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9 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

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FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

14

ROBERT JACOBSEN,

No. C06-1905-JSW

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Plaintiff,

**DECLARATION OF ROBIN BECKER IN  
SUPPORT OF MOTION OF SUMMARY  
JUDGMENT**

16

v.

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MATTHEW KATZER, et al.,

Courtroom: 11, 19th Floor  
Judge: Hon. Jeffrey S. White  
Date: Fri., December 4, 2009  
Time: 9:00 a.m.

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Defendants.

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My name is Robin Becker. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated below. If called as  
25 a witness I could and would testify competently to the following.

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1. I have a PhD in electrical engineering. I am the Director of Engineering for

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Teledyne Advanced Pollution Instrumentation. I am trained and highly skilled in electronics,

1 firmware, and embedded control system design and development.

2 2 I have written decoder files for JMRI. My work on the JMRI project was mostly  
3 with the Soundtraxx decoders. I believe I contributed to 10 or 11 Soundtraxx decoder files over  
4 multiple releases.

5 3. Most of this effort was during the early years of JMRI, around 2001-2003. At that  
6 time I think it is fair to say that the DCC information available in the public domain was very  
7 poor—much poorer than it is now. The lack of quality information was particularly true with  
8 regard to the details of decoder behavior for each manufacturer.

9 4. The documentation manufacturers provided was often incomplete, contradictory,  
10 and inaccurate. There was no standardized, accessible firmware versioning method used by  
11 Soundtraxx. As a result it was difficult to determine what functions were actually supported in any  
12 a given decoder.

13 5. On multiple occasions I dealt directly with Soundtraxx, the decoder manufacturer,  
14 in attempts to resolve issues. At times they were confused, or just plain wrong, about what was in  
15 the firmware, how a function actually worked, or what their documentation actually meant. Given  
16 the overall state of the industry during that time, a fair amount of skill, research, and  
17 experimentation were required to correctly establish some of the details in each of the JMRI  
18 Soundtraxx decoder files.

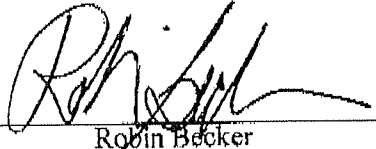
19 6. I can flatly state that it was not possible to take the manufacturer and NMRA  
20 documentation and produce complete, fully functioning decoder files.

21 7. I do not have specific records of the hours I contributed to JMRI on the Soundtraxx  
22 decoder files. Given my recollections, the number of files, multiple releases, and nature of the  
23 issues encountered, a reasonable estimate would be 80-100 hours.  
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I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 27 day of October, 2009 at San Diego, California.

  
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Robin Becker