

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JUDGE MARRERO

PEARSON EDUCATION, INC. AND
THE MCGRAW-HILL COMPANIES, INC.,

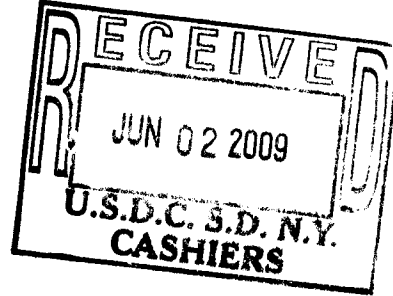
09 CIV 5121

Plaintiffs,

-against-

09 Civ.

RAMAN MEHRA, SALONI MEHRA,
REKHA MEHRA, AND TRANSAM USA
ENTERPRISES INC. ALL D/B/A
ALLBOOKS D/B/A TRANSAMUSA
D/B/A WORLDEXPO77 D/B/A
STARLIGHT D/B/A STARBRIGHT008
D/B/A RAINBOWS008 D/B/A
STARGALAXY08 D/B/A GLOBAL
SHIPPING D/B/A LASTERTECHUK
AND JOHN DOE NOS. 1-5,



Defendants.

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs Pearson Education, Inc. ("Pearson") and The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ("McGraw-Hill"), by their undersigned attorneys, for their complaint against defendants Raman Mehra, Saloni Mehra, Rekha Mehra and Transam USA Enterprises Inc. all d/b/a Allbooks d/b/a Transamusa d/b/a Worldexpo77 d/b/a Starlight d/b/a Starbright008 d/b/a Rainbows008 d/b/a Stargalaxy08 d/b/a Global Shipping d/b/a Lastertechuk and John Doe Nos. 1 through 5, aver:

Nature of the Action

1. Plaintiffs are bringing this action to enforce their copyrights and trademarks against defendants' unlawful sale in the United States of non-United States versions of plaintiffs' educational books.

Jurisdiction and Venue

2. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the first two claims in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338 because they arise under the Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 101 et seq., or the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1051 et seq. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the third claim in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 because it is so related to the claims within the original jurisdiction of this Court that they form part of the same case or controversy within the meaning of Article III of the United States Constitution.

3. Upon information and belief, venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(a).

Parties

4. Pearson is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business at One Lake Street, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458.

5. McGraw-Hill is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York with its principal place of business at 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020.

6. Upon information and belief, defendant Raman Mehra is a natural person currently residing at 406 Campdell Street, Playa Del Rey, California 90293-7720.

7. Upon information and belief, defendant Saloni Mehra is a natural person currently residing at 406 Campdell Street, Playa Del Rey, California 90293-7720.

8. Upon information and belief, defendant Rekha Mehra is a natural person currently residing at 761 Post Street, Apartment 1201, San Francisco, California 94109-6105.

9. Upon information and belief, defendant Transam USA Enterprises Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of California currently doing business at 2452 Chelsea Place, Apartment M, Santa Monica, California 90404-2018.

10. Upon information and belief, defendants John Doe Nos. 1-5 are associates of the named defendants whose identities are presently unknown to plaintiffs.

The Businesses of Plaintiffs

11. Each plaintiff publishes a variety of works, including educational books.

12. As a standard practice, each plaintiff requires its authors to assign the copyright to them or grant them the exclusive rights of reproduction and distribution in the United States. This practice enables each plaintiff to maximize dissemination of each work.

13. Plaintiffs invest significant monies to publish their copyrighted works. Plaintiffs, for example, make substantial investments in royalties, content creation, licensing, copyediting, proofreading, typesetting, layout, printing, binding, distribution, and promotion.

14. Plaintiffs earn a substantial portion of their revenue from the publication of their copyrighted works and would suffer serious financial injury if their copyrights were not enforced. A substantial decline in their income could cause plaintiffs to cease publishing one or more deserving books or journals. This would adversely impact the creation of new works, scholarly endeavor, and scientific progress.

15. Plaintiffs' educational books authorized for sale in the United States are of the highest quality (the "United States Editions"). These books are generally printed with strong, hard-cover bindings with glossy protective coatings and, in some cases, contain extra features such as sewn ribbon bookmarks. Plaintiffs frequently offer academic supplements, such as CD-ROMs, computer passwords that provide purchasers with

access to academic websites corresponding to the textbooks, and study guides with the United States Editions.

16. Plaintiffs generally create different versions of their educational books that are intended for sale in specific geographic markets outside of the United States (the "Foreign Editions"). The Foreign Editions materially differ from the United States Editions. The Foreign Editions have thinner paper and different bindings, different cover and jacket designs, fewer internal ink colors, if any, lower quality photographs and graphics, and generally lower prices than the United States Editions. Also, the Foreign Editions often lack academic supplements, such as CD-ROMs, website passwords, or study guides. The Foreign Editions are generally marked to indicate their lower cost by a legend indicating, in substance, that the title is a "Low Price Edition" and/or authorized for sale only in a particular country or geographic region. The Foreign Editions are uniformly manufactured outside of the United States.

Plaintiffs' Copyrights and Trademarks

17. Plaintiffs routinely register their copyrights. Pearson has generally registered its copyrights in its works (the "Pearson Copyrights") including those identified on Schedule A. McGraw-Hill has generally registered its copyrights

in its works (the "McGraw-Hill Copyrights") including those identified on Schedule B.

18. Plaintiffs also own, themselves or through their parent or affiliate companies, trademarks that they use to differentiate their products from those of their competitors.

19. Pearson PLC, Pearson's ultimate parent company, is the owner of and Pearson is an exclusive licensee of, with the accompanying right and duty to protect and enforce Pearson's rights therein, the well-known trademarks "Pearson," "Pearson Education" and "Prentice Hall." Pearson is the direct holder of the well-known trademark "Benjamin Cummings." Pearson's affiliate corporation Addison Wesley Longman, Inc., is the owner of, and Pearson is the exclusive licensee of, with the accompanying right and duty to protect and enforce its and its affiliate company's rights therein, the well known trademarks "Addison Wesley" or "Addison-Wesley" (the "Pearson Trademarks"). The United States Registrations for the Pearson Trademarks are identified on Schedule C.

20. Among McGraw-Hill's well-known trademarks are "McGraw-Hill," "The McGraw-Hill Companies" and "Irwin" (the "McGraw-Hill Trademarks"). The United States Registrations for the McGraw-Hill Trademarks are identified on Schedule D.

The Infringing Acts of Defendants

21. Defendants have without permission purchased Foreign Editions of plaintiffs' books manufactured outside of the United States and resold them to purchasers in the United States, including purchasers in the State of New York, through the Internet using the usernames "Allbooks," "Transamusa," "Worldexpo77," "Starlight," "Starbright008," "Rainbows008," "Stargalaxy08," "Global Shipping" and "Lastertechuk" and the e-mail addresses starlightbooks@hotmail.com, allbooks@live.com, booksworld@hotmail.com, rainbowbooks@hotmail.com, transamusa@hotmail.com and starlightbook@gmail.com at the websites including, but not limited to, Abebooks.com, eBay.com and Biblio.com.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Copyright Infringement - 17 U.S.C. § 501)

22. Plaintiffs repeat the averments contained in paragraphs 1 through 21 as if set forth in full.

23. Pearson has received United States Certificates of Copyright Registration for the Pearson Copyrights.

24. McGraw-Hill has received United States Certificates of Copyright Registration for the McGraw-Hill Copyrights.

25. The Pearson and McGraw-Hill Copyrights are valid and enforceable.

26. Defendants have infringed the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Copyrights in violation of 17 U.S.C. § 501.

27. Defendants' acts have irreparably damaged and, unless enjoined, will continue to irreparably damage plaintiffs. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law for these wrongs and injuries. Plaintiffs are, therefore, entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction restraining and enjoining defendants and their agents, servants, employees, and attorneys and all persons acting in concert with them, from infringing the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Copyrights.

28. Defendants have willfully infringed the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Copyrights.

29. Plaintiffs are entitled to recover all damages sustained as a result of defendants' unlawful conduct including (1) defendants' profits, or (2) plaintiffs' damages, or alternatively (3) statutory damages.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF
(Trademark Infringement - 15 U.S.C. § 1114(a))

30. Plaintiffs repeat the averments contained in paragraphs 1 through 29 above as if set forth in full.

31. Pearson is the exclusive licensee of the Pearson Trademarks, with the accompanying right and duty to protect and enforce Pearson's rights therein. Pearson's licensor parent and

affiliate companies have obtained United States Trademark Registrations for the Pearson Trademarks.

32. McGraw-Hill owns the McGraw-Hill Trademarks, for which it has obtained United States Trademark Registrations.

33. The Pearson and McGraw-Hill Trademarks are valid and enforceable.

34. Defendants have infringed the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Trademarks in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1114(a) by using them on and/or in connection with the works that they have sold.

35. Defendants' acts complained of herein have irreparably damaged plaintiffs and may continue to do so. The damage to plaintiffs includes harm to their good will and reputation in the marketplace for which money cannot compensate. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law for these wrongs. Plaintiffs are, therefore, entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction restraining and enjoining defendants, their agents, servants, employees, and attorneys and all persons acting in concert with them from using the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Trademarks or any colorable imitation of them.

36. Defendants have willfully infringed the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Trademarks.

37. Plaintiffs are entitled to recover (1) defendants' profits from the infringing books, (2) plaintiffs'

damages, (3) the costs of the suit, and (4) reasonable attorneys' fees.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Common Law Unfair Competition Under State Law)

38. Plaintiffs repeat the averments contained in paragraphs 1 through 37 above as if set forth in full.

39. Defendants' acts complained of herein have damaged and may continue to damage plaintiffs irreparably. The damage to plaintiffs includes harm to their good will and reputation in the marketplace for which money cannot compensate. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law for these wrongs and injuries. Plaintiffs are, therefore, entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction restraining and enjoining defendants, their agents, servants, employees, and attorneys and all persons acting in concert with them from using the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Trademarks or any colorable imitation of them, to restitution of defendants' ill-gotten gains, and to punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact in this action.

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs demand judgment:

A. Preliminarily and permanently enjoining defendants, their agents, servants, employees, and attorneys and all those acting in concert with them from infringing the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Copyrights in violation of 17 U.S.C.

§ 501;

B. Awarding plaintiffs their damages or defendants' profits, or alternatively, at plaintiffs' election, statutory damages, as a result of defendants' willful infringement of the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Copyrights;

C. Preliminarily and permanently enjoining defendants, their agents, servants, employees, and attorneys and all those acting in concert with them from infringing the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Trademarks in violation of 15 U.S.C.

§ 1114(a);

D. Awarding plaintiffs their damages and/or defendants' profits from their willful infringement of the Pearson and McGraw-Hill Trademarks pursuant to 15 U.S.C.

§ 1117(a);

E. Directing that defendants engage in such additional activities, including, but not limited to, recalls of products and corrective advertising, as may be necessary and appropriate to mitigate the damage defendants have caused;

F. Awarding plaintiffs their costs in this action, including their reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant 17 U.S.C. § 505 and 15 U.S.C. § 1117;

G. Awarding plaintiffs punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact in this action; and

H. Granting such other and further relief as to this

Court seems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York
June 2, 2009

DUNNEGAN LLC

By 

William Dunnegan (WD9316)

wd@dunnegan.com

Laura Scileppi (LS0114)

ls@dunnegan.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Pearson Education, Inc. and

The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

350 Fifth Avenue

New York, New York 10118

(212) 332-8300

Schedule A
"Pearson Copyrights"

- | | <u>Title</u> | <u>(Date of Registration)</u> | <u>(Registration #)</u> |
|----|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Introduction to Electrodynamics, | (March 25, 1999) | (TX0004950391). |
| 2. | Management of Organizational Behavior, Leading Human Resources, | (November 30, 2007) | (TX0006916419). |

Schedule B
 "McGraw-Hill Copyrights"

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of Registration</u>	<u>Registration #</u>
1. Engineering Electromagnetics,	(February 8, 2005)	(TX0006124951)
2. Vector Mechanics for Engineers, Statics and Dynamics;	(December 19, 2005)	(TX0006290306)
3. Psychology, An Introduction,	(May 5, 2003)	(TX0005719480)
4. Elementary Number Theory,	(January 3, 2006)	(TX0006317490)
5. Applied Numerical Methods with MATLAB, for Engineers and Scientists,	(May 21, 2007)	(TX0006577165)
6. Fundamentals of Investments, Valuation and Management,	(October 27, 2006)	(TX0006444030)
7. Real and Complex Analysis,	(TX0001887185)	(August 11, 1986)
8. Fundamentals of Corporate Finance,	(March 28, 2003)	(TX0005701708)
9. Corporate Finance,	(November 24, 2006)	(TX0006459761)
10. Essentials of Economics,	(March 17, 2006)	(TX0006323752)
11. Organic Chemistry,	(January 22, 2007)	(TX0006510059)
12. Adolescence,	(March 17, 2006)	(TX0006312437)
13. Child Development,	(March 17, 2006)	(TX0006326278)
14. Fundamentals of Cognitive Psychology,	(September 28, 2004)	(TX0006037666)

Schedule C
"Pearson Trademarks"

<u>U.S. Trademark</u>	<u>Registration Number</u>	<u>Class</u>
1. "Pearson"	2,599,724	009, 016, 035, 042
2. "Pearson"	2,600,081	041
3. "Pearson"	2,652,792	009, 016
4. "Pearson"	2,679,355	016
5. "Pearson"	2,691,830	041
6. "Pearson"	2,694,359	009
7. "Prentice-Hall"	1,332,044	016
8. "Prentice-Hall"	1,332,639	042
9. "Prentice-Hall"	1,375,654	009
10. "Addison Wesley"	2,188,798	016
11. "Addison-Wesley"	2,400,130	016
12. "Benjamin Cummings"	2,674,589	016
13. "Benjamin Cummings"	2,671,773	041
14. "Benjamin Cummings"	2,671,772	041
15. "Benjamin Cummings"	2,621,299	016
16. "Benjamin Cummings"	1,189,279	016

Schedule D
"McGraw-Hill Trademarks"

<u>U.S. Trademark</u>	<u>Registration Number</u>	<u>Class</u>
1. "McGraw-Hill"	1,350,345	16
2. "McGraw-Hill"	2,899,528	16, 41
3. "The McGraw-Hill Companies"	3,103,212	9, 16, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42
4. "Irwin"	1,718,118	16
