

findings supporting its decision to seal the documents and for rejecting the alternatives.” *Id.*

Upon consideration of Plaintiffs’ filings, the Court makes the following findings.

First, Plaintiffs have provided public notice of its request to seal and interested parties have been given a reasonable opportunity to object. Plaintiffs filed their motion to seal and public notice on March 18, 2021. (*See* Dkts. 498, 499.) Because over seven days have elapsed since Plaintiffs filed the motion to seal and public notice, and no interested party has objected, the Court may treat this motion as uncontested under Local Civil Rule 5(C). *See* L. Civ. R. 5(C). Accordingly, Plaintiffs have satisfied this requirement under *Ashcraft* and the Local Civil Rules.


Second, this Court has considered less drastic alternatives. Plaintiffs submitted a redacted version of their Reply. (Dkt. 502.) This selective protection of information constitutes the least drastic measure of sealing confidential material. *See Adams v. Object Innovation, Inc.*, No. 3:11cv272-REP-DWD, 2011 WL 7042224, at *4 (E.D. Va. Dec. 5, 2011) “[The] proposal to redact only the proprietary and confidential information, rather than seal the entirety of [the document], constitutes the least drastic method of shielding the information at issue.”), *report and recommendation adopted*, 2012 WL 135428 (E.D. Va. Jan. 17, 2012).

Finally, the Court finds reason to seal the redacted portions of the Reply and accompanying exhibits. The redacted portions contain confidential, proprietary, and competitively sensitive business information of Defendants and third parties. This information is also protected under the parties’ stipulated protective order and includes Defendant’s experts’ testimony and development information. As a result, public disclosure of the information could bring competitive harm to the parties in this lawsuit and to others.

Accordingly, it is hereby

ORDERED that Plaintiffs' motion to seal (Dkt. 498) is **GRANTED**. Docket number 500 shall remain permanently under seal.

ENTERED this 26th day of March, 2021.



/s/

THERESA CARROLL BUCHANAN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Alexandria, Virginia