UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

	Х	
In re:	:	
	:	Case No. 06-61796
CEP HOLDINGS, LLC, <u>et al</u> ., ¹	:	(Jointly Administered)
	:	
Debtors.	:	Chapter 11
	:	
	:	Honorable Russ Kendig
	x	

MOTION OF DEBTORS AND DEBTORS IN POSSESSION, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 105(a) AND 363(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO (A) CONTINUE THEIR EXISTING WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAMS AND (B) PAY CERTAIN PREPETITION WORKERS' COMPENSATION PREMIUMS, CLAIMS AND RELATED EXPENSES; AND (II) GRANTING CERTAIN RELATED RELIEF

CEP Holdings, LLC and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession (each a "**Debtor**" and collectively, the "**Debtors**" or "**CEP**") in the above-captioned Chapter 11 cases (the "**Cases**"), hereby move (the "**Motion**"), pursuant to sections 105(a) and 363(b) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "**Bankruptcy Code**"), for entry of an order (i) authorizing the Debtors to (a) continue their existing workers' compensation programs and (b) pay certain prepetition workers compensation premiums, claims and related expenses; and (ii) granting certain related relief. In support of the Motion, the Debtors refer to and rely upon the Affidavit of Joseph Mallak in Support of Chapter 11 Petitions and First Day Motions (the "**Mallak Affidavit**"), filed contemporaneously herewith, and respectfully represent as follows:

¹ The Debtors include: CEP Holdings, LLC, Creative Engineered Polymer Products, LLC and Thermoplastics Acquisition, LLC.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. The Court has jurisdiction over this Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. Consideration of the Motion is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).

2. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

3. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are sections 105(a) and 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

BACKGROUND

4. On the date hereof (the "**Petition Date**"), each Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors have requested that the Cases be jointly administered for procedural purposes only.

5. The Debtors are operating their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee, examiner or official committee of unsecured creditors has been appointed.

A. <u>Summary of Capital Structure and Current Business Operations</u>

6. Creative Engineered Polymer Products, LLC, ("CEPP") is a limited liability company formed under the laws of the State of Ohio. CEPP is wholly owned by CEP Holdings, LLC ("Holdings"), a privately-held limited liability company formed under the laws of the State of Ohio. Holdings is a holding company whose sole asset is its membership interests in CEPP. CEPP has three subsidiaries: (i) Composite Parts Mexico S.A. de C.V. (the "CEP Mexico"), a Mexican corporation which is 99.9% owned by CEPP and .01% owned by non-debtor Reserve Capital Group, Ltd; (ii) Thermoplastics Acquisition, LLC ("Thermoplastics"), an Ohio limited liability company which is wholly owned by CEPP and is a debtor in these cases; and (iii) CEP Latin America, LLC ("CEP LA"), a non-debtor Ohio limited liability company which is wholly owned

by CEPP. CEP LA was never funded and has no operations or debt. The principal place of business of the Debtors is 3560 West Market Street, Suite 340, Akron, Ohio 44333.

7. The Debtors operate 10 manufacturing plants in Ohio, Michigan, Alabama, South Carolina and Mexico, including a plant in Canton, Ohio. CEPP operates six plants in Ohio, Michigan and Alabama. Non-debtor CEP Mexico operates two plants in Mexico. Thermoplastics operates one plant in Ohio and one in South Carolina.

8. CEP and its debtor subsidiaries are custom molders and extruders of rubber and plastic products, primarily for the OEM automotive market. The Debtors have achieved a unique position as preferred suppliers of high quality products to major customers, including General Motors, Delphi Corporation, Visteon, Nissan, Daimler-Chrysler, Honda and GKN Automotive. CEP has maintained this position as a leader in the marketplace through innovative manufacturing techniques and by continuously improving its broad base of material and process technology.

9. Gross sales for the Debtors' businesses are projected to be approximately \$190 million for fiscal 2006. The Debtors' nearly 1,106 employees manufacture the Debtors' products at ten strategically located manufacturing facilities in Ohio, Michigan, South Carolina, Alabama and Mexico.² The Debtors also maintain a Technical Center in Livonia, Michigan which offers design assistance and program management services for the Debtors' businesses.

B. <u>Prepetition Debt Structure</u>

10. The Debtors were formed as part of two separate purchase transactions on August 16, 2005 and December 20, 2005, respectively. As part of the August 16, 2005 transaction, the CEPP and CEP Mexico businesses were purchased from the Carlisle Companies. In conjunction with the transaction, CEP Acquisition LLC n/k/a CEPP entered into a Loan and Security

2

CEP Mexico, a non-debtor, produces high quality plastic products at two factories in Mexico.

Agreement, dated as of August 16, 2005 (the "**Prepetition CEPP Credit Agreement**") with Wachovia Capital Finance Corporation (Central) ("**WCFC**"), as both Agent and Lenders thereunder. The Prepetition CEPP Credit Agreement provided two term loans and a revolving credit facility to CEPP in the maximum amount of \$45 million (collectively, the "**CEPP Prepetition Loan**"). The CEPP Prepetition Loan is secured by substantially all the assets of CEPP, including, without limitation, all accounts, general intangibles, goods, inventory, equipment, real property, accounts receivable, other personal property and proceeds thereof (collectively, the "**Prepetition CEPP Collateral**"). As of the Petition Date, the amount outstanding under the CEPP Prepetition Loan was not less than \$21,693,507.60 (not taking into account pre-petition and postpetition interest, fees and expenses to which Agent may be entitled under the Prepetition CEPP Credit Agreement and applicable law).

11. As part of the December 20, 2005 transaction, CEPP purchased the Thermoplastics business from Parker Hannifan Corporation. In conjunction with the transaction, Thermoplastics entered into a Loan and Security Agreement, dated as of December 21, 2005 (the "**Prepetition Thermoplastics Credit Agreement**" and together with the Prepetition CEPP Credit Agreement, the "**Prepetition Credit Agreements**") with WCFC, as both Agent and Lenders. The Prepetition Thermoplastics Credit Agreements provided a term loan and a revolving credit facility to Thermoplastics in the maximum amount of \$5 million (collectively, the "**Thermoplastics Prepetition Loan**" and together with the CEPP Prepetition Loan, the "**Prepetition Loans**"). The Thermoplastics Prepetition Loan is secured by substantially all the assets of Thermoplastics, including, without limitation, all accounts, general intangibles, goods, inventory, equipment, accounts receivable, other personal property and proceeds thereof (collectively, the "**Prepetition Thermoplastics Collateral**" and together with the Prepetition CEPP Collateral, the "**Prepetition** **Collateral**"). As of the Petition Date, the amount outstanding under the Thermoplastics Prepetition Loan was not less than \$4,219,688.58 (not taking into account pre-petition and post-petition interest, fees and expenses to which Agent may be entitled under the Prepetition Thermoplastics Credit Agreement and applicable law). The Prepetition Credit Agreements are cross-defaulted and cross-collateralized.

12. Prior to the Petition Date, Visteon Corporation, General Motors Corporation and Delphi Corporation (collectively, the "**Customers**") and WCFC entered into a Subordinated Participation Agreement dated June 30, 2006 and a First Amendment to Subordination Participation Agreement dated August 18, 2006 pursuant to which the Customers purchased subordinated, last out participation interests (the "**Participation Interests**") in the Prepetition Loan Facilities. The Customers purchased \$2.9 million of Participation Interests, the proceeds of which were used by the Debtors to fund their operations and the building of the Customers' parts.

C. Events Leading To The Filing Of These Chapter 11 Cases

13. The Debtors and other automotive suppliers and manufacturers have faced a series of unanticipated operational and market challenges that have adversely affected their operations and cash flows. These challenges have impaired both the Debtors' suppliers and customers which in turn have severely affected the Debtors' operations and businesses.

14. With respect to suppliers, the September 2005 hurricanes in the Gulf Coast region have disproportionately damaged manufacturers who rely on plastic resins. Shortly after the hurricanes, the Debtors began experiencing sharp increases in their principal raw materials (plastic resins) which increases were attributable to interrupted refining capacity. With prices already high due to increased global demand, insecurity and supply constraint issues, the hurricanes magnified the rise in the price of crude oil and natural gas. The Debtors have continued to experience significantly higher costs for raw materials.

- 5 -

15. With respect to the Debtors' customers, the Debtors have been unsuccessful in recovering much of these increases in raw material costs from their customers through price increases. The structure of the American automotive industry is such that it is difficult for manufacturers such as the Debtors to pass rising material costs on to customers. Faced with rising costs, the Debtors have expended substantial effort in attempting to source cheaper alternatives (such as recycled materials and alternative formulations) for substitution of higher cost materials. Despite these efforts, most of the Debtors' customers have delayed approving these material substitutions. Although the Debtors are now starting to experience success in receiving approvals of the material substitutions, the damage to the Debtors' liquidity is irreversible outside the protections of the Bankruptcy Code.

16. In addition to increased material costs, the general instability of the industry has directly harmed the Debtors' liquidity. For example, the Debtors have been impaired by the bankruptcy filing of several large OEM's, including Delphi Corporation, the Debtors' second largest customer. The bankruptcy filing of Delphi in October 2005 alone resulted in a cash loss to the Debtors of nearly \$1.7 million based on the Debtors' unpaid prepetition claim in that case.

17. In addition to bankruptcy filings in the industry, the general credit downgrade has led to delays and increasingly delinquent customer payments for approved tooling programs. These programs are typically managed and paid for by the Debtors for the benefit of a particular customer which subsequently reimburses the Debtors. The increased delays and failure of customers to pay for these programs have decreased the portion of accounts receivable against which Wachovia will lend under the Prepetition Credit Agreements. This, in turn, has further impaired the Debtors' liquidity. 18. The Debtors have further experienced excess capacity at their plants due to decisions by their customers. For example, GM's transfer from the GMT800 platform to the GMT900 platform has led to substantial idling of capacity. In late 2005, GM started phasing out the GMT800 platform, a manufacturing platform in which the Debtors were heavily involved. The Debtors have been harmed by this action because (i) the Debtors have significant up front costs invested in the GMT800 platform and (ii) GM has not provided the Debtors with replacement work in the new GMT900 platform. Thus, the Debtors have not recovered their costs associated with the GMT800 platform and are operating at significantly lower capacity at several manufacturing plants due to a failure to receive work under the GMT900 platform.

D. <u>Prepetition Activities</u>

19. In an attempt to create maximum value for the Debtors' creditors, the Debtors worked with the Customers and WCFC to allow the Debtors to formulate a restructuring plan which would reorganize the Debtors outside of a chapter 11 proceeding. As part of this plan, in May 2006 the Debtors entered into a series of forbearance, accommodation and access and security agreements with WCFC and the Customers, which agreements provided a 120-day window for the Debtors to effectuate an out-of-court restructuring plan. This window expired September 6, 2006.

20. Given the size and complexity of the Debtors' operations and the continuation of the market circumstances described above, the Customers, WCFC and the Debtors ultimately determined that an out-of-court restructuring was not feasible. Thus, after exploring all options and faced with a severe liquidity crisis, the Debtors have no choice but to commence these cases as the only means of preserving the Debtors as going concerns, and, thus, maximize the value of the Debtors' assets for their creditors.

21. With the aide of this Court and the support of WCFC and the Customers, the Debtors' goal is to stabilize their business operations and financial situation and sell their assets in

a manner to maximize value for the Debtors' Creditors. As detailed in the Debtors' DIP Financing Motion,³ filed contemporaneously herewith, WCFC and the Customers have agreed to provide post-petition financing and cash infusions to the Debtors which financing and cash infusions will fund the Debtors' costs of operations, wind down, restructuring and liquidation until such time that the Debtors' assets are sold pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors believe that this course of action will maximize the value of their assets for all creditors.

RELIEF REQUESTED

22. By this Motion, the Debtors seek the entry of an order, pursuant to sections 105(a) and 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, (a) authorizing the Debtors, in the Debtors' sole discretion, to (i) continue their existing workers' compensation programs and (ii) pay certain prepetition workers' compensation premiums, claims and related expenses; and (b) granting certain related relief.

FACTS RELEVANT TO THIS MOTION

23. The Debtors maintain workers' compensation coverage for employees in Alabama, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. By this Motion, the Debtors are seeking authority to continue their workers' compensation programs (collectively, the "**Workers' Compensation Programs**") in all of these jurisdictions, as such programs may be modified to comply with applicable state law, and to pay certain related prepetition premiums, claims and expenses.

³ The full title of the DIP Financing Motion is CEP Holdings, LLC's Motion for Emergency Order Authorizing Debtors to: (A) Use Cash Collateral on an Emergency Basis; (B) Incur Postpetition Debt on an Emergency Basis; (C) Grant Adequate Protection and Provide Security and Other Relief to Wachovia Capital Finance Corporation (Central); and (D) Grant Certain Related Relief.

Self-Insured Program

24. The Debtors, as successors in interest to the Carlisle Corporation ("Carlisle"), operate as self-insured employers in Ohio. The Debtors assumed certain liabilities arising under the workers' compensation program maintained by Carlisle in September of 2005. As a result, the Debtors currently maintain a self-insured workers' compensation program in Ohio (the "Self-Insured Program") under which they pay applicable workers' compensation claims (collectively, the "Self-Insured Claims") as they arise. The Self-Insured Program was administered by Specialty Risk Services. Based on historical experience, the Debtors estimate that the aggregate amount of Self-Insured Claims accrued but not yet paid as of the Petition Date (collectively, the "Prepetition Self-Insured Claims") is approximately \$300,784.82.

25. The Debtors may be required to modify or terminate the Self-Insured Program and participate in Ohio's "monopolistic" workers' compensation program funded through, and administered by, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation. Accordingly, the Debtors hereby seek authority to so modify or terminate the Self-Insured Program, as required by applicable state law, and participate in Ohio's workers' compensation program postpetition, if necessary.

Insured Programs

26. In Alabama, Michigan, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, the Debtors maintain certain workers' compensation and employers' liability insurance programs (collectively, the "**Insured Programs**") with Hartford Fire Insurance Company ("**Hartford**").

27. Under the Insured Programs: (a) insurance coverage is provided for losses up to \$1 million per claim; and (b) the Debtors are obligated to (i) pay an annual premium that is adjustable retroactively based on the Debtors' final audited payroll for the coverage period (collectively, the "**Insured Premiums**") and (ii) make any other payments required under the Insured Programs, including any payments in excess of the benefits provided by Hartford (collectively, the "**Insured**

Claims"). The Debtors estimate that the aggregate amount of Insured Premiums and the Insured Claims accrued but not yet paid as of the Petition date (collectively, the "**Prepetition Insured Premiums**") is approximately \$37,578.00.

BASIS FOR RELIEF REQUESTED

28. Pursuant to sections 105(a) and 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtors seek authority, in their sole discretion, to (a) continue the Workers' Compensation Programs and (b) pay the Prepetition Self-Insured Claims and the Prepetition Insured Premiums (together, the "**Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims**") and any amount related to the Workers' Compensation Programs, insofar as the Debtors' failure to pay these amounts might result in the loss of workers' compensation coverage for the Debtors' employees participating in the Workers' Compensation Programs.

29. It is well established under the "doctrine of necessity" that bankruptcy courts have the equitable power to authorize the payment of prepetition claims where such payments are necessary to preserve the going concern value of a debtor's business, thereby facilitating its reorganization. *See, e.g., Miltenberger v. Logansport, Crawfordsville and Sw. Ry. Co.*, 106 U.S. 286, 311 (1882) (holding that "[m]any circumstances may exist which may make it necessary and indispensable to . . . the preservation of the property, for the receiver to pay pre-existing debts of certain classes out of the earnings of the receivership "); *see also In re Federated Dep't. Stores*, No. 1-90-00130, 1990 Bankr. LEXIS 122, at *3 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio Jan. 15, 1990) ("It is well established that a bankruptcy court has authority to authorize payment of pre-petition claims where the payment of such claims is necessary to facilitate reorganization.").

30. As such, a bankruptcy court's use of its equitable powers to "authorize the payment of pre-petition debt when such payment is needed to facilitate the rehabilitation of the debtor is not a novel concept." *In re Ionosphere Clubs, Inc.*, 98 B.R. 174, 175 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1989) (citing

Miltenberger, 106 U.S. at 311); *see In re Eagle-Picher Indus., Inc.*, 124 B.R. 1021, 1023 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1991) (supporting principle that bankruptcy court can authorize payment of pre-petition claims where such payment is necessary to survival of debtor); *In re SIS Corp.*, 108 B.R. 608, 609-10 (Bankr. N.D. Ohio 1989) (recognizing that courts may authorize payments on account of pre-petition claims "premised upon overriding practical and policy reasons"); *In re Structurelite Plastics Corp.*, 86 B.R. 922, 931-932 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1988) (agreeing in "principle that a bankruptcy court may exercise its equitable powers under section 105(a) to authorize payment of prepetition claims where such payment is necessary to permit the greatest likelihood of survival of the debtor and payment of creditors in full or at least proportionately") (citation omitted).

31. The bankruptcy court's exercise of its authority under the "doctrine of necessity" is appropriate to carry out specific statutory provisions of chapter 11, specifically sections 1107(a), 1108 and 363(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, which authorize a debtor in possession to maintain and operate the debtor's business and use estate property outside of the ordinary course of business. Indeed, a debtor in possession operating a business under section 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code has a duty to protect and preserve the going concern value of an operating business, and prepetition claims may be paid if necessary to perform the debtor's duty. *See In re CoServ, L.L.C.*, 273 B.R. 487, 497 (Bankr. N.D. Tex. 2002) ("There are occasions when this duty can only be fulfilled by the preplan satisfaction of a prepetition claim."). A bankruptcy court's exercise of its authority under section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code is also appropriate to carry out two central policies underlying Chapter 11: (a) to permit the successful rehabilitation of the debtor; and (b) to preserve going concern value and maximize property available to satisfy all creditors.

32. It is critical that the Debtors be permitted to continue the Workers' Compensation Programs and ensure that the Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims described herein continue to be processed and paid. If the Workers Compensation Programs are not maintained, the Debtors would be required to make alternative arrangements for workers' compensation coverage — almost certainly at a much higher cost — because such coverage is required under many state laws, with severe remedies if an employer fails to comply with such laws. In fact, if workers' compensation coverage is not maintained as required by such laws, without interruption, (a) employees could bring lawsuits for potentially unlimited damages, (b) the Debtors' ongoing business operations in certain states could be enjoined and (c) the Debtors' officers could be subject to personal liability.⁴ Furthermore, if the Workers' Compensation Programs are not maintained, there is a risk that eligible claimants will not receive timely payments with respect to employment-related injuries. This could have a negative impact on the financial well-being and morale of the Debtors' employees and their willingness to remain in the Debtors' employ at a time when a significant deterioration in employee morale will have a substantially adverse impact on the Debtors and the value of their assets and businesses.

33. Relief similar to the relief requested herein has been granted by courts in this District and elsewhere in other chapter 11 cases. *See, e.g., In re Nexpak Corp.*, No. 04-63816 (RK) (Bankr. N.D. Ohio July 19, 2004) (authorizing the debtors to continue their workers' compensation programs and pay prepetition amounts related thereto); *In re Summitville Tiles, Inc.*, No. 03-46341 (WTB) (Bankr. N.D. Ohio Dec. 12, 2003) (same); *In re Waving Leaves, Inc.*, No. 03-66524 (RK) (Bankr. N.D. Ohio Dec. 5, 2003) (same); *In re Republic Engineered Prods. LLC.*, No. 03-55118 (MSS) (Bankr. N.D. Ohio Oct. 8, 2003); *In re LTV Steel Co.*, No. 00-43866 (WTB) (Bankr. N.D. Ohio Dec. 29, 2000) (same); *accord In re Dana Corp.*, No. 06-10354 (BRL) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.

⁴ See, e.g., OHIO REV. CODE ANN. §§ 4123.50, 4123.75-4123.79 (West 2006) (permitting employee lawsuits against noncomplying employers and certain of their officers for on-the-job injuries, providing for a deemed waiver of certain common law defenses and authorizing any complying, nonself-insuring employer — which here might include the Debtors' competitors — to seek to enjoin the operations of any noncomplying employer).

Mar. 6, 2006); *In re Footstar, Inc.*, No. 04-22350 (ASH) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Mar. 30, 2004) (same); *In re Loral Space & Commc'ns Ltd.*, No. 03-41710 (RDD) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. July 16, 2003) (same); *In re WorldCom, Inc.*, No. 02-13533 (AJG) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. July 22, 2002) (same).⁵

Request for Authority to Pay Prepetition Processing Costs

34. In addition, the Debtors request that they be authorized, in their sole discretion, to pay all costs incident to the Self-Insured Program and the Insured Programs, such as state assessments, as processing costs and accrued but unpaid prepetition charges for the administration of these programs (collectively, the "**Prepetition Processing Costs**"). The Debtors estimate that the aggregate amount of Prepetition Processing Costs accrued but unpaid as of the Petition Date was approximately \$55,143.56.

35. Payment of the Prepetition Processing Costs is justified because the failure to pay any such amounts might disrupt services of third party providers with respect to the Self-Insured Program and the Insured Programs. By paying the Prepetition Processing Costs, the Debtors may avoid even temporary disruptions of such services and thereby ensure that their employees obtain all workers' compensation benefits without interruption.

REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY FOR BANKS TO HONOR AND PAY CHECKS AND FUNDS TRANSFERS RELATED TO PREPETITION WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS AND PREPETITION PROCESSING COSTS

36. In addition, by this Motion, the Debtors request that all applicable banks and other financial institutions be authorized and directed, when requested by the Debtors in the Debtors' sole discretion, to receive, process, honor and pay any and all checks presented for payment of, and to honor all fund transfer requests made by the Debtors related to, the Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims and Prepetition Processing Costs, whether such checks were presented or

⁵ Because of the voluminous nature of these unreported orders, they are not attached to this Motion. Copies of these orders will be made available to parties upon request from the Debtors' counsel.

fund transfer requests were submitted prior to or after the Petition Date, provided that sufficient funds are available in the applicable accounts to make the payments. The Debtors represent that these checks are drawn on identifiable disbursement accounts and can be readily identified as relating directly to the authorized payment of the Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims and Prepetition Processing Costs. Accordingly, the Debtors believe that checks other than those relating to authorized payments will not be honored inadvertently.

37. The Debtors further represent that they have anticipated access to sufficient debtor in possession financing to pay all Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims and Prepetition Processing Costs, to the extent described herein, as such amounts become due in the ordinary course of their businesses.

38. Nothing contained herein is intended or should be construed as: (a) an admission as to the validity of any claim against the Debtors; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' rights to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is a claim for Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims or Prepetition Processing Costs; or (e) a request to assume any executory contract or unexpired lease, pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.

NOTICE

39. Notice of the Motion has been given to (a) the Office of the United States Trustee for the Northern District of Ohio, (b) the Debtors' secured lenders, and (c) the Debtors' fifty (50) largest unsecured creditors on a consolidated basis. The Debtors submit that, under the circumstances, no other or further notice need be given.

40. Because this Motion presents no novel issues of law and the authorities relied upon are stated herein, the Debtors respectfully request that this Court waive the requirement contained

- 14 -

in Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(a) that the Debtors file a separate memorandum of law in support of this Motion.

41. Notwithstanding the possible applicability of Bankruptcy Rules 6004(h), 7062, 9014 or otherwise, the Debtors request the relief sought by this Motion be immediately effective and enforceable upon entry of the order requested hereby.

42. No prior request for the relief sought in this Motion has been made to this or any other Court.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the Debtors respectfully request that the Court (a) enter an order substantially in the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, granting the relief requested herein; and (b) grant such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper.

Dated: September 20, 2006 Cleveland, OH

> CEP HOLDINGS, LLC, <u>et al.</u>, Debtors and Debtors-in-possession

By: <u>/s/ Joseph F. Hutchinson, Jr.</u> One of Their Attorneys

Joseph F. Hutchinson, Jr. (0018210) Thomas M. Wearsch (0078403) Eric R. Goodman (0076035) BAKER & HOSTETLER LLP 3200 National City Center 1900 East 9th Street Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3485 Phone: 216.621.0200 Fax: 216.696.0740

Proposed Counsel for the Debtors and Debtors-in-Possession

EXHIBIT A

PROPOSED ORDER

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

	Х	
In re:	:	
	:	Case No. 06-61796
CEP HOLDINGS, LLC, et al., ¹	:	(Jointly Administered)
	:	
Debtors.	:	Chapter 11
	:	
	:	Honorable Russ Kendig
	x	

ORDER, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 105(a) AND 363(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, (I) AUTHORIZING THE DEBTORS TO (A) CONTINUE THEIR EXISTING WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAMS AND (B) PAY CERTAIN PREPETITION WORKERS' COMPENSATION PREMIUMS, CLAIMS AND RELATED EXPENSES; AND (II) GRANTING CERTAIN RELATED RELIEF

Upon the motion (the "**Motion**")² of CEP Holdings, LLC and its affiliated debtors and debtors-in-possession (each a "**Debtor**" and collectively, the "**Debtors**" or "**CEP**") in the abovecaptioned Chapter 11 cases (the "**Cases**"), for entry of an order: (i) authorizing the Debtors to (a) continue their existing workers' compensation programs and (b) pay certain prepetition workers compensation premiums, claims and related expenses; and (ii) granting certain related relief; and the Court having found and concluded that (i) it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, (ii) this is a core proceeding, (iii) notice of the Motion was sufficient under the circumstances, (iv) the payment of the Prepetition Workers' Compensation Programs on the terms and conditions described in the Motion is necessary and appropriate to prevent serious disruptions to the Debtors' reorganization efforts, will serve to

¹ The Debtors include: CEP Holdings, LLC, Creative Engineered Polymer Products, LLC and Thermoplastics Acquisition, LLC.

² Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Motion.

protect and preserve the Debtors' estates for the benefit of all stakeholders and will facilitate the reorganization of the Debtors' businesses, and (v) the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion, the Mallak Affidavit, and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and this Court having determined that granting the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates and their creditors; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefore;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is GRANTED to the extent provided herein.

2. The Debtors are authorized, in the Debtors' sole discretion, to continue their existing Workers' Compensation Programs and take such steps as are necessary or appropriate to provide for the Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims and the Prepetition Processing Costs to be processed and paid in the ordinary course of the Debtors' businesses.

3. The Debtors' banks and other financial institutions (collectively, the "**Banks**") are authorized and directed, when requested by the Debtors in the Debtors' sole discretion, to receive, process, honor and pay all checks presented for payment of, and to honor all funds transfer requests made by the Debtors related to, Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims and Prepetition Processing Costs, whether such checks were presented or funds transfer requests were submitted prior to or after the Petition Date, provided that funds are available in the Debtors' accounts to cover such checks and funds transfers. The Banks are authorized to rely on the Debtors' designation of any particular check or funds transfer as approved by this Order.

4. Nothing in the Motion or this Order, nor the Debtors' payment of claims pursuant to this Order, shall be deemed or construed as: (a) an admission as to the validity of any claim against the Debtors; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' rights to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is a claim for

- 2 -

Prepetition Workers' Compensation Claims or Prepetition Processing Costs; or (e) a request to assume any executory contract or unexpired lease, pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.

5. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the terms of this Order shall be subject to the terms of the Interim DIP Order and any final order entered in connection therewith, together with all amendments, supplements and modifications made to such interim and final orders with WCFC's consent.

6. This Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or relating to the implementation of this Order.

7. The requirement of Local Bankruptcy Rule 9013-1(a) to file a separate memorandum of law in support of the Motion is hereby waived.

8. Notwithstanding the possible applicability of Bankruptcy Rules 6004(h), 7062, 9014 or otherwise, the terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

Dated: September ____, 2006 Canton, OH

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE