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Attorneys for Plaintiff, The SCO Group, Inc.

#### THE SCO GROUP, INC., by and through the SCO'S OPPOSITION TO NOVELL'S Chapter 11 Trustee in Bankruptcy, Edward N. **MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 16 TO EXCLUDE CERTAIN TESTIMONY** Cahn, FROM R. DUFF THOMPSON FOR Plaintiff/Counterclaim-Defendant. LACK OF PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE AND VIOLATION OF PAROL **EVIDENCE RULE** vs. NOVELL, INC., a Delaware corporation, Civil No. 2:04 CV-00139 Defendant/Counterclaim-Plaintiff. Judge Ted Stewart

### IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

Novell seeks to preclude SCO from offering certain testimony of R. Duff Thompson on the grounds that Mr. Thompson did not participate in negotiating the APA or Amendment No. 2. Novell adopts an unduly restrictive interpretation of the law and of the nature of Mr. Thompson's experience and testimony.<sup>1</sup>

Under the direction of Novell CEO Robert Frankenberg, Mr. Thompson was the Novell executive responsible for the sale of the UNIX and UnixWare business. (Ex. 1 ¶ 4.) After the transaction closed, Novell appointed Mr. Thompson to serve as its representative on the Santa Cruz Board of Directors. (Id. ¶ 6.) Novell's instructions to Mr. Thompson were clear: "sell everything, from Bob Frankenberg to me, and sell UnixWare. So sell UNIX, sell UnixWare." (Ex. 2 at 24-25.) He formed the Novell deal team and was personally involved in face-to-face negotiations with Santa Cruz officials Alok Mohan, Steve Sabbath, Jim Wilt, Geoff Seabrook, and Kim Madsen. (Ex. 1 ¶ 5.) Mr. Thompson testified to his understanding and belief at the time of the transaction in 1995 that the assets transferred "included the bundle of the copyrights." (Ex. 2 at 132-33.)

Such testimony is admissible. Mr. Thompson has personal knowledge of the business negotiators' intent concerning the transaction, because he participated in the negotiations. His testimony constitutes relevant extrinsic evidence of the circumstances in which the APA was drafted; of the negotiations that occurred leading up to the execution of the APA; of the object, nature, and subject matter of the APA; and of circumstances helping to explain the execution and meaning of Amendment No. 2. <u>SCO Group, Inc. v. Novell, Inc.</u>, 578 F.3d 1201, 1211, 1217 (10th Cir. 2009). His testimony is integral to helping the factfinder place itself in the same

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This is the fifth of Novell's eight similar motions (Motions in Limine Nos. 12-19) regarding witness testimony. SCO sets forth the controlling law governing the admissibility of such testimony in its Memorandum in Opposition to Novell's Motion in Limine No. 12, and hereby incorporates that discussion.

situation in which the parties found themselves in negotiating and executing the APA. Consistent with well-established California law, the Tenth Circuit has necessarily rejected the argument that only the testimony of the individuals who negotiated the language of the APA or Amendment No. 2 is relevant. Novell's arguments go to the weight of Mr. Thompson's testimony, not its relevance.

# **CONCLUSION**

SCO respectfully submits, for the reasons set forth above, that the Court should deny Novell's Motion in Limine No. 16.

DATED this 19th day of February, 2010.

By: <u>/s/ Brent O. Hatch</u> HATCH, JAMES & DODGE, P.C. Brent O. Hatch Mark F. James

BOIES, SCHILLER & FLEXNER LLP David Boies Robert Silver Stuart H. Singer Edward Normand Sashi Bach Boruchow

Counsel for The SCO Group, Inc.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Brent O. Hatch, hereby certify that on this 19th day of February, 2010, a true and

## correct copy of the foregoing SCO'S OPPOSITION TO NOVELL'S MOTION IN LIMINE

NO. 16 was filed with the court and served via electronic mail to the following recipients:

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