussions; and
 - (e) authorizing, ordering, and consenting to the participation of subordinate employees in the conspiracy.

CO-CONSPIRATORS

9. Various corporations and individuals, not made defendants in this Count, participated as co-conspirators in the offense charged in this Count and performed acts and made statements in furtherance of the offense.

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INTERSTATE TRADE AND COMMERCE

- 10. During the time period relevant to this Count, defendant and co-conspirators sold and distributed ODDs in a continuous and uninterrupted flow of interstate and foreign trade and commerce to customers located in states or countries other than the states or countries from which the defendant and co-conspirators sold ODDs.
- 11. The business activities of the defendant and co-conspirators that are the subject of this Count were within the flow of, and substantially affected, interstate and foreign trade and commerce.

COUNT ONE IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

COUNT TWO: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

MAY 2009 DELL PROCUREMENT EVENT

- 12. Paragraphs 1 through 4 and 8 through 11 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 13. From approximately May 2009 to approximately September 2009, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and restrain competition for a May 2009 ODD procurement event held by Dell for the purchase of half-height DVD-RW and 12.7mm Tray DVD-RW drives, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.
- 14. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on Dell's May 2009 ODD procurement event for half-height DVD-RW and 12.7mm Tray DVD-RW drives; to submit collusive, noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement event; and to provide Dell with ODDs and receive payment from Dell as a result of the collusive bidding. COUNT TWO IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

II.

MICROSOFT'S PURCHASE OF ODDS

COUNT THREE: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Price Fixing)

- 15. Paragraphs 1 through 3 and 9 through 11 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 16. During the time period covered by Count Three, Microsoft was a major seller of video gaming consoles. Microsoft purchased ODDs from the defendant and co-conspirators that were incorporated into video gaming consoles produced for sale by Microsoft.
- 17. From approximately June 2007 to approximately March 2008, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy in the United States and elsewhere to suppress and eliminate competition by fixing the prices of ODDs sold to Microsoft. The combination and conspiracy engaged in by the defendant and co-conspirators was in unreasonable restraint of interstate and foreign trade and commerce in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.
- 18. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were to agree to fix the prices of ODDs sold to Microsoft.

MEANS AND METHODS OF THE CONSPIRACY

- 19. For the purpose of forming and carrying out the charged combination and conspiracy, the defendant and co-conspirators did those things that they combined and conspired to do, including, among other things:
 - (a) participating in meetings, conversations, and communications in Taiwan and the Republic of Korea to discuss the price of ODDs;
 - (b) agreeing, during those meetings, conversations, and communications, to
 sell ODDs at certain prices;
 - (c) issuing price quotations in accordance with the agreements reached;
 - (d) exchanging information on sales of ODD, for the purpose of monitoring and enforcing adherence to the agreed-upon prices; and

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(e) authorizing, ordering, and consenting to the participation of subordinate employees in the conspiracy.

COUNT THREE IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

III.

THE HP PROCUREMENT EVENTS

- 20. During the time periods relevant to Counts Four through Nine:
- (a) HP hosted ODD procurement events in which the defendant and coconspirators participated. HP was a major manufacturer of computer hardware, software, and services marketed and sold to business enterprises and individual consumers. HP purchased ODDs that were incorporated into technology products sold by HP to businesses and individuals.
- (b) HP's ODD procurement events were competitive bidding events in which participants would be awarded varying amounts of ODD supply depending on where participants' pricing ranked in any particular event.

COUNT FOUR: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

NOVEMBER 2005 HP PROCUREMENT EVENT

- 21. Paragraphs 1 through 3, 8 through 11, and 20 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 22. From approximately November 2005 to approximately April 2006, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and restrain competition for a November 2005 ODD procurement event held by HP for the purchase of CD-ROM, CD-RW, DVD-ROM, and Combo drives, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.
- 23. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on HP's November 2005 ODD procurement event for CD-ROM, CD-RW, DVD-ROM, and Combo drives; to submit collusive, noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement event; and to

provide HP with ODDs and receive payment from HP as a result of the collusive bidding.

24. The combination and conspiracy charged in this Count was carried out, in part, in the Northern District of California.

COUNT FOUR IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

COUNT FIVE: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

AUGUST 2006 HP PROCUREMENT EVENT

- 25. Paragraphs 1 through 3, 8 through 11, 20, and 24 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 26. From approximately August 2006 to approximately December 2006, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and restrain competition for an August 2006 ODD procurement event held by HP for the purchase of half-height PATA and SATA DVD-ROM drives, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.
- 27. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on HP's August 2006 ODD procurement event for half-height PATA and SATA DVD-ROM drives; to submit collusive, noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement event; and to provide HP with ODDs and receive payment from HP as a result of the collusive bidding.

COUNT FIVE IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

COUNT SIX: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

AUGUST 2007 HP PROCUREMENT EVENT

- 28. Paragraphs 1 through 3, 8 through 11, 20, and 24 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 29. From approximately August 2007 to approximately December 2007, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and restrain competition for an August 2007 ODD procurement event held by HP for

the purchase of Lightscribe DVD-RW drives, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.

30. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on HP's August 2007 ODD procurement event for Lightscribe DVD-RW drives; to submit collusive, noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement event; and to provide HP with ODDs and receive payment from HP as a result of the collusive bidding.

COUNT SIX IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

COUNT SEVEN: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

MAY, AUGUST, AND NOVEMBER 2008 AND

FEBRUARY 2009 HP PROCUREMENT EVENTS

- 31. Paragraphs 1 through 3, 8 through 11, 20, and 24 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 32. From approximately May 2008 to approximately June 2009, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and restrain competition for ODD procurement events held by HP for the purchase of half-height SATA DVD-RW drives in May 2008, August 2008, November 2008, and February 2009, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.
- 33. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on HP's May 2008, August 2008, November 2008, and February 2009 ODD procurement events for half-height SATA DVD-RW drives; to submit collusive, noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement events; and to provide HP with ODDs and receive payment from HP as a result of the collusive bidding.
- COUNT SEVEN IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

COUNT EIGHT: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

JULY AND OCTOBER 2008 HP PROCUREMENT EVENTS

- 34. Paragraphs 1 through 3, 8 through 11, 20, and 24 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 35. From approximately July 2008 to approximately March 2009, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and restrain competition for ODD procurement events held by HP for the purchase of 12.7mm SATA DVD-RW drives in July and October 2008, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.
- 36. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on HP's July and October 2008 ODD procurement events for 12.7mm SATA DVD-RW drives; to submit collusive, noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement events; and to provide HP with ODDs and receive payment from HP as a result of the collusive bidding.
- COUNT EIGHT IN VIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1.

COUNT NINE: 15 U.S.C. § 1 (Bid Rigging)

OCTOBER 2008 SUPPLEMENTAL HP PROCUREMENT EVENT

- 37. Paragraphs 1 through 3, 8 through 11, 20, and 24 of this Information are repeated, realleged, and incorporated into this Count as if fully set forth herein.
- 38. From approximately October 2008 to approximately March 2009, the defendant and co-conspirators entered into and engaged in a combination and conspiracy to suppress and restrain competition for a supplemental October 2008 ODD procurement event held by HP for the purchase of 12.7mm SATA DVD-RW drives, in unreasonable restraint of interstate trade and commerce, in violation of the Sherman Act, Title 15, United States Code, Section 1.
- 39. The charged combination and conspiracy consisted of an agreement, understanding, and concert of action among the defendant and co-conspirators, the substantial terms of which were: to predetermine the rank order in which the bidders would finish on HP's

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1 October 2008 ODD procurement event for 12.7mm SATA DVD-RW drives; to submit collusive, 2 noncompetitive, and rigged bids for the procurement event; and to provide HP with ODDs and 3 receive payment from HP as a result of the collusive bidding. 4 COUNT NINE IN YIOLATION OF TITLE 15, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1. 5 6 SHARIS A. POZEN Acting Assistant Attorney General Chief, San Francisco Office 8 9 SCOTT D. HAMMOND PETER K. HUSTON Deputy Assistant Attorney General Assistant Chief, San Francisco Office 11 12 Director of Criminal Enforcement JACKLIN CHOU LEM 13 MANISH KUMAR 14 Trial Attorneys, San Francisco Office U.S. Department of Justice 15 **Antitrust Division** 16 17 United States Attorney 18 Northern District of California 19 20

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