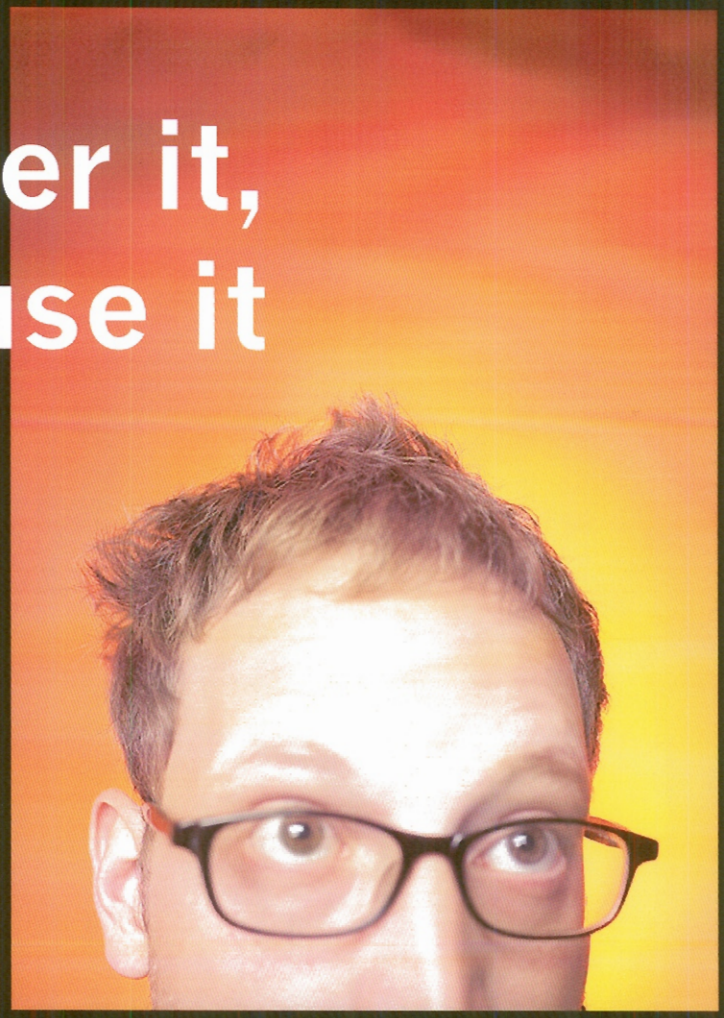
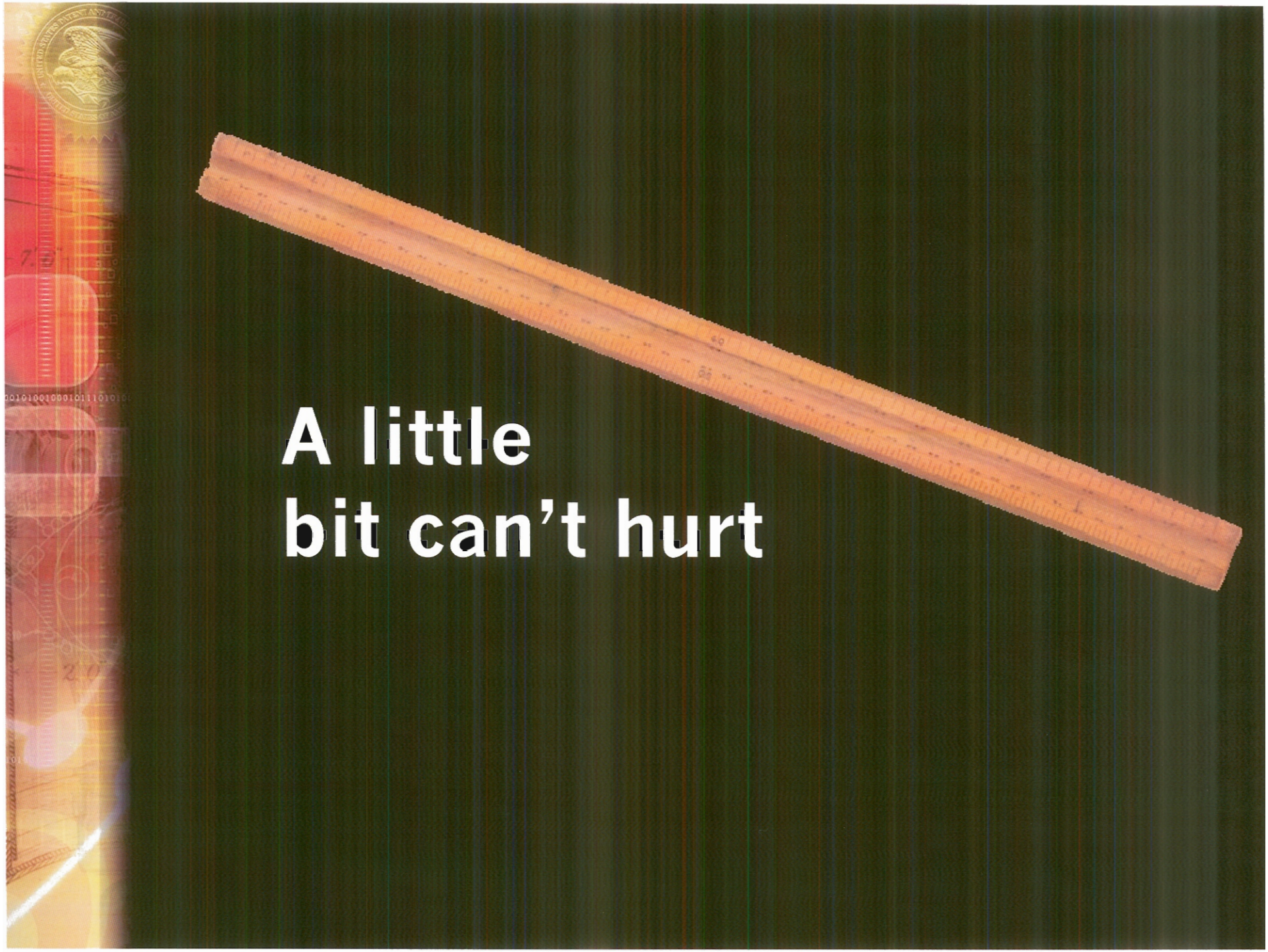
If I remember it,
I can use it

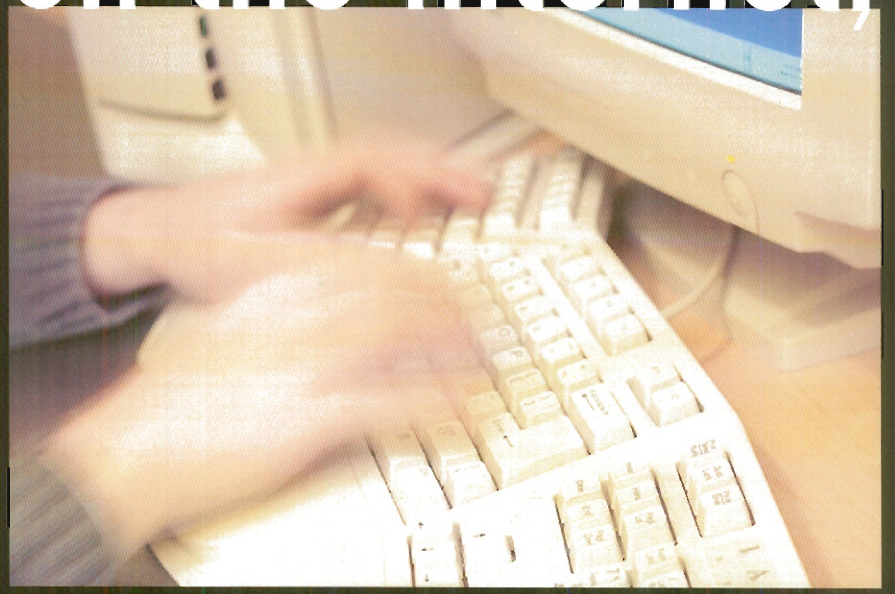



A little
bit can't hurt

If a customer does it, I can do it too

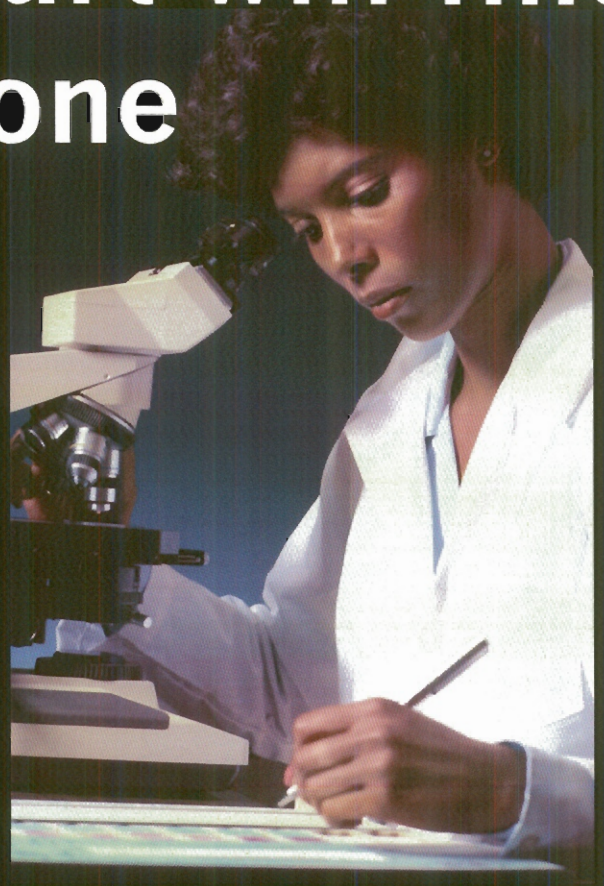
If I don't write it down, no one will know

If I found it on the internet, I can use it

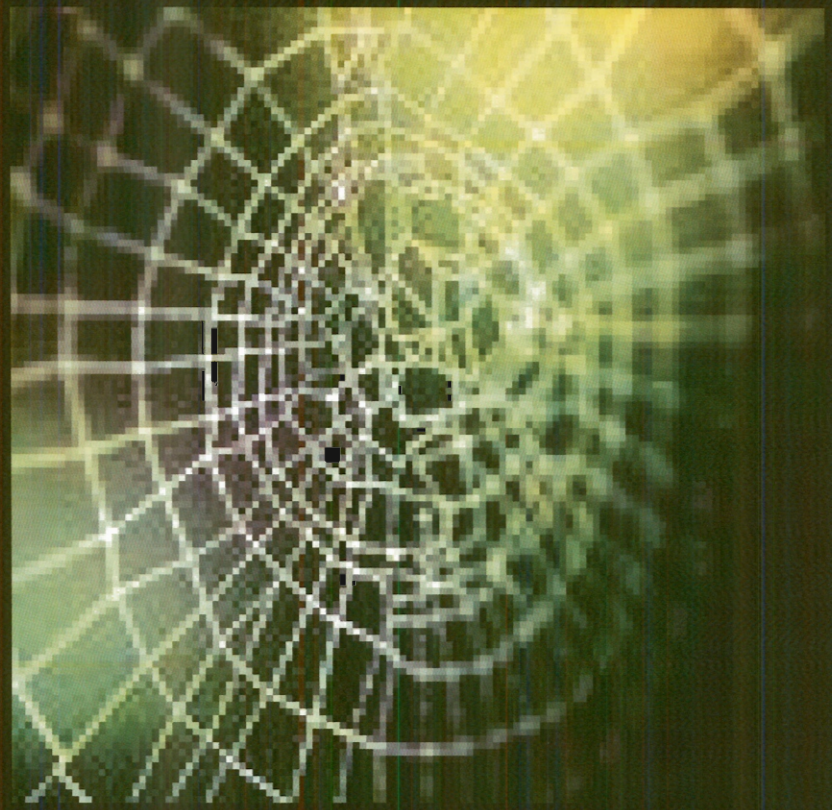


If I give credit, I don't have to give money

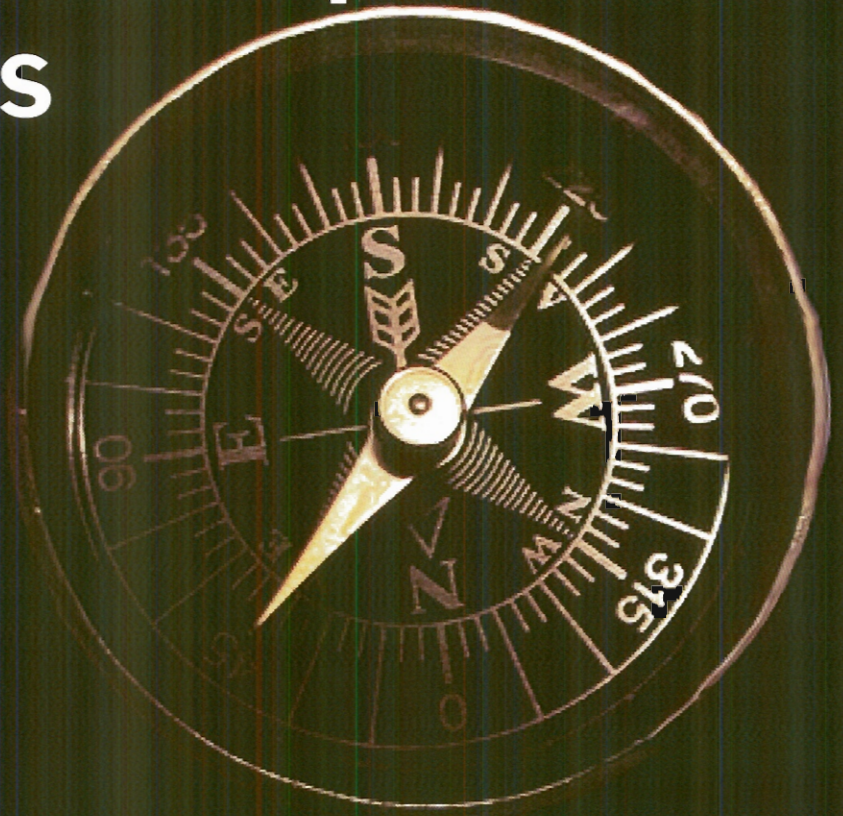
If I can find a technical distinction, a court will find a legal one

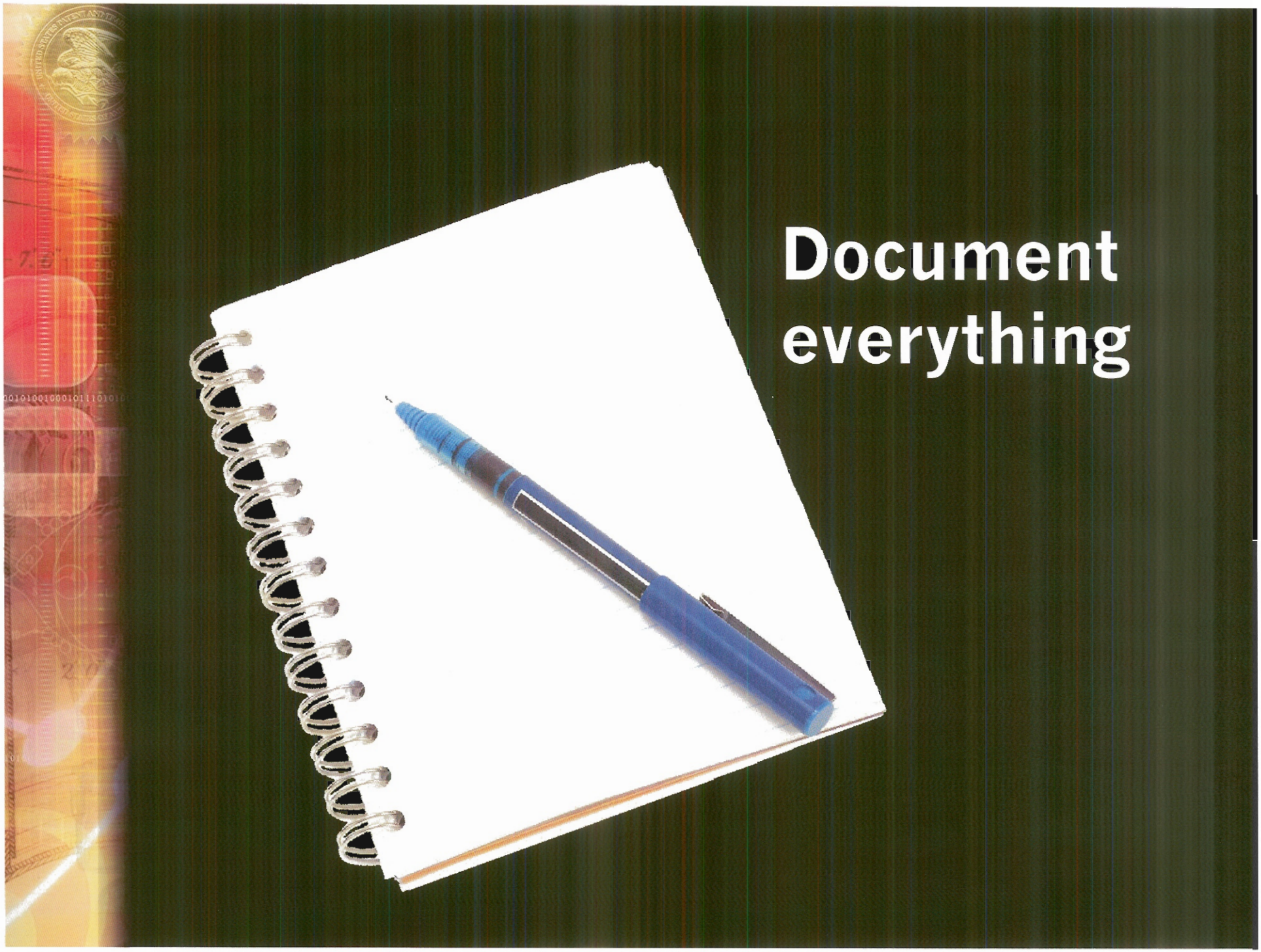


If my old employer isn't using it, then I must be able to



Avoid pitfalls by navigating with IP-based best practices, not myths

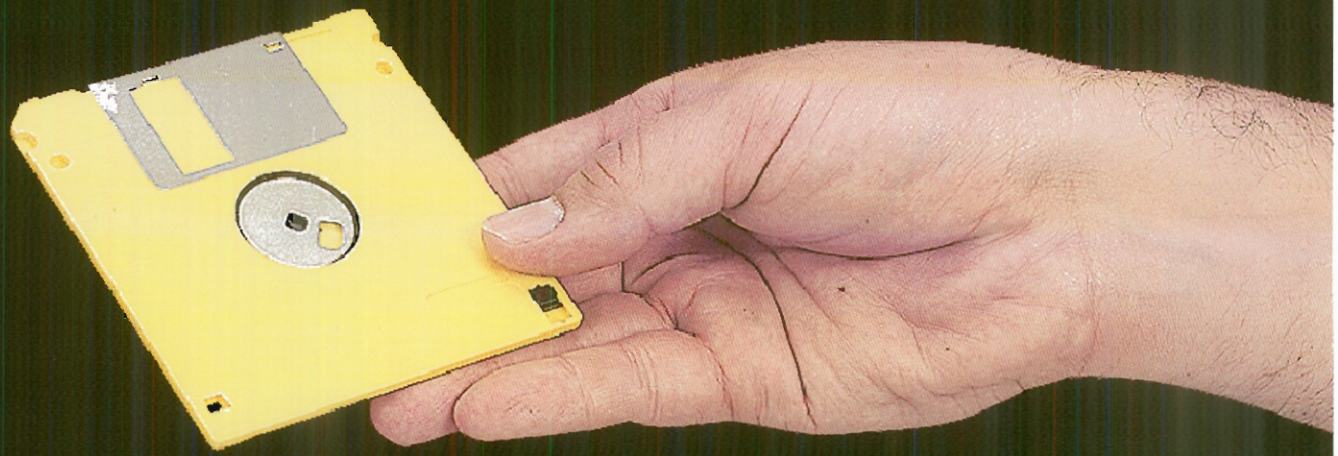



Document
everything

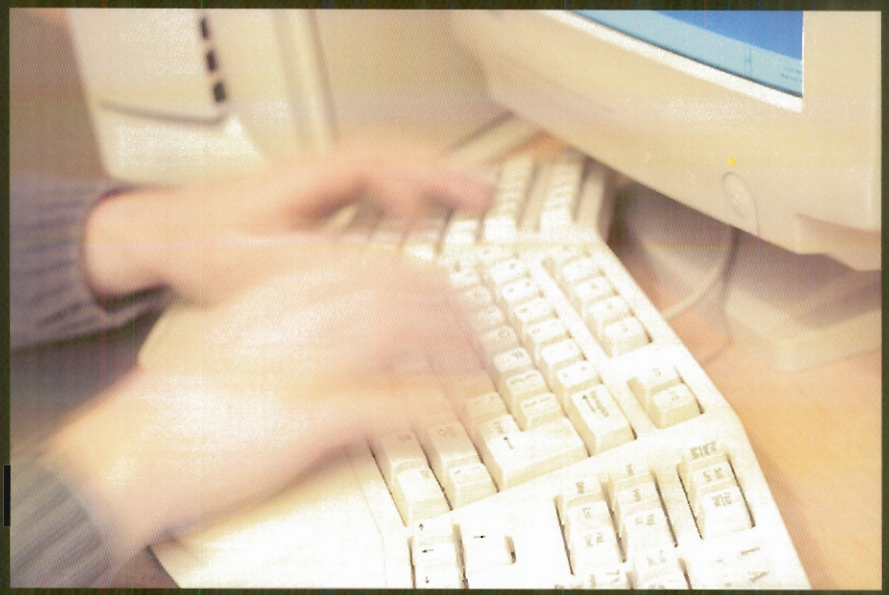
Where did your team come from and what did they bring with them?

Falling behind schedule

Code Clearance



Public domain material



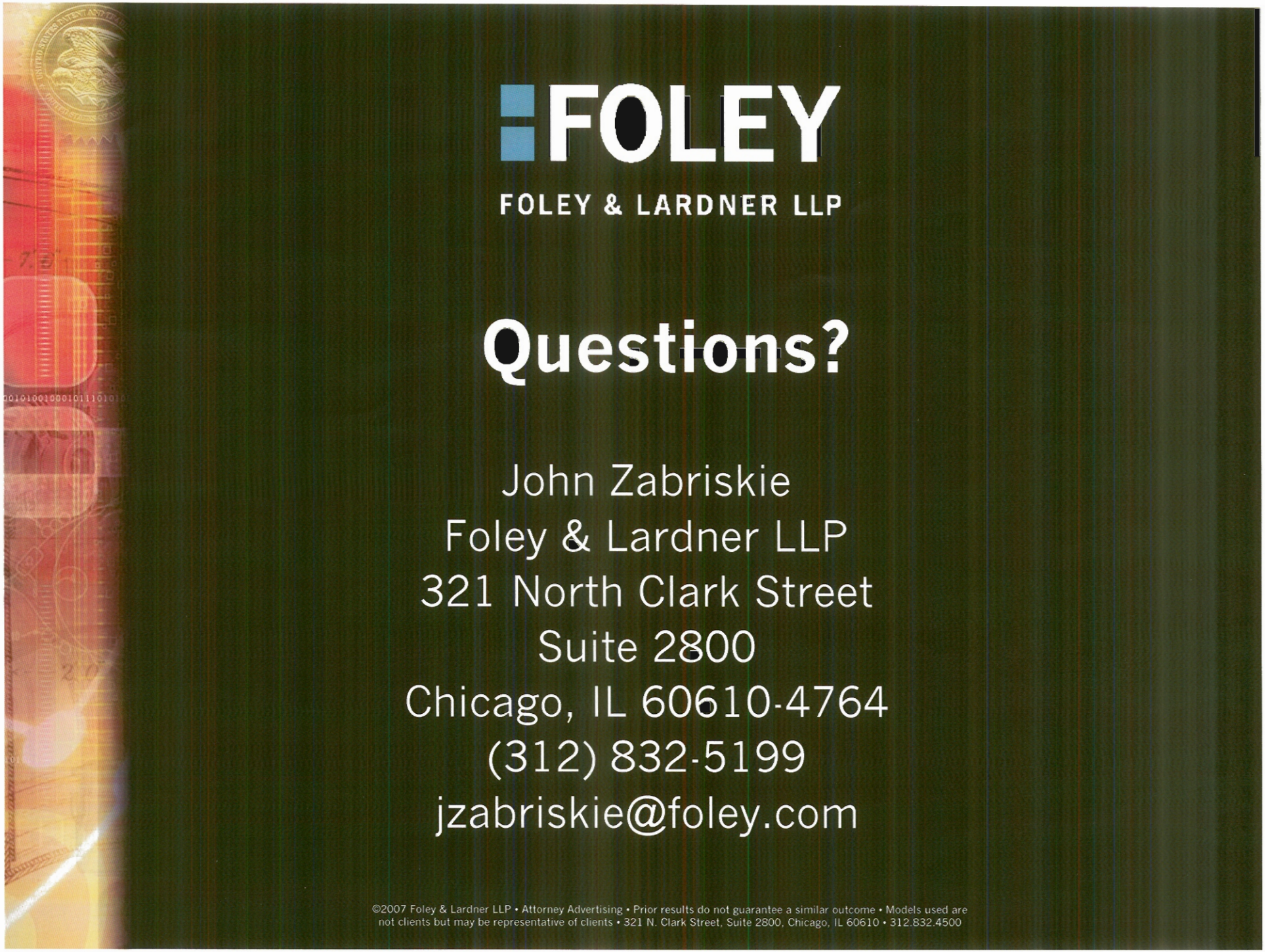
Manuals

Clean Room

Violating IP rights
of others threatens your
development project

Let best practices guide your development project around pitfalls

10. Educate everybody.
9. Document every step of the development process.
8. Be proactive and vet every resource used in the development process, from people to paper.
7. Implement written procedures to protect your IP.
6. Implement written procedures to avoid misusing others' IP.
5. Enforce your procedures.
4. Avoid red flag scenarios, or if unavoidable, carefully manage them.
3. Be diligent throughout the entire process, not just at the beginning.
2. If you are accused, do not panic and make things worse by trying to cover your tracks or misleading internal investigators.
1. Lawyers are your friends. Really. So when in doubt, consult one.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