

**NOTICE OF QUEBEC AUTHORIZATION AND NATIONAL SETTLEMENT APPROVAL HEARING
IN THE SMALL-SIZE BALL BEARINGS CLASS ACTIONS**

TO ALL PERSONS IN CANADA WHO PURCHASED SMALL-SIZE BALL BEARINGS OR PRODUCTS EQUIPPED WITH SMALL-SIZE BALL BEARINGS BETWEEN JUNE 1ST, 2003 AND OCTOBER 31ST, 2011.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. IT MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS.

Class action lawsuits have been commenced in Quebec, British Columbia and Ontario (the "Class Actions") for all persons in Canada who purchased small-size ball bearings ("Bearings") or products equipped with Bearings, against the defendants who manufacture and sell these Bearings.

A national settlement has been reached with some of these defendants. This settlement must be approved by the Courts.

This notice is to inform you of your rights and options about these Class Actions and this settlement.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT:	Read SECTION 7 .
TO MAKE AN OBJECTION TO THE SETTLEMENT:	Read SECTION 9 .
TO EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT AND THE CLASS ACTIONS:	To exclude yourself from the settlement and the Class Actions, read SECTIONS 12 AND 13 .
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ONGOING CLASS ACTIONS:	Read SECTION 10 .

1. WHAT IS A CLASS ACTION?

A class action is a lawsuit filed by one person on behalf of a large group of people.

2. WHAT ARE THESE CLASS ACTIONS ABOUT?

Class action lawsuits have been commenced in Quebec, British Columbia and Ontario against the following defendants (the "Defendants"):

Quebec Defendants: MinebeaMitsumi Inc. (formerly Minebea Co. Ltd.), NSK Ltd. and NSK Canada Inc.;

British Columbia Defendants: MinebeaMitsumi Inc. (formerly Minebea Co. Ltd.), NMB Korea Co., Ltd., NMB (USA) Inc., New Hampshire Ball Bearings Inc., NMB Technologies Corporation, NSK Ltd. and NSK Canada Inc.; and

Ontario Defendants: MinebeaMitsumi Inc. (formerly Minebea Co. Ltd.), NMB Korea Co., Ltd., NMB (USA) Inc., New Hampshire Ball Bearings Inc., NMB Technologies Corporation, NSK Ltd. and NSK Canada Inc.

The plaintiffs allege that the manufacturers of Bearings and their related entities conspired to fix prices in the Bearings' market, causing buyers to overpay for Bearings and the products equipped with Bearings bought in Canada. The Courts have yet to determine if this was the case. The plaintiffs ask that the Defendants return the monies representing any overpayment for Bearings or products equipped with Bearings in Canada to class members. Bearings are notably used in communication devices, household appliances, video cameras, personal computers, printers, air conditioning units, vacuum cleaners, fishing reels and power tools.

3. WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?

The purpose of this notice is to inform you of your rights and options with respect to the settlement with the Defendants MinebeaMitsumi Inc. (formerly Minebea Co. Ltd.), NMB Korea Co., Ltd., NMB (USA) Inc. and NMB Technologies Corporation (the "Settling Defendants").

This notice is also intended to inform you about your rights and options regarding the Class Actions.

If you are receiving this notice, it is because you may be affected by the settlement and the Class Actions.

4. WHAT SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED IN THE CLASS ACTIONS?

A settlement is when a defendant agrees to pay money to the members of the class action in exchange for being released from the case.

The Settling Defendants agreed to settle the Class Actions by paying CDN \$1,500,000 for the benefit of the settlement class members, in exchange for a full release of the claims against them relating to the alleged price-fixing of Bearings (the "Settlement"). As the Settling Defendants have represented that the Defendant New Hampshire Ball Bearings Inc. ("NHBB") played no role whatsoever in the alleged price-fixing of Bearings and that none of the Bearings affected by the alleged price-fixing were manufactured or sold by NHBB, the plaintiffs in British Columbia and in Ontario agreed to discontinue the class actions against NHBB as part of the Settlement. A motion for the discontinuance of the class actions against NHBB will be brought at the same time as the settlement approval motions. The dismissal of the claim as against NHBB is subject to court approval.

The Settling Defendants also agreed to provide cooperation to the plaintiffs in the Class Actions against the non-settling defendants. The Settling Defendants do not admit any liability, wrongdoing or fault.

Under this Settlement, the class actions in British Columbia and Ontario will be certified against the Settling Defendants, for the purposes of implementing the settlement agreement only.

5. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MONEY PAID UNDER THE SETTLEMENT?

At this stage of the proceedings, the settlement funds (minus Court approved fees and expenses) will be held in an interest-bearing trust account. At a later date, the Courts will decide how the settlement funds will be distributed and how you can apply to receive money from the Settlement. Watch for another notice explaining how to claim money from the Settlement. Register online on class counsel's websites (see **section 16**) to ensure that you are sent this notice by email or direct mail.

6. WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE SETTLEMENT?

The settlement class members are defined as any persons in Canada who purchased Bearings and / or products equipped with Bearings, between June 1, 2003 and October 31, 2011, except the Defendants and certain entities related to the Defendants (the "Settlement Class Members").

7. WHAT STEPS SHOULD I TAKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT?

If you want to participate in the Settlement, you do not need to do anything. However, there are two steps that you should take to protect your legal rights:

1. You should keep records of any purchases of Bearings or products equipped with Bearings such as communication devices, household appliances, video cameras, personal computers, printers, air conditioning units, vacuum cleaners, fishing reels and power tools made between June 1, 2003 and October 31, 2011. Records include invoices, receipts and bank statements.
2. You should register online on class counsel's websites indicated below to receive updates about the Class Actions.

Settlement Class Members who do not oppose the proposed Settlement do not need to appear at the settlement approval hearings or take any other action at this time.

8. WHEN WILL THE SETTLEMENT BE APPROVED?

The Settlement must be approved by the Quebec, British Columbia and Ontario Courts before taking effect.

The settlement approval hearings will take place in the Quebec Superior Court, in Montreal, on January 22, 2019 at 10h00, the British Columbia Supreme Court in Vancouver, on March 7, 2019 at 10h00 and the Ontario Superior Court, in Goderich, on February 25, 2019 at 3h30. The Courts will then decide if the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of the Settlement Class Members.

The hearings can be postponed to a different date or time. If you wish to attend the hearings, please contact class counsel at the addresses indicated in **section 15**.

9. WHAT STEPS DO I TAKE IF I WANT TO MAKE AN OBJECTION TO THE SETTLEMENT?

If you want to make an objection to the Settlement or if you want to intervene and speak to the Courts at the hearings listed above, you must send your written submissions to class counsel representing the members of your province at the addresses in **section 15**, received no later than **January 7, 2019**. Class counsel will forward all such written submissions to the appropriate Court. All filed written submissions will be considered by the appropriate Court. If you do not file a written submission by **January 7, 2019**, you may not be entitled to participate in the settlement approval hearing.

10. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE CLASS ACTIONS AGAINST THE NON-SETTLING DEFENDANTS?

The Class Actions have not been authorized (certified) yet in Ontario and British-Columbia against NSK Ltd. and NSK Canada Inc. (the "Non-Settling Defendants").

The Class Actions in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia are continuing against the Non-Settling Defendants before their respective Courts.

On August 4, 2016, the Class Action was authorized in Quebec against the Non-Settling Defendants on behalf of all persons who purchased Bearings in Quebec. This means that the class action can proceed and the common issues (as defined in the authorization judgment) will be determined in a single proceeding on behalf of the members of the class. The Quebec class is defined as:

All persons who purchased in Quebec small-size ball bearings having an outside diameter of twenty-six millimeters or less or one or more products equipped with one or more small-size ball bearing having an outside diameter of twenty-six millimeters or less between June 1, 2003 and October 31, 2011 ("Quebec Class Members").

11. WHAT IF I WANT TO INTERVENE IN THE QUEBEC CLASS ACTION?

If you are a Quebec Class Member and request it, the Court could allow you to intervene in the class action if the Court believes your intervention is useful to the class. An intervention is useful if, for example, it supports the application or the allegations. If you intervene, you could be subject to an examination at the request of the Non-Settling Defendants and pay legal fees.

12. WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT?

If you do not want to participate in the Settlement, you must exclude yourself from benefitting under the Class Actions entirely by following the steps indicated in **section 13**. You cannot exclude yourself from the Settlement only.

13. WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SETTLEMENT AND THE CLASS ACTIONS?

Settlement Class Members across Canada, except Settlement Class Members domiciled in Quebec: If you do not want to be a member of the Class Actions and participate in the Settlement, you can exclude yourself from the proceedings ("opt-out") by sending a signed notice of exclusion to the appropriate class counsel at the addresses indicated in **section 15**, with the following information:

- Your full name, current address and telephone number;

- A statement saying that you (or your company) want to opt-out of the Class Actions.

Notices to opt-out of the proceedings must be received by **February 6, 2019**.

Quebec Class Members and Settlement Class Members domiciled in Quebec: If you do not want to be a member of the Class Actions and participate in the Settlement, you can opt-out by sending a notice of exclusion signed by yourself or your legal representative to the clerk of the Superior Court, with the following information:

- Your full name, current address and telephone number;
- A statement saying that you (or your company) want to opt-out of the Class Actions.

Notices to opt-out of the proceedings must be received by **February 6, 2019**.

If you exclude yourself:

- You will not be eligible to participate in nor benefit from the Settlement and Class Actions;
- Any applicable limitation period concerning your claim will resume running; and
- You will not receive any money from the Settlement and Class Actions; but
- You may be able to start or continue your own case against the Defendants regarding the claims at issue in the Class Actions.

If you do nothing, and so do not exclude yourself:

- You will be eligible to participate in and benefit from the Settlement and Class Actions; and
- You may receive money from the Settlement and Class Actions; but
- You will not be able to start or continue your own case against the Defendants regarding the claims at issue in the Class Actions.

This is your only chance to exclude yourself from the Class Actions in Quebec, Ontario or British Columbia.

14. WHAT IF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IS NOT APPROVED?

The certification orders and the associated opt-out process outside of Quebec are only valid if the Settlement is approved. If the Settlement is not approved or if it otherwise fails to take effect, the certification orders will not stand and any opt-out notice submitted by any person outside of Quebec will be set aside, and the litigation will continue against MinebeaMitsumi Inc. (formerly Minebea Co. Ltd.), NMB Korea Co., Ltd., NMB (USA) Inc., NMB Technologies Corporation, NHBB, NSK Ltd. and NSK Canada Inc. If certification orders outside of Quebec are granted by the court in the future, an opt-out process will take place at that time.

15. WHO ARE THE LAWYERS WORKING ON THESE CLASS ACTIONS AND HOW ARE THEY PAID?

The law firm of Belleau Lapointe LLP represents Quebec Class Members and Settlement Class Members domiciled in Quebec. Quebec class counsel can be reached at:

Telephone: 514-987-6700

Email: info@belleaulapointe.com
Mail: 306, Place d'Youville, Office B-10, Montréal, QC H2Y 2B6 Attention: Maxime Nasr

The law firm of Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerma LLP represents Settlement Class Members in British Columbia. British Columbia class counsel can be reached at:

Telephone: 604-689-7555
Email: smallbearings@cfmlawyers.ca
Mail: 400-856 Homer Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 2W5 Attention: David G.A. Jones

The law firm Harrison Pensa LLP represents Settlement Class Members in Ontario, and in provinces other than British-Columbia or Quebec. Ontario class counsel can be reached at:

Telephone: (519) 679-9660
Email: smallbearings@harrisonpensa.com
Mail: 450 Talbot St, London, ON N6A 4K3 Attention: Jonathan Foreman

You do not have to pay the lawyers working on the Class Actions any money. The lawyers will be paid from the money collected in the Class Actions. At each of the respective settlement approval hearings, the Courts will hear fee approval motions brought by class counsel. The Courts will be asked to decide how much the lawyers will be paid. The lawyers will collectively be asking that the Courts approve legal fees up to 25% of the funds from the Settlement entered into with the Settling Defendants or from the sums obtained from a judgment, plus disbursements and applicable taxes. Any approved legal fees will be paid out of the settlement funds or from the sums obtained from a judgment. Class counsel reserves the right to ask the Courts to allow them to use the settlement funds or the sums obtained from a judgment to pay for any future adverse costs award or future disbursements. At a later date, class counsel will ask the Courts to approve the distribution of the remaining settlement funds or of the sums obtained from a judgment to Settlement Class members.

16. WHERE CAN I ASK MORE QUESTIONS?

For more information or to receive future notices and updates regarding the Class Actions and a possible future settlement, please visit or register online on the following websites:

Belleau Lapointe LLP: <http://recourscollectif.info/en/cases/bearings/>

Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerma LLP: <https://www.cfmlawyers.ca/>

Harrison Pensa LLP: <https://harrisonpensa.com/price-fixing-small-sized-ball-bearings/>

If you have questions that are not answered online, please contact class counsel at the numbers listed above.

17. INTERPRETATION

This notice contains a summary of some of the terms used in the settlement agreement entered into with the Settling Defendants. If there is a conflict between the provisions of this notice and the settlement agreement entered into with the Defendants, the terms of the latter shall prevail.