



06-CV-05540-CMP

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CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA
DEPUTY

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

MOTHER, LLC, a Washington Limited
Liability Company,

Plaintiff,

v.

L.L. BEAN, Inc., a Maine Corporation,

Defendant.

NO

C06 5540 JKA

COMPLAINT FOR TRADE
DRESS INFRINGEMENT, FALSE
DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN,
UNFAIR COMPETION, AND
UNFAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES.

TRIAL BY JURY REQUESTED

Plaintiff Mother, LLC, hereby alleges the following causes of action against Defendants:

I. Parties

1. The Plaintiff, Mother, LLC ("Mother"), is a Limited Liability Company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Washington, having its principal place of business in Gig Harbor, County of Pierce, State of Washington. Mother is actively engaged in the business of developing, marketing, and commercializing outdoor products.
2. Upon information and belief, Defendant L.L Bean Corporation ("L.L. Bean") is a corporation having its principal place of business in Maine.

TAC - 939

1 **II. Jurisdiction and Venue**

- 2 3. This action arises under the trademark laws of the United States of America, 15 U.S.C.
3 § 1051 et seq. and for Unfair Business Practice arising under RCW § 19.86.090.
- 4 4. Original jurisdiction over False Designation of Origin and/or Trademark Infringement
5 and Federal Unfair Competition claims is conferred upon this Court by 28 U.S.C.
6 §§ 1331 and 1338. The Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law claim
7 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 8 5. Defendant does business in this judicial district. Venue, therefore, is proper in this
9 judicial district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)-(c).
- 10 6. Plaintiff, Mother is a Washington LLC with a principal place of business in the
11 Western District of Washington. The damage to Mother described herein took place
12 and continues to occur in the Western District of Washington.

13 **III. Facts**

- 14 7. Mother does business worldwide. Mother has been in business since 2004 and has
15 experience in the development, marketing, and commercialization of outdoor products.
- 16 8. Mother developed the Mother Day Pack ("Day Pack") and first began using the Day
17 Pack in commerce as early as October 12, 2004.
- 18 9. Mother has promoted, marketed and sold the Day Pack in various States of the United
19 States, continuously since this time. (See Exhibit A.)
- 20 10. Mother offered the Day Pack to Defendant on February 2004 for sale through its
21 catalogs and website.
- 22 11. Defendant first ordered the Day Pack from Mother on March 3, 2005.
- 23 12. Upon information and belief, thereafter, Defendant instructed its design department to
24 copy the distinctive features of the Day Pack, and to prepare a copy of it for sale to the
25 public.
26

1 13. Defendant, upon information and belief, have the Upland Vest Pack produced from the
2 same pattern, or a derivative work of such pattern, from the same factory as Mother's
3 Day Pack.

4 14. Defendant, upon information and belief, markets the Upland Vest Pack, which is
5 substantially similar in design to the Day Pack marketed by Mother.

6 15. Defendant ceased orders of the Mother Day Pack, despite its sales success, and
7 commenced offering the Upland Vest Pack around June 15, 2006. (See Exhibit B.)

8 16. In or about June 2006, consumers of Mother products were confused as to the source
9 of origin of Defendant's Upland Vest Pack. On information and belief, a number of
10 consumers believe that Mother is the source of the product and that Mother has
11 entered into an agreement to label its products with Defendant's trademark.
12 (See Exhibit C.)

13 17. Defendant continues to market their Upland Vest Pack, which is confusingly similar to
14 the Day Pack that is marketed, supplied, and designed by Mother.

15 18. The impact of Defendant's trade dress infringement is particularly acute in that
16 Defendant is in the same industry and in direct competition for the same or
17 overlapping customer base as Mother, and this has additionally caused confusion in
18 the marketplace.

19 19. Defendant's use of the Day Pack trade dress is unauthorized and unlicensed by
20 Mother.

21 20. Defendant's use of the Day Pack trade dress allows the Defendant to trade on the
22 substantial brand recognition enjoyed by Mother, and to misdirect consumers from
23 Mother's products and services to those of Defendant. By so doing, Defendant has
24 gained an improper and unfair competitive advantage over Mother in the sale of, and
25 marketing of, competing products and services.
26

1 21. Upon information and belief, Defendant has at all relevant times been aware or should
2 have been aware of Mother's trade dress.

3 22. The acts of Defendant have caused and will continue to cause serious and irreparable
4 harm to Mother and to the goodwill associated with Mother's trade dress. Moreover,
5 Defendant has and will continue to unjustly benefit - at Mother's expense - from gains,
6 profits and advances derived from the promotion and sale of the Upland Vest Pack,
7 which was developed by Mother.
8

9 **COUNT 1: FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN**

10 23. Plaintiff Mother realleges paragraphs 1-22 of this complaint.

11 24. Defendant has engaged in false designation of origin by using trade dress identical to
12 Mother's even though Mother owns the exclusive rights to use the mark in association
13 with the products, services, and markets as described above. Defendant's use of
14 Mother's trade dress is without license, permission or authorization and is likely to and
15 has caused confusion or mistake as to the origin, sponsorship, or approval of
16 Defendant's goods or commercial activities. Thus, Defendant's actions constitute a
17 violation of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a).

18 25. Defendant has derived and will continue to derive and receive from the above-alleged
19 acts of infringement, profits and revenues in an amount that is not presently known to
20 Plaintiff. Further, such acts of infringement were made with knowledge of their
21 capacity to deceive and were thus committed intentionally and willfully. By reason of
22 the above acts of infringement, Plaintiff has been and will continue to be damaged in
23 an amount to be determined at trial.

24 26. The activities of Defendant as alleged in this Complaint have caused and will continue
25 to cause irreparable harm to Plaintiff.
26

1 **COUNT 2: UNFAIR COMPETITION UNDER LANHAM ACT § 43**

2 27. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1-26 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

3 28. Defendant's use of the Day Pack trade dress to promote, market, or sell their product
4 in direct competition with Mother constitutes Unfair Competition pursuant to
5 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a). Defendant's use of the Day Pack trade dress is likely to cause
6 confusion, mistake, and deception among consumers. Defendant's unfair competition
7 has caused and will continue to cause damage to Mother, and is causing irreparable
8 harm to Mother for which there is no adequate remedy at law.

9
10 **COUNT 3: UNFAIR BUSINESS PRACTICE UNDER RCW § 19.86.090.**

11 29. Plaintiff realleges paragraphs 1-28 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

12 30. Defendant's use of the Day Pack trade dress to promote, market, or sell a product in
13 direct competition with Mother constitutes an Unfair Business Practice pursuant to
14 RCW § 19.86.010 *et seq.* Defendant's use of the Day Pack trade dress is an unfair or
15 deceptive practice occurring in trade or commerce that impacts the public interest and
16 has caused injury to Mother. Defendant's unfair business practice has caused and will
17 continue to cause damage to Mother, and is causing irreparable harm to Mother for
18 which there is no adequate remedy at law.

19
20 **IV. JURY DEMAND**

21 Mother requests a jury trial on all issues triable by jury.

22
23 **V. Request for Relief**

24 Mother requests for the following alternative and cumulative relief:
25
26

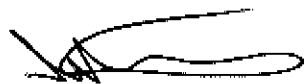
- 1 1. An order enjoining Defendant, including all officers, agents, affiliates, employees and
2 representatives of the Defendant, and all persons in active concert or participation with
3 any of them, from engaging in or performing any of the following:
- 4 a. Using or displaying the Upland Vest Pack, or any other products using trade dress
5 confusingly similar thereto, in connection with the advertising, marketing, sale or
6 provision of any products or services.
- 7 b. Performing any act that is likely to cause confusion, to cause mistake or to deceive,
8 or otherwise mislead the trade or public into believing that Mother and Defendant
9 are one and the same; that Mother and Defendant are in some way connected; that
10 Mother is the sponsor of Defendant's products; that Defendant is in some way
11 affiliated with, associated with, or under the supervision or control of Mother, or
12 that the products of Defendant originates from or are approved by Mother or are
13 likely in any way to lead the public to associate Defendant with Mother.
- 14 2. An order that Defendant deliver up for destruction all products which have copied
15 Mother's distinctive trade dress or any derivative, colorable imitation, or confusingly
16 similar trade dress, together with all means for making or reproducing the same.
- 17 3. An order requiring Defendant to send a written notice to all recipients of its mailings
18 containing the Upland Vest Pack, or any derivative, colorable imitation, or confusingly
19 similar trade dress, and to all persons who have viewed Defendant's Internet site,
20 setting forth Mother's exclusive ownership of and rights to its trade dress and
21 disavowing any relationship between Mother and Defendant.
- 22 4. An order requiring Defendant to file with this Court and serve on Mother, within 30
23 days of service of this order, a report in writing under oath setting forth in detail the
24 manner and form in which Defendant has complied with the terms of the ordered
25 relief.
26

- 1 5. Damages in an amount sufficient to compensate Mother for all injury sustained as a
2 result of Defendant's wrongful activities, and to account for and pay over to Mother all
3 gains, profits, and advances derived from the use, promotion or sale by Defendant of
4 any products or provision of any services in wrongful association with Mother's trade
5 dress.
- 6 6. Treble the amount of damages recovered by Mother and all of its litigation expenses,
7 including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.
- 8 7. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and equitable.
- 9

10 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this the 17th day of September, 2006.

11

12 Jefferson Coulter PLLC

13
14 

15 By: Jefferson Coulter

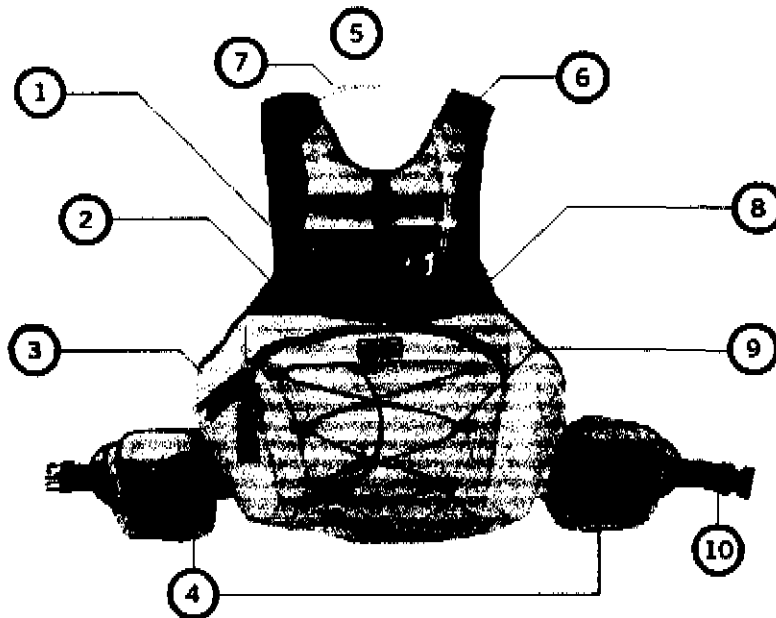
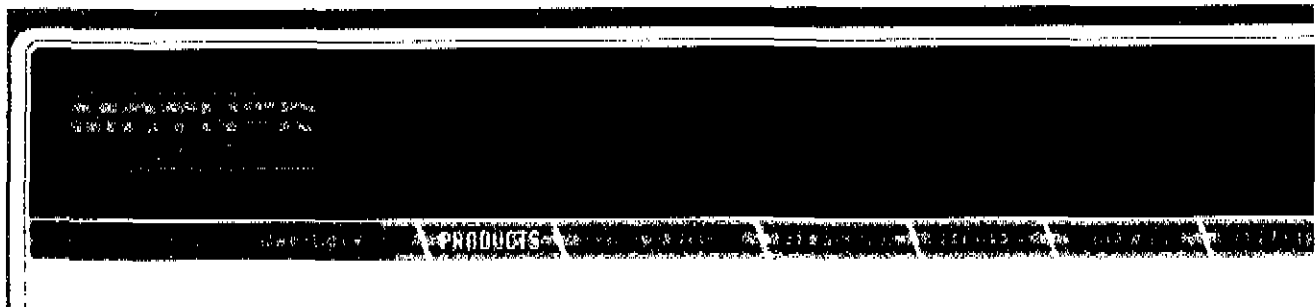
16 WSBA #28947

17 Attorney for Plaintiff

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EXHIBIT A

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DAY PACK

The Day Pack is a direct descendant of the pro that spawned the MOTHER™ line and will serve equal dignity from afternoon quail hunts in Georgia to epic sun up to sun down days for Ptarmigan in Alaska. You'd be hard pressed to find a more comfortable and functional way to carry your gear when upland hunting. Couple the Day Pack with our Fly Accessory and makes a superb fast and light pack for fishing in streams.

RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES:

- Fly Accessory
 - Hydration Reservoir
 - Duffel Bag - score a MOTHER™ of All Duffles for when you purchase any MOTHER™ Pack. (call to order)
- 253-820-8790 or e-mail at info@mothertech.net

Small & Regular

Qty: 1 Price: **\$119.00 Includ**
\$10 Shipping

Color Options:

Blaze/Khaki -

Size Options:

Small -

Extra Large

Qty: 1 Price: **\$129.00 Includ**
\$10 Shipping

Color Options:

Blaze/Khaki -



Also Available in Sage / Canyon



Web Special
Mossy Oak Shadow Grass

Web Special


Qty: 1

Price: \$75.00 Includ
\$10 Shipping



Size	Color	Mod. Number	Torso Length*	Weight	Price
Small	Blaze / Khaki	100	15" - 18"	2.1 lbs	\$109.00
Regular	Blaze / Khaki	105	18" - 23"	2.4 lbs	\$109.00
X-Large	Blaze / Khaki	108	23" +	2.7 lbs	\$119.00
Small	Sage / Canyon	130	15" - 18"	2.1 lbs	\$109.00
Regular	Sage / Canyon	135	18" - 23"	2.4 lbs	\$109.00
X-Large	Sage / Canyon	138	23" +	2.7 lbs	\$119.00
Regular *Web Specific*	MOSA	133	18" - 23"	2.4 lbs	*\$69.00*

Click here to go to SIZING AND FIT page

	<p>1. Mesh Pocket: Zippered mesh pocket nicely accommodates a canine first aid kit or lunch for both of you.</p>
	<p>2. Zippered Bellows: A pocket for extra clothing.</p>
	<p>3. Game Bag: Side loading game bag will easily accommodate a couple of fat roosters or a limit of quail and easily accessed by the wearer.</p>
	<p>4. Shell Pockets: Shell pockets have three compartments - the outside mesh snaps shut for must not loose lbs each main pocket easily holds twenty-five 2 3/4"; 12 gauge shells, hidden slip pockets hold human treats. The Day Pack will also feature the same Flip Magnet and Main Squeeze closure on the Mission.</p>
	<p>5. Gun Sleeve: It's a known fact that if you put time between you and the road the birds get thicker and dur Gun sleeves let you safely and comfortably pack your gun (fits most breech loading guns). TI sleeves also make the perfect place to stow a four-piece fly rod.</p>



6. Shoulder Straps:

Low profile sternum strap won't interfere with gun mount. Tactical split webbing provides a h for dog whistles and transmitters.



7. Hydration:

Compatible with left or right tube routing for left or right hand shooters.



8. Stuff It:

This pouch is for quick access to a rain jacket in changeable weather.

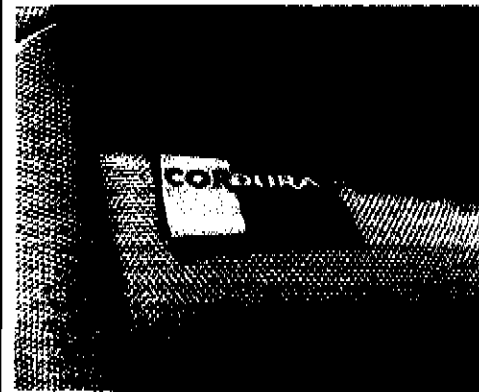
9. Bungee Tie-Downs:

Elastic ladder tie downs for anything that you just can't fit inside.



10. Hip Harness:

Our Hip Harness is not a limp wristed belt - It wraps around your waist with authority and works with the pack's suspension to transfer the load to your hips. It takes the strain off of your shoulders and allows the Technical Bird Hunting Pack to move as a part of your body, instead of a sack over your shoulders like most hunting vests.



11. Fabric Used in the Day Pack:

One of the great debates when costing products out is the quality of materials. We had the opportunity to cut our cost of goods by using generic 500 denier nylon. However, when we started field testing, it became apparent that Cordura® 500 denier nylon was taking abrasion better and the durable water repellent finish was holding up better. We liked the performance of the more expensive, "branded" 500 denier nylon much better than the generic variety - we think that's why. The back of the Day Pack is Air Mesh. Our shoulder straps are finished in Air Mesh and do not have any stiffening material or padding to interfere with your gun mount. Our attention to performance things like gun mount is what separates MOTHER from ordinary packs.



Fly



Day



Assault



Chest



Light



Day



Mission



Fly



PO Box 2341, Gig Harbor, WA 98335 | 253-820-8790 (phone) | 253-858-2943 (fax) | info@mothertech.com

EXHIBIT B

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L.L.Bean

Shopp

Shop

Explore the Outdoors

Customer Service

My

HOME

QUICKSHOP OR SEARCH

Entire Site

Log In

100% Guaranteed

Outdoor Gear & Apparel

GO [▶ Hunting Gear](#) [▶ Upland Hunting](#) [▶ Accessories](#)

Item # or keyword

DEPARTMENTS

Men's

Women's

Kids'

Footwear

Outdoor Gear & Apparel

Camping & Hiking Gear

Kayaking & Canoeing Gear

Hunting Gear

Big Game & Turkey

▶ Upland Hunting

Wool & Rugged Apparel

Dog Supplies

Binoculars, Scopes & Range Finders

Waterfowl

Shooting Sports & Clays

Knives, Multitools & Hunting Tools

Hunting Accessories

Footwear

New for Fall

Fishing Gear

Cycling Gear

Fitness Gear

Men's Outdoor Apparel

Women's Outdoor Apparel

Outdoor Footwear

Snowshoeing Gear

Winter Gear

Cross-Country Skiing Gear

Car Racks & Trailers

Weather Gear

Book Packs

Shopping Guides

Luggage & Travel

Home & Outdoor Living

Gift Cards

ALSO FROM L.L.BEAN

Sale

Book Pack Guide

Shop by Catalog

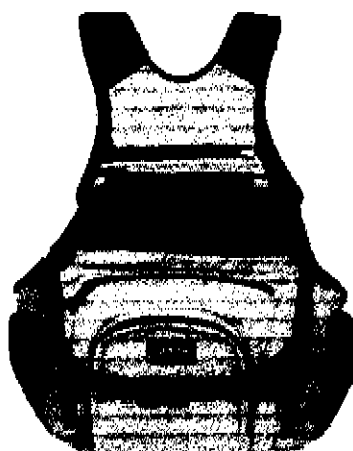
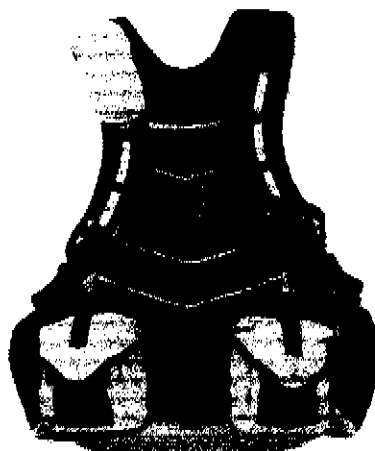
Direct to Business

Outdoor Discovery

Schools

Upland Vest Pack

Tan/Hunter Orange



Email a friend

View larger

Available Colors

(Can't find a color shown in a catalog?)



Tan/Hunter

Orange

- ▶ Built like a backpack to redistribute weight and ease shoulder stress
- ▶ Water-resistant heavy-duty nylon canvas defies branches and briars
- ▶ Bloodproof rear-loading game pocket zips open and lies flat for easy cleaning [\(view details\)](#)

Carry a fully loaded vest without feeling the strain at the end of the day. Built like a backpack, its padded shoulder straps and waistbelt redistribute weight to the hips, easing shoulder stress. Reinforced molded back panel and contoured shoulder straps are covered with ventilating Air Mesh. Fully adjustable fit keeps pack close to the body, which eliminates shifting while on the move to the next cover.

Water-resistant 600-denier polyester canvas defies branches and briars. Fabric backed with polyurethane to keep out moisture. Waistbelt has two top-load pockets with molded flaps that flip back into place for easy one-handed access. Each holds a full box of shells. Bloodproof rear-loading game pocket is oversized to easily hold a limit of birds and zips open flat for easy cleaning. Back section has two side-mounted water bottle carriers, zip mesh pocket and oversized zip pocket for extra layers of clothing.

To Order

[\(log in to save time\)](#)

Step 1: Select

TA52836

\$89.00

Step 2: Select

Size: -

Tan/Hunter Ora

Quantity: 1

Step 3: Ship

Me

or other:

Enter a nickname, ill we'll ask for shipping

ADD TO SHOPPING CART

ADD TO BAG

You might also like



[Bushnell H2O](#)



[Midland GXT6](#)



[Hunter's](#)

SHOPPING SERVICES

- Free Catalogs
- Email Newsletter
- 100% Guaranteed
- Gift Services
- Order Tracking/History
- Easy Returns
- L.L.Bean® Visa®


L.L.BEAN STORES

- Retail Stores
- Outlets

ABOUT L.L.BEAN

- Employment
- Company Information

NEED HELP?

- Site Map
- Help Desk
- Email Us
- 800-441-5713 (US/Can.)
- International Help
- Your Privacy
-  L.L.Bean Live Help

Includes two detachable pouches designed to hold dog electronics, cell phone and GPS. They can be attached to a number of locations on the pack for custom storage. Hydration compatible; bladder sold separately. Imported. Spot clean.



Hunter's Tot

[\(return to top\)](#)



Receive email updates on sales and special offers

GO

Enter email address

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EXHIBIT C

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Forum: Gear & Gadgets
Topic: LL Bean Upland Vest
started by: CO Brit

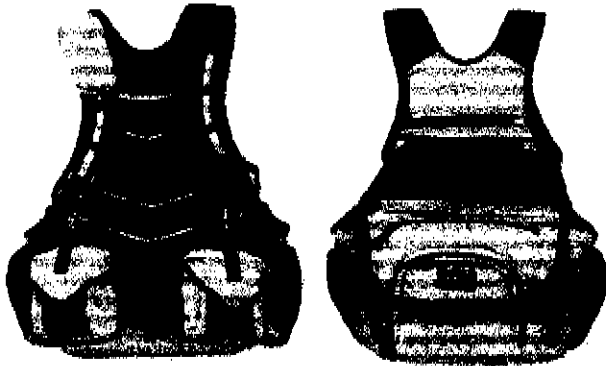
Posted by CO Brit on Jul. 19 2006,5:25

I just grabed the mail and the Bean 06 Fall Hunting Catalog was just delivered. On the inside cover was their new strap vest. It looks llke a CamelBak, but with more storage.

Does anyone have one yet?

Last month I order Cabela's last Camelbak upland strap vest, but I am thinking of sending it back and ordering this.

Jan:Hunter Orange



Posted by Mike Christensen on Jul. 19 2006,5:40

Looks a lot like a Mother Vest.

Is LL Bean offering the Mother Vests this year? I think they did last year.

Mike C.

Posted by dirtdog on Jul. 19 2006,6:06

My catalogue came yesterday also and I saw that vest as well. I like it and I may have to get one.

Jay ☺

Posted by Rogue Hunter on Jul. 19 2006,6:42

Got my catalog, too.

Tell you what...I'm not waiting to order this year. Placed an order last Nov and both items were "out of stock".

Posted by dirtdog on Jul. 19 2006,6:48

Thats good info to know. Maybe I should place my order real soon.

Jay ☺

Posted by rosies dad on Jul. 19 2006,7:18

☺ I spotted that vest, (no mention of Mother) and some bean boots, and a shirt..... Some stuff needs replacing, maybe I better get an order out..

Posted by Brad Eden on Jul. 19 2006,7:50

Looks sorta like a MOTHER, but it aint a MOTHER. . . ☺

I wonder who manufactures it for LLB.

Posted by ScottGrush on Jul. 19 2006,7:50

Nice looking vest, I like the gear pouch that attaches to the shoulder strap.

Hey Marty, any accessories like that available from Mother?

I bought a Mother vest from Ugly Dog hunting, its maiden voyage is this weekend. 😊

Posted by Rex Hoppie on Jul. 19 2006,8:50

Bean does sell upland vests. That vest bears no resemblance to an upland vest.

Posted by WPG Glzmo on Jul. 19 2006,9:12

I will take a look at it this weekend seeing how I am going to be just down the road from there 😊

Posted by gonehuntin on Jul. 19 2006,9:20

Sure looks like a mothers vest. It even has the whistle built into the breast strap. I despise that when someone is so unoriginal they copy a great vest design rather than develop their own. Bean's can go to Hell, I'll stick with Mother's.

Posted by Rex Hoppie on Jul. 19 2006,9:33

Gone,

Who's shirts do you buy?

Posted by erik meade on Jul. 19 2006,9:42

L.L. Bean has gone the way of Wal-Mart. At least I'm coming to that conclusion.

Posted by ErikT on Jul. 20 2006,9:16

I can't see wearing that type of vest here in PA. It would get eaten alive!

Posted by becasse on Jul. 20 2006,12:19

I don't know how any of you guys can use a vest with padded shoulders. I had a Pella vest for part of one season and although I'm sure it would not have made it an entire season without getting torn up I parted with it because of the interference with gun mounting and padded shoulders.

Yes, it was very comfortable, but the only way I could get a decent gun mount was to tighten the sternum strap so much that it pulled the shoulder straps toward my neck and away from my shoulders.

What do you guys do to make it work other than shorten the LOP of you gun?

Posted by HazelNut on Jul. 20 2006,1:26

Got my mag too. I saw that vest, but the one that piqued my interest was the re-designed strap vest.

Anybody wear Bean's Bison upland boots?

Posted by chief on Jul. 20 2006,3:45

I picked up a strap vest last fall on my way to Danforth.

Nice vest, except the shoulder straps migrated toward the shoulders and would fall down if not kept pulled up. It needs a cross piece in the front to keep them from moving.

Posted by CO Brit on Jul. 20 2006,7:17

Just an update on available stock. I sent back my Camelbak back to Cabelas and ordered the Bean. There is stock on both the regular and the long.

I agree w/ some of the other posts. It does look like a Mothers, but, this has better storage on the back, pockets for H2O bottles and the detachable gizmo(GPS, etc.) cases.

I will post my thoughts on the vest when I get it in my hands.

Posted by gonehuntin on Jul. 20 2006,9:06

(Rex Hoppie @ Jul. 19 2006,8:33)

QUOTE

Gone,

Who's shirts do you buy?

Bean's Classic Upland, if I'm honest about it. Actually Rex, I've always been a big Bean's fan. Have quite a few of their clothes actually. It's just that when a nice guy like Marty works hard designing a vest, I hate to see someone change one little thing on it and call it theirs.

Posted by spinfly on Jul. 21 2006,5:24

Well, they say imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. I may be off base here, but it may not surprise me if Mother is making it for Bean with some changes, then putting the Bean badge on it. I wouldn't expect Marty to answer that in a public forum, that's part of business.

If you saw Beans new Rapid River Gore-tex wading jacket, notice how similar it is to the new Simms River-tek wading jacket, same colors with slightly different designs. I think it's more than coincidence, and am certain that other companies manufacture items for large retailers, then re-badge with their name. Just my rambling 2 cents worth.

Posted by jjb on Jul. 21 2006,9:39

spinfly,

I was thinking the same thing. A lot of companies (REI, Cabela's, Orvis) all do the tag switch on products. An example I recently encountered was the Orvis aluminum dog crate. It is made by Kalispel Case line. I ordered one straight from Kalispel and saved a significant chunk of change.

Posted by Rex Hoppie on Jul. 21 2006,10:44

Walmart is given credit for being the biggest gorilla in this kind of marketing, but without putting their badges on the products.

It has been said that the day a small company with a good product lands a Walmart contract is their dream come true and their worst nightmare at the same time. They have the sales they dreamed of but must ditch all independence and play by all the rules dictated by the gorilla. Scale up, quotas, deadlines, price dictates, on and on.

Back in the 80's or was it the 70's, GM dictated tire design to the tire manufacturers. The tire mfg's had to conform to the design parameters the auto makers dictated, so they could save weight, improve gas mileage, and provide a boulevard ride. The original equipment tire market was too big of a market segment not to listen to the auto makers. The result was the two ply polyester fabric (baloney skin) tires we all loved so much.

Posted by CO Brit on Jul. 21 2006,10:54

I was going to say that others like Orvis, BassPro, etc do this everyday and the actual manufacturers would not do it if they did not make enough money on the project.

Look at fly rods. I think there may be 5-6 companies that make the blanks and the others simply finish the rods w/ other similar components. Then they put their badge on it and sell it for what ever they can get. Or, should I say what ever us consumers are willing to pay. I am sure Orvis makes good money on this exact practice and I would say that their rods are not worth it sometimes. Paying for the Orvis name?

Posted by CO Brit on Jul. 28 2006,4:54

I just received the vest today and I am happy I sent back the Camelbak and ordered the LL Bean.

It has many storage areas with easy access. The adjustment straps are very easy to change as you add or remove clothing layers. It had 2 built in carriers for water bottles, the game bag is nice. It has straps that can expand the bag if you have some big birds (phez). Also, it came with 2 small removable storage carrier for GPS, etc.

Can't wait to break it in this fall!!!!!!

Posted by gonehunting on Jul. 28 2006,6:50

Come on now Marty, are you making that vest for Bean's? Inquiring minds want to know.

Posted by Dux on Aug. 01 2006,8:33

Anyone have any experience with the Mother Misson Pack?

Posted by Rick Hall on Aug. 02 2006,6:15

Might not be an issue in Colorado, but that vest looks hot to me. I find a good strap vest's open back just about as nice as its weight-bearing belt.

Posted by Mike Krol on Aug. 02 2006,8:57

Maybe it's just the traditionalist in me, but I wouldn't be caught dead wearing that thing (no offense intended to the folks who like it). The new strap vest, however, looks like a winner... I especially like the way they've avoided metal buckles, snaps, zippers, etc., all of which raise hell on gunstocks. Guess my son is about to inherit my "old" Bean strap vest (all of two years old!).... now to decide which other goodies I may need to choose from the catalog (it's against the law to just order one thing, right??).

Mike