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ARTICLE I

REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES OF THE GUARANTOR

<u>SECTION 1.1</u>. The Guarantor does hereby represent and warrant that:

- (a) American Hardware Supply Company is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is in good standing under the laws of the State of South Carolina; it has power under its charter and bylaws and under the laws of Pennsylvania and South Carolina to enter into and perform all agreements on its part herein contained; it has been authorized to enter into this Agreement by all necessary and proper action; and the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the agreements herein contained do not contravene or constitute a default under any agreement, indenture, commitment, provision of its charter or bylaws, or other requirement of law to which it is a party or by which it is or may be bound; and
- (b) There is no litigation or proceeding pending against the Guarantor nor to the knowledge of the officers of the Guarantor threatened, which if decided adversely to the Guarantor, would have a material effect upon its financial condition or business.