ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

IN THE MATTER OF Section 101 of the Courts of Justice Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.C.43, as amended, and in the matter of Section 243(1) of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3, as amended

THE HONOURABLE MR.)	MONDAY, THE 6^{TH}	
)		
JUSTICE MICHAEL A. PENNY)	DAY OF MARCH, 2023	

BETWEEN:

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS INC.

(solely in its capacity as court-appointed receiver and manager of Bridging Finance Inc. and certain related entities and investment funds)

Applicant

- and -

SKYMARK FINANCE CORPORATION and MERK INVESTMENTS LTD.

Respondents

ORDER (Appointing Receiver)

THIS APPLICATION made by PricewaterhouseCoopers Inc., in its capacity as court-appointed receiver and manager of Bridging Finance Inc. and certain related entities and investment funds (in such capacity, the "**Applicant**") for an Order pursuant to section 243(1) of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3, as amended (the "**BIA**") and section 101 of the *Courts of Justice Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.43, as amended (the "**CJA**"), appointing

Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc. ("A&M") as receiver and manager (in such capacity, the "Receiver"), without security, of all of the assets, undertakings and properties of each of Skymark Finance Corporation and Merk Investments Ltd. (together, the "Respondents"), was heard this day by videoconference in Toronto, Ontario, in accordance with the Guidelines to Determine Mode of Proceeding in Civil Proceedings, effective April 19, 2022.

ON READING the Affidavit of Christine Sinclair sworn December 30, 2022 and the Exhibits thereto, and on hearing the submissions of counsel for the Applicant, counsel for the proposed Receiver, and such other parties listed on the counsel slip, no one else appearing although duly served as appears from the Affidavit of Service of Adam Driedger sworn March 3, 2023, and on reading the consent of A&M to act as the Receiver,

SERVICE

1. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the time for service of the Notice of Application and the Application Record herein is hereby abridged and validated such that this Application is properly returnable today, hereby dispenses with further service thereof, and authorizes substituted service thereof via electronic mail.

APPOINTMENT

2. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that pursuant to section 243(1) of the BIA and section 101 of the CJA, A&M is hereby appointed Receiver, without security, of all of the present and future assets, undertakings, and properties of the Respondents acquired for, or used in relation to the business carried on by the Respondents and all proceeds thereof (the "**Property**").

RECEIVER'S POWERS

- 3. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver is hereby empowered and authorized, but not obligated, to act at once in respect of the Respondents and the Property and, without in any way limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Receiver is hereby expressly empowered and authorized to do any of the following where the Receiver considers it necessary or desirable:
 - (a) to take possession of and exercise control over the Property and any and all proceeds, receipts and disbursements arising out of or from the Property;
 - (b) to receive, preserve, and protect the Property, or any part or parts thereof, including, but not limited to, the changing of locks and security codes, the relocating of Property to safeguard it, the engaging of independent security personnel, the taking of physical inventories of the Property, accessing and taking control of the Respondents' bank accounts and the placement of such insurance coverage as may be necessary or desirable;
 - to manage, operate, and carry on the business of the Respondents (the "Business"), including the powers to enter into any agreements, incur any obligations in the ordinary course of business, cease to carry on all or any part of the Business, or disclaim or cease to perform any contracts of the Respondents or in respect of the Property;
 - (d) to engage consultants, appraisers, agents, experts, auditors, accountants, managers, insurance brokers, counsel and such other persons from time to time and on whatever basis, including on a temporary basis, to assist with the exercise of the

Receiver's powers and duties, including without limitation those conferred by this Order;

- (e) to purchase or lease such machinery, equipment, inventories, supplies, premises or other assets to continue the Business of the Respondents or any part or parts thereof;
- (f) to receive and collect all monies and accounts now owed or hereafter owing to the Respondents and to exercise all remedies of the Respondents in collecting such monies, including, without limitation, to enforce any security held by the Respondents;
- (g) to settle, extend or compromise any indebtedness owing to the Respondents;
- (h) to execute, assign, issue and endorse documents of whatever nature in respect of any of the Property, whether in the Receiver's name or in the name and on behalf of the Respondents, for any purpose pursuant to this Order;
- (i) to initiate, prosecute and continue the prosecution of any and all proceedings and to defend all proceedings now pending or hereafter instituted with respect to the Respondents, the Property or the Receiver, and to settle or compromise any such proceedings. The authority hereby conveyed shall extend to such appeals or applications for judicial review in respect of any order or judgment pronounced in any such proceeding;
- (j) to market any or all of the Property, including advertising and soliciting offers in respect of the Property or any part or parts thereof and negotiating such terms and conditions of sale as the Receiver in its discretion may deem appropriate;

- (k) to sell, convey, transfer, lease or assign the Property or any part or parts thereof out of the ordinary course of business as follows:
 - (i) without the approval of this Court in respect of any transaction not exceeding \$100,000, provided that the aggregate consideration for all such transactions does not exceed \$500,000; and
 - (ii) with the approval of this Court in respect of any transaction in which the purchase price or the aggregate purchase price exceeds the applicable amount set out in the preceding clause;

and in each such case notice under subsection 63(4) of the Ontario *Personal Property Security Act*, or section 31 of the Ontario *Mortgages Act*, as the case may be, shall not be required;

- (l) to apply for any vesting order or other orders necessary to convey the Property or any part or parts thereof to a purchaser or purchasers thereof, free and clear of any liens or encumbrances affecting such Property;
- (m) to report to, meet with and discuss with such affected Persons (as defined below) as the Receiver deems appropriate on all matters relating to the Property and the receivership, and to share information, subject to such terms as to confidentiality as the Receiver deems advisable;
- (n) to register a copy of this Order and any other Orders in respect of the Property against title to any of the Property;

- (o) to apply for any permits, licences, approvals or permissions as may be required by any governmental authority and any renewals thereof for and on behalf of and, if thought desirable by the Receiver, in the name of the Respondents;
- (p) to enter into agreements with any trustee in bankruptcy appointed in respect of the Respondents, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the ability to enter into occupation agreements for any Property owned or leased by the Respondents;
- (q) to exercise any shareholder, partnership, joint venture or other rights which the Respondents may have; and
- (r) to take any steps reasonably incidental to the exercise of these powers or the performance of any statutory obligations,

and in each case where the Receiver takes any such actions or steps, it shall be exclusively authorized and empowered to do so, to the exclusion of all other Persons, including the Respondents, and without interference from any other Person.

DUTY TO PROVIDE ACCESS AND CO-OPERATION TO THE RECEIVER

4. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that: (i) the Respondents; (ii) all of their current and former directors, officers, employees, agents, accountants, legal counsel, financial advisors, and shareholders, and all other persons acting on their instructions or behalf; and (iii) all other individuals, firms, corporations, governmental bodies or agencies, or other entities having notice of this Order (all of the foregoing, collectively, being "**Persons**" and each being a "**Person**") shall forthwith advise the Receiver of the existence of any Property in such Person's possession or

control, shall grant immediate and continued access to the Property to the Receiver, and shall deliver all such Property to the Receiver upon the Receiver's request.

- 5. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that all Persons shall forthwith advise the Receiver of the existence of any books, documents, securities, contracts, orders, corporate and accounting records, and any other papers, records and information of any kind related to the Business, the Property, or the affairs of the Respondents, and any computer programs, computer tapes, computer disks, or other data storage media containing any such information (the foregoing, collectively, the "**Records**") in that Person's possession or control, and shall provide to the Receiver or permit the Receiver to make, retain and take away copies thereof and grant to the Receiver unfettered access to and use of accounting, computer, software and physical facilities relating thereto, provided however that nothing in this paragraph 5 or in paragraph 6 of this Order shall require the delivery of Records, or the granting of access to Records, which may not be disclosed or provided to the Receiver due to the privilege attaching to solicitor-client communication or due to statutory provisions prohibiting such disclosure.
- 6. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that if any Records are stored or otherwise contained on a computer or other electronic system of information storage, whether by independent service provider or otherwise, all Persons in possession or control of such Records shall forthwith give unfettered access to the Receiver for the purpose of allowing the Receiver to recover and fully copy all of the information contained therein whether by way of printing the information onto paper or making copies of computer disks or such other manner of retrieving and copying the information as the Receiver in its discretion deems expedient, and shall not alter, erase or destroy any Records without the prior written consent of the Receiver. Further, for the purposes of this paragraph, all Persons shall provide the Receiver with all such assistance in gaining immediate

access to the information in the Records as the Receiver may in its discretion require including providing the Receiver with instructions on the use of any computer or other system and providing the Receiver with any and all access codes, account names and account numbers that may be required to gain access to the information.

7. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver shall provide each of the relevant landlords with notice of the Receiver's intention to remove any fixtures from any leased premises at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the intended removal. The relevant landlord shall be entitled to have a representative present in the leased premises to observe such removal and, if the landlord disputes the Receiver's entitlement to remove any such fixture under the provisions of the lease, such fixture shall remain on the premises and shall be dealt with as agreed between any applicable secured creditors, such landlord and the Receiver, or by further Order of this Court upon application by the Receiver on at least two (2) days notice to such landlord and any such secured creditors.

NO PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE RECEIVER

8. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that no proceeding or enforcement process in any court or tribunal (each, a "**Proceeding**"), shall be commenced or continued against the Receiver except with the written consent of the Receiver or with leave of this Court.

NO PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE RESPONDENTS OR THE PROPERTY

9. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that no Proceeding against or in respect of the Respondents or the Property shall be commenced or continued except with the written consent of the Receiver or with leave of this Court and any and all Proceedings currently under way against or in respect of

the Respondents or the Property are hereby stayed and suspended pending further Order of this Court.

NO EXERCISE OF RIGHTS OR REMEDIES

10. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that all rights and remedies against the Respondents, the Receiver, or affecting the Property, are hereby stayed and suspended except with the written consent of the Receiver or leave of this Court, provided however that this stay and suspension does not apply in respect of any "eligible financial contract" as defined in the BIA, and further provided that nothing in this paragraph shall: (i) empower the Receiver or the Respondents to carry on any business which the Respondents is not lawfully entitled to carry on; (ii) exempt the Receiver or the Respondents from compliance with statutory or regulatory provisions relating to health, safety, or the environment; (iii) prevent the filing of any registration to preserve or perfect a security interest; or (iv) prevent the registration of a claim for lien.

NO INTERFERENCE WITH THE RECEIVER

11. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that no Person shall discontinue, fail to honour, alter, interfere with, repudiate, terminate or cease to perform any right, renewal right, contract, agreement, licence or permit in favour of or held by the Respondents, without written consent of the Receiver or leave of this Court.

CONTINUATION OF SERVICES

12. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that all Persons having oral or written agreements with the Respondents or statutory or regulatory mandates for the supply of goods and/or services, including without limitation, all computer software, communication and other data services, centralized banking services, payroll services, insurance, transportation services, utility or other services to

the Respondents are hereby restrained until further Order of this Court from discontinuing, altering, interfering with or terminating the supply of such goods or services as may be required by the Receiver, and that the Receiver shall be entitled to the continued use of the Respondents' current telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, internet addresses and domain names, provided in each case that the normal prices or charges for all such goods or services received after the date of this Order are paid by the Receiver in accordance with normal payment practices of the Respondents or such other practices as may be agreed upon by the supplier or service provider and the Receiver, or as may be ordered by this Court.

RECEIVER TO HOLD FUNDS

13. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that all funds, monies, cheques, instruments, and other forms of payments received or collected by the Receiver from and after the making of this Order from any source whatsoever, including without limitation the sale of all or any of the Property and the collection of any accounts receivable in whole or in part, whether in existence on the date of this Order or hereafter coming into existence, shall be deposited into one or more new accounts to be opened by the Receiver (the "**Post Receivership Accounts**") and the monies standing to the credit of such Post Receivership Accounts from time to time, net of any disbursements provided for herein, shall be held by the Receiver to be paid in accordance with the terms of this Order or any further Order of this Court.

EMPLOYEES

14. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that any employees of the Respondents shall remain the employees of the Respondents until such time as the Receiver, on the Respondents' behalf, may terminate the employment of any such employees. The Receiver shall not be liable for any

employee-related liabilities, including any successor employer liabilities as provided for in section 14.06(1.2) of the BIA, other than such amounts as the Receiver may specifically agree in writing to pay, or in respect of its obligations under sections 81.4(5) or 81.6(3) of the BIA or under the *Wage Earner Protection Program Act*.

PIPEDA

15. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that, pursuant to clause 7(3)(c) of the Canada *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act*, the Receiver may disclose personal information of identifiable individuals to prospective purchasers or bidders for the Property and to their advisors, but only to the extent desirable or required to negotiate and attempt to complete one or more sales of the Property (each, a "**Sale**"). Each prospective purchaser or bidder to whom such personal information is disclosed shall maintain and protect the privacy of such information and limit the use of such information to its evaluation of the Sale, and if it does not complete a Sale, shall return all such information to the Receiver, or in the alternative destroy all such information. The purchaser of any Property shall be entitled to continue to use the personal information provided to it, and related to the Property purchased, in a manner which is in all material respects identical to the prior use of such information by the Respondents, and shall return all other personal information to the Receiver, or ensure that all other personal information is destroyed.

LIMITATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITIES

16. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that nothing herein contained shall require the Receiver to occupy or to take control, care, charge, possession or management (separately and/or collectively, "**Possession**") of any of the Property that might be environmentally contaminated, might be a pollutant or a contaminant, or might cause or contribute to a spill, discharge, release or deposit of

a substance contrary to any federal, provincial or other law respecting the protection, conservation, enhancement, remediation or rehabilitation of the environment or relating to the disposal of waste or other contamination including, without limitation, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, the Ontario *Environmental Protection Act*, the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, or the Ontario *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and regulations thereunder (the "Environmental Legislation"), provided however that nothing herein shall exempt the Receiver from any duty to report or make disclosure imposed by applicable Environmental Legislation. The Receiver shall not, as a result of this Order or anything done in pursuance of the Receiver's duties and powers under this Order, be deemed to be in Possession of any of the Property within the meaning of any Environmental Legislation, unless it is actually in possession.

LIMITATION ON THE RECEIVER'S LIABILITY

17. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver shall incur no liability or obligation as a result of its appointment or the carrying out the provisions of this Order, save and except for any gross negligence or wilful misconduct on its part, or in respect of its obligations under sections 81.4(5) or 81.6(3) of the BIA or under the *Wage Earner Protection Program Act*. Nothing in this Order shall derogate from the protections afforded the Receiver by section 14.06 of the BIA or by any other applicable legislation.

RECEIVER'S ACCOUNTS

18. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver and counsel to the Receiver shall be paid their reasonable fees and disbursements, in each case at their standard rates and charges, unless otherwise ordered by the Court on the passing of accounts, and that the Receiver and counsel to the Receiver shall be entitled to and are hereby granted a charge (the "**Receiver's Charge**") on the

Property and any funds held by the Receiver on account of the Receiver's Borrowings (as defined below), as security for such fees and disbursements, both before and after the making of this Order in respect of these proceedings, and that the Receiver's Charge shall form a first charge on the Property in priority to all security interests, trusts, liens, charges and encumbrances, statutory or otherwise, in favour of any Person (collectively, "**Encumbrances**"), but subject to sections 14.06(7), 81.4(4), and 81.6(2) of the BIA.

- 19. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver and its legal counsel shall pass their accounts from time to time, and for this purpose the accounts of the Receiver and its legal counsel are hereby referred to a judge of the Commercial List of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.
- 20. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that prior to the passing of its accounts, the Receiver shall be at liberty from time to time to apply reasonable amounts, out of the monies in its hands, against its fees and disbursements, including legal fees and disbursements, incurred at the standard rates and charges of the Receiver or its counsel, and such amounts shall constitute advances against its remuneration and disbursements when and as approved by this Court.

FUNDING OF THE RECEIVERSHIP

21. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver be at liberty and it is hereby empowered to borrow by way of a revolving credit or otherwise, such monies from time to time as it may consider necessary or desirable (the "**Receiver's Borrowings**"), provided that the outstanding principal amount does not exceed \$500,000 (or such greater amount as this Court may by further Order authorize) at any time, at such rate or rates of interest as it deems advisable for such period or periods of time as it may arrange, for the purpose of funding the exercise of the powers and duties conferred upon the Receiver by this Order, including interim expenditures and the fees and

expenses of the Receiver and its counsel. The whole of the Property shall be and is hereby charged by way of a fixed and specific charge (the "Receiver's Borrowings Charge") as security for the payment of the Receiver's Borrowings, together with interest and charges thereon, in priority to all Encumbrances, but subordinate in priority to the Receiver's Charge and the charges as set out in sections 14.06(7), 81.4(4), and 81.6(2) of the BIA.

- 22. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that neither the Receiver's Borrowings Charge nor any other security granted by the Receiver in connection with the Receiver's Borrowings under this Order shall be enforced without leave of this Court.
- 23. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver is at liberty and authorized to issue certificates substantially in the form annexed as **Schedule "A"** hereto (the "**Receiver's Certificates**") for any Receiver's Borrowings pursuant to this Order.
- 24. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver's Borrowings from time to time borrowed by the Receiver pursuant to this Order or any further order of this Court and any and all Receiver's Certificates evidencing the same or any part thereof shall rank on a *pari passu* basis, unless otherwise agreed to by the holders of any prior issued Receiver's Certificates.

SERVICE AND NOTICE

25. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Guide Concerning Commercial List E-Service (the "**Protocol**") is approved and adopted by reference herein and, in this proceeding, the service of documents made in accordance with the Protocol (which can be found on the Commercial List website at https://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/practice/practice-directions/toronto/eservice-commercial/) shall be valid and effective service. Subject to Rule 17.05 this Order shall constitute an order for substituted service pursuant to Rule 16.04 of the Rules of Civil Procedure. Subject to

Rule 3.01(d) of the Rules of Civil Procedure and paragraph 21 of the Protocol, service of documents in accordance with the Protocol will be effective on transmission. This Court further orders that a Case Website shall be established in accordance with the Protocol with the following URL: www.alvarezandmarsal.com/skymark.

26. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that if the service or distribution of documents in accordance with the Protocol is not practicable, the Receiver is at liberty to serve or distribute this Order, any other materials and orders in these proceedings, any notices or other correspondence, by forwarding true copies thereof by email, ordinary mail, courier, personal delivery or facsimile transmission to the Respondents' creditors or other interested parties at their respective addresses as last shown on the records of the Respondents and that any such service or distribution by courier, personal delivery or facsimile transmission shall be deemed to be received on the next business day following the date of forwarding thereof, or if sent by ordinary mail, on the third business day after mailing.

GENERAL

- 27. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver may from time to time apply to this Court for advice and directions in the discharge of its powers and duties hereunder.
- 28. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that nothing in this Order shall prevent the Receiver from acting as a trustee in bankruptcy of the Respondents.
- 29. **THIS COURT HEREBY REQUESTS** the aid and recognition of any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body having jurisdiction in Canada or in the United States to give effect to this Order and to assist the Receiver and its agents in carrying out the terms of this Order. All courts, tribunals, regulatory and administrative bodies are hereby respectfully requested to

make such orders and to provide such assistance to the Receiver, as an officer of this Court, as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this Order or to assist the Receiver and its agents in carrying out the terms of this Order.

- 30. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver be at liberty and is hereby authorized and empowered to apply to any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body, wherever located, for the recognition of this Order and for assistance in carrying out the terms of this Order, and that the Receiver is authorized and empowered to act as a representative in respect of the within proceedings for the purpose of having these proceedings recognized in a jurisdiction outside Canada.
- 31. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Applicant shall have its costs of this application, up to and including entry and service of this Order, provided for by the terms of the Applicant's security or, if not so provided by the Applicant's security, then on a substantial indemnity basis to be paid by the Receiver from the Respondents' estate with such priority and at such time as this Court may determine.
- 32. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that any interested party may apply to this Court to vary or amend this Order on not less than seven (7) days' notice to the Receiver, the Applicant, and to any other party likely to be affected by the order sought or upon such other notice, if any, as this Court may order.
- 33. **THIS COURT ORDERS** that the Receiver, its counsel and counsel for the Applicant may serve or distribute this Order, or any other materials and orders as may be reasonably required in these proceedings, including any notices, or other correspondence, by forwarding true copies thereof by electronic message to the creditors or any other stakeholders or other interested parties

of the Respondents and their advisors (if any). For greater certainty, any such distribution or service shall be deemed to be in satisfaction of a legal or juridical obligation, and notice requirements within the meaning of clause 3(c) of the *Electronic Commerce Protection Regulations*, Reg. 81000-2-175 (SOR/DORS).



SCHEDULE "A"

Receiver's Certificate

the security interests of any other person, but subject to the priority of the charges set out in the

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Order and in the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, and the right of the Receiver to indemnify itself

out of such Property in respect of its remuneration and expenses.

4. All sums payable in respect of principal and interest under this certificate are payable at

the main office of the Lender at Toronto, Ontario.

5. Until all liability in respect of this certificate has been terminated, no certificates creating

charges ranking or purporting to rank in priority to this certificate shall be issued by the Receiver

to any person other than the holder of this certificate without the prior written consent of the holder

of this certificate.

6. The charge securing this certificate shall operate so as to permit the Receiver to deal with

the Property as authorized by the Order and as authorized by any further or other order of the

Court.

7. The Receiver does not undertake, and it is not under any personal liability, to pay any sum

in respect of which it may issue certificates under the terms of the Order.

DATED the	day of MONTH,	2023
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Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc., solely in its capacity as Receiver of the Property, and not in its personal

capacity

Per:			
	Name:		
	Title:		

IN THE MATTER OF Section 101 of the Courts of Justice Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.C.43, as amended, and in the matter of Section 243(1) of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3, as amended

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS INC. (solely in its capacity as court-appointed receiver and manager of Bridging Finance Inc. and certain related entities and investment funds)	- and -	SKYMARK FINANCE CORPORATION and MERK INVESTMENTS LTD.
Applicant		Respondents
		Court File No. CV-22-00692309-00CL
		ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)
		Proceedings commenced at Toronto, Ontario
		ORDER (Appointing Receiver)
		Thornton Grout Finnigan LLP TD West Tower, Toronto-Dominion Centre 3200 –100 Wellington Street West Toronto, ON M5K 1K7 John L. Finnigan (LSO# 24040L)
		Email: jfinnigan@tgf.ca Grant B. Moffat (LSO# 32380L) Email: gmoffat@tgf.ca
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		Tel: 416-304-1616 Lawyers for the Applicant