

Class Action Summary

Ductile Iron Pipe Fittings Direct Purchaser Antitrust Class Action

This is not an official Court Notice.

Information contained in this Summary is subject to change.

Class Counsel or the Claims Administrator may be contacted for additional settlement information.

You also may visit the court approved website once one is established.

Please understand that you have the right to file on your own.

If you or your business purchased Ductile Iron Pipe Fittings on or after **January 11**, **2008**, you may be entitled to participate in the approximately **\$8.5 million** in class action settlements.

Filing Deadline: No Claim Forms are available at this time. No claim filing deadline has been set.

Eligible Class Members: Eligible class members include all persons or entities in the United States (excluding federal government entities and instrumentalities of the federal government) who purchased Ductile Iron Pipe Fittings (hereafter, "DIPF" and as defined below) directly from 1) McWane, Inc.; and its owned divisions Clow Water Systems Co.; Tyler Pipe Company; and Tyler Union (collectively, "McWane"); Sigma Corporation and its owned subsidiary Sigma Piping Products Corporation (collectively, "Sigma"); and Star Pipe Products, Ltd. ("Star") (collectively, the "Defendants") from January 11, 2008 through June 30, 2011; and/or b) from McWane or SIGMA from September 17, 2009 through December 31, 2013. You are a "direct" class member if you purchased DIPF directly from one of the Defendants. There is a separate class action for all persons and entities who purchased DIPF indirectly from the Defendants; however, no settlements have been publicly disclosed at this time.

<u>Definition of DIPF</u>: A DIPF is used to join ductile iron pipes (pipes made of cast ferrous material), valves and hydrants within the water systems, as well as to change, divide or direct the flow of water. DIPF exist in a wide variety of available configurations including, but not limited to, bends, tees, crosses, reducers, caps, plugs, and sleeves, and include the nuts, bolts, gaskets and glands specifically sold for use with DIPF. DIPF that is produced in the United States for waterworks projects have domestic-only specifications (24 inches and smaller in diameter).

<u>Case History</u>: Several class action lawsuits were filed alleging that the Defendants conspired to fix, raise, maintain and stabilize prices for DIPF in the United States. These lawsuits were consolidated in the District of New Jersey before Judge Thompson. A settlement was initially reached between the class and McWane and SIGMA in the amount of \$4.895 million. This settlement was recently granted Court approval. An additional settlement was recently reached between the class and Star in the amount of approximately \$3.6 million, which is pending Court approval at this time. The settlement funds (less expenses, noticing costs and fees) will be distributed to the class at the completion of a claims process.

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The Services FRS Provides: Financial Recovery Strategies (FRS) is an asset recovery and cost reduction firm that specializes in, among other services, class action settlement claims recovery consulting; we are not a court appointed claims administrator or class counsel. You have the right to file a claim on your own and to not hire FRS to participate in the monetary relief provided by the above-referenced settlement(s). FRS believes, however, that we provide services that are unlikely to be provided by a claims administrator or by class counsel that may increase your recovery. If you hire FRS and become an FRS client, we will work within your guidelines to manage the claims process: FRS will notify you when we learn of settlements that may be valuable to you; we will take action to enhance the likelihood that all of your eligible business units (e.g., subsidiaries, divisions, acquisitions and divestitures) are included in the claim process; we will provide advice on what, if any, documents need to be collected and maintained, and, when requested, we will assist in that effort; to reduce the support needed from your in-house staff when required documents are not available or are too burdensome to collect, we will negotiate on your behalf, where possible, to develop alternate means to satisfy documentation requirements; we will prepare, assemble and submit your claim package, and manage it throughout the claims processing phase, including working with you to address any concerns or questions a claims administrator may have; we will provide regular updates on the recovery process and all related developments; we will audit your payment to assure that that has not been under calculated; and we will follow up with you to assure that sour recovery check is deposited. FRS's recovery specialists are always available to answer any questions you may have. FRS is paid an agreed-upon contingent fee only from the recovery we obtain on your behalf.

<u>How to Retain FRS</u>: To retain FRS to file and manage a claim on your behalf, we must receive a signed copy of an Authorization Agreement. If you wish to hire us, it is important that, before you send the executed Authorization Agreement to our office, you understand its terms and make sure that your basic information is correct.

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