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| **What is a Confidentiality Statement?**  A confidentiality statement or a non-disclosure agreement is used to protect your business plan from intellectual property theft or from the disclosure of confidential information.  It is usually sign before you share your business plan with the concerned people.  You can use your copy of this template to:   1. Write your Non-Disclosure agreement 2. To make an agreement as per the specific needs of your business   A confidentiality statement mainly specifies the parts of your business plan that should be confidential, the ones that can be disclosing, and the circumstances under which the information can be released.  Although it might seem like a tedious task, it is a good practice to make such an agreement to avoid legal hassles and disclosure of confidential information. |

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**BUSINESS PLAN NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT**

This BUSINESS PLAN NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT (hereinafter known as the “Agreement”) between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the disclosing party (hereinafter known as the “Company”) and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the receiving party (hereinafter known as the “Recipient”) becomes effective as of this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_ (hereinafter known as the “Effective Date”).

**Section I: Recitals**

The Company wishes to share its business plan (hereinafter known as the “Business Plan”) with the Recipient for review, examination, inspection, or contribution while maintaining confidentiality. The Company and the Recipient, collectively known as the “Parties”, understand and agree that dissemination of information or materials within or related to the Business Plan would be detrimental to the integrity of the Company. After this Agreement, all information, strategies, plans, trade secrets, objectives, and materials will be referred to as “Confidential Information”, and the Company may share Confidential Information with the Recipient subject to the terms and covenants set forth below.

**Section II: Recipient Obligations**

**A. Non-Disclosure.** The Recipient understands and agrees to not use or disclose the Business Plan or Confidential Information for personal benefit or the benefit of any other person, corporation, association, company, or entity, and shall take all steps necessary to protect Confidential Information from disclosure. The Recipient further agrees not to disclose the fact that the Business Plan has been made available, that discussions or negotiations are taking place or have taken place, or any of the terms, conditions, or other facts with respect to the transaction. Methods of the disclosure include, but are not limited to, written, oral, electronic, or any other form of recording.

**B. Disclosure.** The Recipient shall only disclose the Business Plan and Confidential Information to persons within their organization on a need-to-know basis. Each person who becomes privy to the Confidential Information shall be bound by the provisions within this Agreement. This Agreement shall survive and continue after any expiration or termination of this Agreement and shall bind Recipient, its employees, agents, representatives, successors, heirs, and assignees.

**C. Exceptions.** The Recipient is not prohibited from using or disclosing the Business Plan or Confidential Information if

(i) It was publicly known;

(ii) It was in the Recipient’s possession before the Effective Date;

(iii) It was used in response to any legal obligation; or

(iv) It was approved for release in writing by the Company.

**D. Legal Obligation.** The Recipient is permitted to disclose Confidential Information if compelled to do so by legal request, deposition, subpoena, civil investigative demand, or similar process. In such an event, the Recipient agrees, if legally permissible, to promptly notify the Company of such request, to consult with the Company on the advisability of taking legally available steps to resist or narrow such request, and to assist the Company in seeking an injunctive or another protective remedy. Both Parties understand and agree that the Recipient shall execute the aforementioned pre-disclosure measures only if the action does not violate any applicable laws. Should the Company fail to obtain a protective order or waive compliance with the provisions hereof, the Company shall not hold the Recipient liable for disclosure of Confidential Information.

**Section III: Term**

☐ - The Recipient’s obligations of non-use and non-disclosure with respect to Confidential Information will remain in effect in perpetuity.

☐ - The Recipient’s obligations of non-use and non-disclosure with respect to Confidential Information will remain in effect for a period of \_\_\_\_ years from the Effective Date.

**Section IV: Return or Destruction of Confidential Information**

The Recipient shall, upon the termination of this Agreement or as per the Company’s request, immediately return or destroy all notes, records, and written, printed, or other tangible materials in its possession pertaining to the confidential information and shall continue to comply with all other terms and conditions of confidentiality within the Agreement.

**Section V: No Additional Agreements**

Neither the holding of discussions nor the exchange of material or information shall be construed as an obligation of the Company to enter into any other agreement with Recipient or prohibit the Company from providing the same or similar information to other parties and entering into agreements with other parties. The Company reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any and all proposals made by Recipient or its Representatives with regard to a transaction between Recipient and Company and to terminate discussions and negotiations with Recipient at any time. The Recipient agrees not to use the Business Plan or Confidential Information as a basis upon which to develop or have a third party develop a competing or similar plan or undertaking.

**Section VI: Indemnify**

Recipient understands and acknowledges that any breach of this Agreement could result in damages, losses, costs or expenses to the Company and agrees to keep the Company indemnified in respect to any and all claims which arise out of or in connection with a violation. Recipient understands and acknowledges that any use or disclosure regarding the Business Plan or Confidential Information could cause the Company irreparable harm, the amount of which may be difficult to ascertain, and therefore agrees that the Company shall have the right to apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for specific performance or order restraining and enjoining any such further disclosure or breach and for such other relief as Company deems appropriate, in addition to the remedies otherwise available at law or in equity.

**Section VII: Successors and Assigns**

This Agreement and each party’s obligations hereunder shall be binding on the representatives, assigns and successors of such party and shall inure to the benefit of the assigns and successors of such party; provided, however, that the rights and obligations of Recipient hereunder are not assignable.

**Section VIII: Governing Law**

This Agreement shall be governed in accordance with the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, without regard to conflict of law principles.

**Section IX: Prevailing Party**

In a dispute arising out of or related to this Agreement, the prevailing party shall have the right to collect reasonable attorney fees, costs and other legal expenditures from the other party.

**Section X: Entire Agreement**

This Agreement sets forth the entire Agreement and understanding between the Parties and supersedes all prior agreements between them relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may not be altered, amended, modified, discharged, assigned or otherwise transferred by either party except by an agreement in writing signed by both Parties.

**Section XI: Validity**

This Agreement shall maintain its integrity should a provision (or any part thereof) be claimed unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction due to invalidity or conflict with any relevant law, and the unenforceable provision shall be construed in such a way as to preserve the intent for which it was created.

**Section XII: Notices**

Any notice required by or given in connection with this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be given to the appropriate party by personal delivery or by certified mail, postage prepaid or recognized overnight delivery services to the following addresses:

Company’s Address

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Recipient’s Address

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement as of the date set forth below.

**Company**

Representative Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Representative Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Representative Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Recipient**

Recipient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Recipient Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_