

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

PROVISUR TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

Petitioner

v.

TEXTOR MASCHINENBAU GMBH,

Patent Owner

Case No. IPR2024-00224

Patent No. 9,457,487

PATENT OWNER'S MOTION TO AMEND

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
II.	PRELIMINARY GUIDANCE FROM THE BOARD.....	2
III.	LEGAL STANDARD FOR AMENDING CLAIMS.....	2
	A. The Substitute Claims are Provided in a Claims Listing.....	2
	B. The Number of Substitute Claims is Reasonable.....	3
	C. The Amendments Are Responsive.....	3
	D. The Amendments are Non-Broadening.....	4
	E. The Amendments Have Written Description Support	5
IV.	CONCLUSION	24
	APPENDIX A: CLAIM LISTING	26

I. INTRODUCTION

Patent Owner Textor Maschinenbau GmbH moves under 35 U.S.C. § 316(d) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.121 to amend U.S. Patent No. 9,457,487 (“the ’487 Patent”). To more clearly define the scope of the claims and address the invalidity grounds set forth by Petitioner, Patent Owner respectfully requests that the Board grant this Motion to Amend (the “Motion to Amend”) and issue the corresponding substitute claims presented herein. This Motion to Amend consists of both non-contingent claim amendments and one contingent claim amendment, as detailed below.

A. Non-Contingent Claims

Substitute independent claim 1 retains the features of original independent claim 1, narrowing its scope by including the limitations of dependent claim 16. This amendment serves to further narrow all challenged claims that depend from independent claim 1 (i.e., claims 2-4, 6, 9, 10, 14, and 15). Because amended claim 1 (substitute claim 25) is identical in scope to claim 16, to avoid duplication, Patent Owner cancels claim 16. The proposed substitute claims are responsive to the grounds of unpatentability at issue in this proceeding and are supported by the application as originally filed.

B. Contingent Claims

Substitute independent claim 22 retains the features of original independent claim 22, adding the narrowing features by including the limitations of dependent

claim 16. The proposed substitute claims are responsive to the grounds of unpatentability at issue in this proceeding and are supported by the application as originally filed.

II. PRELIMINARY GUIDANCE FROM THE BOARD

Patent Owner requests preliminary guidance from the Board on this Motion to Amend pursuant to the Motion to Amend (MTA) Pilot Program. 86 Fed. Reg. 51656.

III. LEGAL STANDARD FOR AMENDING CLAIMS

“Before considering the patentability of any substitute claims, ... the Board first must determine whether the motion to amend meets the statutory and regulatory requirement set forth in 35 U.S.C. § 316(d) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.121.” *Lectrosonics, Inc. v. Zaxcom, Inc.*, IPR2018-01129, -01130, Paper 15 at 4 (PTAB Feb. 25, 2019). The substitute claims must be i) presented in a claim listing; ii) reasonable in number; iii) responsive to a ground of unpatentability involved in the trial; iv) non- broadening; and v) supported by the written description. *Id.* at 4-8. The substitute claims of this Motion to Amend satisfy these requirements.

A. The Substitute Claims are Provided in a Claims Listing

The claim listing is attached as Appendix A. The claim listing for the non-contingent claims cancels original claims 1-4, 6, 9-10, and 14-16 and includes substitute claims 25-33. The claim listing for the contingent claims cancels original claim 22 and includes substitute claim 34. The substitute claims include annotations

pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(2). Moreover, as stated herein, the remaining statutory and regulatory requirements for a motion to amend are met. A chart showing the substitute claims compared to the original claims is attached as Appendix B.

B. The Number of Substitute Claims is Reasonable

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(a)(3), the number of substitute claims is reasonable. “There is a rebuttable presumption that a reasonable number of substitute claims per challenged claim is one (1) substitute claim.” *Lectrosonics*, Paper 15 at 4. Patent Owner proposes 9 non-contingent substitute claims and 1 contingent substitute claim, each of which corresponds to a challenged claim. The number of substitute claims is presumptively reasonable based on the one-to-one relationship. *Id.* Patent Owner does not seek to amend claims that have not been challenged in the petition. See Paper 2 (Pet.) at 1 (defining the “Challenged Claims” as claims 1-4, 6, 9-10, 14-16, and 22).

C. The Amendments Are Responsive

As set forth in the Patent Owner Response (POR), submitted concurrently with the instant motion, the proposed substitute claims are responsive to the grounds at issue in this proceeding, further distinguishing the claims from the art of record.

Substitute claims 25-33 (non-contingently) and substitute claim 34 (contingently) recite “wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be removed and/or installed without tools.” This limitation is not present in Konishi (Ex. 1004),

Lindee (Ex. 1005) or McLaughlin (Ex. 1006). The Petition advanced Grounds seeking to show that Konishi and McLaughlin anticipated or rendered obvious this concept, arguing that a POSITA would have found it obvious to leave the conveyor belt units in these references secured by gravity alone, relying on the weight of the unit, rather than any physical securing mechanism such as a latch. *Petition*, 28-29, 42, 69-70. As set forth in the POR, Konishi and McLaughlin teach away from conveyors that are so heavy they remain secured during operation through weight alone. Indeed, these references teach that their conveyor belt units should be *lightweight* (1) to allow their easy removal and re-installation and (2) to ensure their conveyed food products can be accurately weighed. *POR*, 26, 36-38. Unsurprisingly, Petitioner's own commercial embodiment of the McLaughlin patent—a patent assigned to Petitioner—does not rely on weight alone, but instead requires a wrench to secure the conveyor belt unit in place during operation. *Id.*, 40-44.

For all the reasons set forth in the POR, the substitute claims are patentable over the instituted Grounds.

D. The Amendments are Non-Broadening

The substitute claims do not seek to enlarge the scope of the original claims. The proposed substitute claims add additional elements to the issued claims of the '487 Patent that narrow their scope. *See* 37 C.F.R. §41.121(a)(2)(i)-(ii). For example,

Substitute Claim 25 (which replaces Claim 1) incorporates limitations from original claim 16 (as shown in the strikethroughs for substitute claim 25).

The substitute dependent claims are also narrower than the original claims due to their dependency from the substitute independent claims, the addition of further limitations in the dependent claims, and the inclusion of limitations from dependent claims into the independent claims from which they depend. As a result, the substitute claims do not enlarge the scope of the original claims.

E. The Amendments Have Written Description Support

Each of the proposed substitute claims have written description support in U.S. Patent Application No. 14/094,136 (the “’136 Application”). The non-exhaustive table below provides examples of how each limitation of the substitute claims is disclosed in the specification and/or figures of the ’136 Application as filed. The table below includes cites to the page and line number from the ’136 Application, as found in Exhibit 1002. *See* Ex. 1002 (File History of ’136 Application) at 5-33.

Non-Contingent Amendments

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
25. A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:	[0002] ¹ 1:16-18 (“The invention relates to a slicing apparatus for food products, in particular to a high-performance slicer, having at least one belt conveyor.”)
a removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25);	[0061] 7:39-41 (“FIGS. 1 to 5 describe a single-track traction conveyor in which the conveyor belt unit 13 is configured as a traction belt.”) [0070] 8:30-38 (“In the installed state in accordance with FIG. 1 in which the base 25 of the conveyor belt unit 13 engages behind

¹ Patent Owner cites to the '136 Application in brackets.

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	the coupling elements 37 and is secured by the latched connection 21 and is thus attached to the substructure 41 in a defined operating position, there is consequently a direct drive connection between the drive motor and the conveyor belt unit 13 via the drive belt 27 which runs around the drive shaft 51 of the motor and the drive wheel 44 of the conveyor belt unit 13.”)
a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and	[0016] 2:58-61 (“The substructure may include a mount adapted to the base of the conveyor belt unit which so-to-say forms the stationary part of the mechanical interface between the conveyor belt unit and the substructure.”)
a drive (15) coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) by a drive belt (27),	[0070] 8:34-38 (“there is consequently a direct drive connection between the drive motor and the conveyor belt unit 13 via the

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	drive belt 27 which runs around the drive shaft 51 of the motor and the drive wheel 44 of the conveyor belt unit 13.”)
the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be cancelled by relaxing the drive belt (27) and is configured to be established by tautening the drive belt (27),	[0027] 4:12-15 (“In accordance with an embodiment of the invention, a coupling between a drive for the conveyor belt unit and the conveyor belt unit can be cancelled by relaxing a drive belt and can be established by tautening the drive belt.”)
with the relaxing and tautening of the drive belt (27) each being provided by a relative movement between the drive (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13);	[0023] 3:52-60 (“In one embodiment of the invention, a respective relative movement between the drive motor and the conveyor belt unit is provided for cancelling and establishing a coupling between a drive motor for the conveyor belt unit and the conveyor belt unit. This relative movement can be a pivot movement which comprises a purely rotary movement or rotational

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	movement, but can generally also be a more complex movement which is a superposition of a plurality of individual movements.”)
wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be removed and/or installed without tools.	[0045] 6:10-14 (“A particularly simple handling of the conveyor belt unit results when, in accordance with a further embodiment, the conveyor belt unit can be removed and/or installed without tools.”) [0074]-[0075] 8:61-9:13 (“This removal movement is only possible when previously both the latched state and the coupling state of the drive 15 have been cancelled, i.e. a removal of the conveyor belt unit 13 is only possible after a previous unlatching of the base 25 and relaxation of the belt 27. These two processes are carried out simultaneously with the aid of the manual

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	actuation device. For this purpose, the lever 19 is first pulled somewhat outwardly via the spigot 17 by a user, whereby a shape-matched engagement (FIG. 1) of the spigot 17 with the mount 11, which prevents an unintentional unlatching, is cancelled. The lever 19 can then be pivoted by 180° clockwise, for instance, by the user. The latching member 21 initially still seated in the slit 23 of the base 25 hereby releases the base 25 and thus the conveyor belt unit 13. In addition, a linkage 35 which is pivotably supported about an axle 33 and is connected to the drive motor is simultaneously moved counterclockwise by the pivoting of the lever 19, whereby the drive belt 27 can be relaxed and can be removed from the drive wheel 44 of the conveyor belt unit 13.”)

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	<i>See also</i> [0103]-[0105] 12:30-46; [0111]-[0113] 13:19-35; Figs. 12(a)-14(b).
26. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged in front of a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.	[0014] 2:29-31 (“In accordance with an embodiment, the conveyor belt unit is arranged before the cutting plane, viewed in the conveying direction, and is in particular configured as a traction belt.”)
27. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged behind a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.	[0014] 2:31-35 (“In accordance with an alternative embodiment, the conveyor belt unit is arranged behind the cutting plane, viewed in the conveying direction, and is in particular configured as a portioning belt.”)

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
28. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has, viewed in the conveying direction, a belt length or conveyor length which amounts to less than 500 mm.	[0015] 2:36-40(“The conveyor belt unit can have, viewed in the conveying direction, an effective belt length or conveyor length which amounts to less than 500 mm, in particular less than 300 mm, in particular less than 200 mm, and in particular between 50 mm and 150 mm.”)
29. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, further comprising: wherein at least one drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) is provided, with the drive motor (15) being directly coupled with the conveyor belt unit (13), and/or unit; and	[0018] 3:10-18 (“In accordance with a further embodiment of the invention, at least one drive motor is provided for the conveyor belt unit, with the drive motor being directly coupled to the conveyor belt unit. Such a coupling can take place, for example, via a belt connection by which relatively long paths can be overcome between the motor and that point of the conveyor belt unit at which the latter should be driven or via a toothed wheel arrangement, for example via a

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	toothed wheel pair.”)
wherein the drive motor (15) is arranged beneath the conveyor belt unit (13).	[0020] 3:27-33 (“Provision is made in an embodiment that the drive motor is arranged beneath the conveyor belt unit. The width of the belt conveyor is hereby not unnecessarily increased. Construction space provided beneath the conveyor can thus be utilized. It is in particular possible to arrange a plurality of drives beside one another or behind one another beneath the conveyor belt unit.”)
30. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, further comprising: wherein a respective relative movement is provided between the drive motor (15) and the	[0023] 3:52-60 (“In one embodiment of the invention, a respective relative movement between the drive motor and the conveyor belt unit is provided for cancelling and establishing a coupling between a drive motor for the conveyor belt unit and the

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
conveyor belt unit (13) for cancelling and establishing a coupling between a drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit; and	conveyor belt unit. This relative movement can be a pivot movement which comprises a purely rotary movement or rotational movement, but can generally also be a more complex movement which is a superposition of a plurality of individual movements.”)
wherein the spacing between a drive axle of the drive motor (15) and a drive axle of the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be varied by the relative movement.	[0026] 4:1-11 (“In one embodiment, the spacing between a drive axle of the drive motor and a drive axle of the conveyor belt unit can be varied by the relative movement between the drive motor and the conveyor belt unit. The motor and the conveyor unit are consequently moved relative to one another such that a spacing change is effected between the two drive axles. In particular the spacing between a drive shaft of the drive motor and a drive wheel of the conveyor belt unit can hereby be varied. A drive belt can

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	hereby be relaxed or tautened, for example, or a toothed wheel arrangement can be brought out of engagement or into engagement.”)
31. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein a mount (11) is provided for the conveyor belt unit (13) which remains at the apparatus with a removed conveyor belt unit (13) and at which the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be latched, with the latched connection configured to be cancelled for removing the conveyor belt unit (13) and configured to be established for installing the conveyor belt unit (13).	[0028] 4:20-26 (“In accordance with a further embodiment of the invention, a mount is provided for the conveyor belt unit which remains at the apparatus when the conveyor belt unit is removed and at which the conveyor belt unit can be latched, with the latched connection being able to be cancelled for removing the conveyor belt unit and being able to be established for installing the conveyor belt unit.”) [0029] 4:27-33 (“It is possible in a variant of the invention that a coupling between a drive of the conveyor belt unit and the conveyor

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
	belt unit can be cancelled or established for removing or for installing the conveyor belt unit simultaneously with a latching of the conveyor belt unit, for example a latching of the conveyor belt unit at a mount remaining at the apparatus, as mentioned above.”)
32. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has a conveying width in the range from approximately 300 mm to 700 mm.	[0043] 6:3-5 (“The conveyor belt unit can, for example, have a conveying width which lies in the range from approximately 300 mm to 700 mm.”)
33. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein at least one continuous belt or continuous band (55) or a plurality of parallel continuous straps (57) is/are	[0044] 6:6-9 (“At least one continuous belt or continuous band can be provided as conveying means for the conveyor belt unit, with alternatively a plurality of parallel continuous straps being able to serve as

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application/'487 Patent
provided as conveying means of the conveyor belt unit (13).	conveying means.”)

Contingent Amendments

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application
34. A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:	[0002] 1:16-18 (“The invention relates to a slicing apparatus for food products, in particular to a high-performance slicer, having at least one belt conveyor.”)
at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25);	[0061] 7:39-41 (“FIGS. 1 to 5 describe a single-track traction conveyor in which the conveyor belt unit 13 is configured as a traction belt.”) [0070] 8:30-38 (“In the installed state in accordance with FIG. 1 in which the base 25

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application
	of the conveyor belt unit 13 engages behind the coupling elements 37 and is secured by the latched connection 21 and is thus attached to the substructure 41 in a defined operating position, there is consequently a direct drive connection between the drive motor and the conveyor belt unit 13 via the drive belt 27 which runs around the drive shaft 51 of the motor and the drive wheel 44 of the conveyor belt unit 13.”)
a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and	[0016] 2:58-61 (“The substructure may include a mount adapted to the base of the conveyor belt unit which so-to-say forms the stationary part of the mechanical interface between the conveyor belt unit and the substructure.”)

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application
a first drive (15) is coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) at the left side and at a second drive (15) at the right side, when viewed in the conveying direction,	[0040] 5:42-46 (“If a plurality of drives are provided for the conveyor belt unit, it is possible in accordance with an embodiment that, viewed in the conveying direction, at least one drive is coupled to the conveyor belt unit at the left hand side and at least one further drive at the right hand side.”) <i>See also</i> Fig. 8; Fig. 9; Fig. 11
the coupling between the drives (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be simultaneously cancelled and established for at least one of the first drive (15) and the second drive (15);	[0042] 5:61-65 (“If the conveyor belt unit has a plurality of drives, provision can be made that the coupling between the drives and the conveyor belt unit can be simultaneously cancelled and established at least for a plurality of drives and in particular for all drives.”)

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application
wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be removed and/or installed without tools.	[0045] 6:10-14 (“A particularly simple handling of the conveyor belt unit results when, in accordance with a further embodiment, the conveyor belt unit can be removed and/or installed without tools.”) [0097]-[0098] 11:52-64 (“The shaft 29 is configured eccentric in each case in the region of the linkages 35 such that by rotation of the shaft 29 by approximately 180° by means of the lever 19 a pivot movement of both linkages 35 simultaneously is effected such that both belts 27 are relaxed or tautened simultaneously. Consequently, by a single manual actuation via the lever 19, a user can simultaneously pivot both motors 15 and can thus decouple both portioning belts 71, 73 simultaneously

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application
	from their respective drives or couple them to their respective drives. A removal or an installation of this portioning conveyor unit is consequently possible in a fast and simple manner.”) [0074]-[0075] 8:61-9:13 (“This removal movement is only possible when previously both the latched state and the coupling state of the drive 15 have been cancelled, i.e. a removal of the conveyor belt unit 13 is only possible after a previous unlatching of the base 25 and relaxation of the belt 27. These two processes are carried out simultaneously with the aid of the manual actuation device. For this purpose, the lever 19 is first pulled somewhat outwardly via the spigot 17 by a user, whereby a shape-

Substitute Claims	Support in the '136 Application
	matched engagement (FIG. 1) of the spigot 17 with the mount 11, which prevents an unintentional unlatching, is cancelled. The lever 19 can then be pivoted by 180° clockwise, for instance, by the user. The latching member 21 initially still seated in the slit 23 of the base 25 hereby releases the base 25 and thus the conveyor belt unit 13. In addition, a linkage 35 which is pivotably supported about an axle 33 and is connected to the drive motor is simultaneously moved counterclockwise by the pivoting of the lever 19, whereby the drive belt 27 can be relaxed and can be removed from the drive wheel 44 of the conveyor belt unit 13.”) <i>See also</i> [0103]-[0105] 12:30-46; [0111]-[0113] 13:19-35; Figs. 12(a)-14(b).

IV. CONCLUSION

This Non-Contingent Motion to Amend meets the statutory and regulatory requirements set forth in 35 U.S.C. § 316(d) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.121. For the reasons set forth above, Patent Owner respectfully requests the Board grant this Motion to Amend for each of non-contingent substitute claims 25-33 and contingent substitute claim 34.

Respectfully submitted,

/Adam P. Seitz/

Adam P. Seitz, Reg. No. 52,206

Adam M. Sandwell, Reg. No. 72,484

adam.sandwell@eriseip.com

Megan J. Redmond, pro hac vice to be filed

megan.redmond@eriseip.com

Hunter A. Horton, pro hac vice to be filed

hunter.horton@eriseip.com

Carrie Bader, pro hac vice to be filed

carrie.bader@eriseip.com

ERISE IP, P.A.

7015 College Boulevard, Suite 700

Overland Park, Kansas 66211

Telephone: (913) 777-5600

Facsimile: (913) 777-5601

adam.seitz@eriseip.com

PTAB@eriseip.com

Case No. IPR2024-00224

Patent No. 9,457,487

Paul R. Hart, Reg. No. 59,646

paul.hart@eriseip.com

Nathan S. Byers, Reg. No. 81,095

nathan.byers@eriseip.com

ERISE IP, P.A.

717 17th Street, Suite 1400

Denver Colorado 80202

Telephone: (913) 777-5600

Facsimile: (913) 777-5601

ATTORNEYS FOR PATENT OWNER

APPENDIX A: CLAIM LISTING

Patent Owner presents the following listing of substitute claims. The cancellation of claim 22 and the addition of substitute claim 34 are contingent on the result of the IPR.

1.-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one direct drive (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) is provided.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
wherein a drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) has a drive shaft (51) and the conveyor belt unit (13) has a drive wheel (44), with the drive shaft (51) and the drive wheel (44) being directly coupled to one another; and

wherein the drive motor (15) is arranged beneath the conveyor belt unit (13).

8. (Original) The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has a supported belt roller (53), with a drive wheel (44) of the conveyor belt unit (13) being supported via the support of the belt roller; and

wherein the drive wheel (44) is arranged coaxially to the belt roller (53).

9.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein a coupling between a drive (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be cancelled or established simultaneously with a latching of the conveyor belt unit (13) for removing or installing the conveyor belt unit (13).

12. (Original) The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the coupling between a drive (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be carried out simultaneously with a removal movement or installation movement of the conveyor belt unit (13) after the cancelling or before the establishing of a latched connection of the conveyor belt unit (13) for removing or for installing the conveyor belt unit (13).

13. (Original) The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) comprises a plurality of individual conveyors (71, 73) which are arranged, viewed in the conveying direction, behind one another and with which a separate drive (15) is associated; and

wherein viewed in the conveying direction, at least one drive (15) is coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) at the left side and at least one further drive (15) at the right side.

14.-16.- (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

wherein a plurality of conveyor belt units (13) are arranged behind one another viewed in the conveying direction; and

wherein the plurality of conveyor belt units are arranged beside one another, viewed in the conveying direction.

18. (Original) A conveying device for food products to be sliced or for sliced food products, the conveying device comprising at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13), having at least one track and a base (25);

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) provided with coupling elements (37) that engage corresponding cut-outs (59) of the base (25); and

a drive (15) arranged at the substructure (41), the drive (15) connected to a drive shaft (51) that drives a drive wheel (44) of the conveyor belt unit (13) by a drive belt (27).

19. (Original) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25);

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25);

a drive (15) coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) by an actuation device, the actuation device having a lever (19), a shaft (29) extending from the lever (19), a

latching member (21) extending from the shaft (29) that cooperates with a slit (23) formed in the base (25) to latch the conveyor belt unit (13) to the mount (11), and a linkage (35) carrying the drive (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) being pivotable about a pivot axis (33) by rotating the shaft (29) to move the latching member (21) between a latched position and a release position; and

a drive belt (27) that runs around a driveshaft (51) of the drive (15) and a drive wheel (44) of the conveyor belt unit (13), the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be cancelled by relaxing the drive belt (27) and is configured to be established by tautening the drive belt (27), with the relaxing and tautening of the drive belt (27) each being provided by a relative movement between the drive (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13).

20. (Original) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25);

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and

an actuation device that is provided as a coupling that is configured to be cancelled and established between a drive (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit (13), and is configured as a latching of the conveyor belt unit (13) to the mount (11), the actuation device comprises

a lever (19) having a shaft (29);

a linkage (35) carrying a drive (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) being pivotable about a pivot axis (33) by rotating the shaft; and

a latching member (21) for the conveyor belt unit (13) being movable between a latched position (21) and a release position.

21. (Original) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:

at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25); and

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25), the conveyor belt unit (13) is movable relative to the drive (15) for cancelling and establishing a coupling between a drive (15) of the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit (13), and the conveyor belt unit (13) is movable by at least one of folding over and pivoting.

22. (Contingently Cancelled) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:

at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25);

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and

a first drive (15) is coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) at the left side and at a second drive (15) at the right side, when viewed in the conveying direction, the

coupling between the drives (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be simultaneously cancelled and established for at least one of the first drive (15) and the second drive (15).

23. (Original) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:

at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25); and

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25), the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to first be movable with a component in or against the conveying direction relative to the mount (11) and is configured to subsequently be raised from the mount (11) for at least one of removing and installing the conveyor belt unit (13) with a cancelled latched connection between the conveyor belt unit (13) and a mount (11) remaining at the apparatus.

24. (Original) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:

at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25); and

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25), the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to first be pivoted about one of two supports (65, 67) of the mount (11), and is configured to subsequently be raised from the supports (65, 67) for

at least one of removing and installing the conveyor belt unit (13) with a cancelled latched connection between the conveyor belt unit (13) and a mount (11) remaining at the apparatus.

25. (Substitute for Claim 1) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:

a removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25);
a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and
a drive (15) coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) by a drive belt (27), the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be cancelled by relaxing the drive belt (27) and is configured to be established by tautening the drive belt (27), with the relaxing and tautening of the drive belt (27) each being provided by a relative movement between the drive (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13)[[.]];

wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be removed and/or installed without tools.

26. (Substitute for Claim 2) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]] 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged in front of a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.

27. (Substitute for Claim 3) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]] 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged behind a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.

28. (Substitute for Claim 4) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]]

25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has, viewed in the conveying direction, a belt length or conveyor length which amounts to less than 500 mm.

29. (Substitute for Claim 6) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]]

25, further comprising:

wherein at least one drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) is provided, with the drive motor (15) being directly coupled with the conveyor belt unit (13), and/or unit; and

wherein the drive motor (15) is arranged beneath the conveyor belt unit (13).

30. (Substitute for Claim 9) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]]

25, further comprising:

wherein a respective relative movement is provided between the drive motor (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) for cancelling and establishing a coupling between a drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit; and

wherein the spacing between a drive axle of the drive motor (15) and a drive axle of the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be varied by the relative movement.

31. (Substitute for Claim 10) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]]

25, wherein a mount (11) is provided for the conveyor belt unit (13) which remains at the apparatus with a removed conveyor belt unit (13) and at which the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be latched, with the latched connection configured to be

cancelled for removing the conveyor belt unit (13) and configured to be established for installing the conveyor belt unit (13).

32. (Substitute for Claim 14) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]] 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has a conveying width in the range from approximately 300 mm to 700 mm.

33. (Substitute for Claim 15) The apparatus in accordance with claim [[1]] 25, wherein at least one continuous belt or continuous band (55) or a plurality of parallel continuous straps (57) is/are provided as conveying means of the conveyor belt unit (13).

34. (Contingent Substitute for Claim 22) A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising:

at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25);

a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and

a first drive (15) is coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) at the left side and at a second drive (15) at the right side, when viewed in the conveying direction, the coupling between the drives (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be simultaneously cancelled and established for at least one of the first drive (15) and the second drive (15);

wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be removed and/or
installed without tools.

APPENDIX B: CLAIM LISTING

Patent Owner presents the original claims and the annotated substitute claims side-by-side.

Original Claims	Annotated Substitute Claims
1. A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising: a removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25); a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and a drive (15) coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) by a drive belt (27), the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be cancelled by relaxing the drive belt (27) and is configured to be established by tautening the drive belt (27), with the relaxing and tautening of the drive belt (27) each being provided	25. A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising: a removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25); a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and a drive (15) coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) by a drive belt (27), the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be cancelled by relaxing the drive belt (27) and is configured to be established by tautening the drive belt (27), with the relaxing and

Original Claims	Annotated Substitute Claims
by a relative movement between the drive (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13).	tautening of the drive belt (27) each being provided by a relative movement between the drive (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13); <u>wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be removed and/or installed without tools.</u>
2. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged in front of a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.	26. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged in front of a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.
3. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged behind a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.	27. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is arranged behind a cutting plane of the slicing apparatus, viewed in the conveying direction.

Original Claims	Annotated Substitute Claims
4. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has, viewed in the conveying direction, a belt length or conveyor length which amounts to less than 500 mm.	28. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has, viewed in the conveying direction, a belt length or conveyor length which amounts to less than 500 mm.
6. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising: wherein at least one drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) is provided, with the drive motor (15) being directly coupled with the conveyor belt unit (13), and/or unit; and wherein the drive motor (15) is arranged beneath the conveyor belt unit (13).	29. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, further comprising: wherein at least one drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) is provided, with the drive motor (15) being directly coupled with the conveyor belt unit (13), and/or unit; and wherein the drive motor (15) is arranged beneath the conveyor belt unit (13).

Original Claims	Annotated Substitute Claims
9. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, further comprising: wherein a respective relative movement is provided between the drive motor (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) for cancelling and establishing a coupling between a drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit; and wherein the spacing between a drive axle of the drive motor (15) and a drive axle of the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be varied by the relative movement.	30. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, further comprising: wherein a respective relative movement is provided between the drive motor (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) for cancelling and establishing a coupling between a drive motor (15) for the conveyor belt unit (13) and the conveyor belt unit; and wherein the spacing between a drive axle of the drive motor (15) and a drive axle of the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be varied by the relative movement.
10. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein a mount (11) is provided for the conveyor belt unit (13) which remains at the apparatus with a removed conveyor belt unit (13) and at	31. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein a mount (11) is provided for the conveyor belt unit (13) which remains at the apparatus with a removed conveyor belt unit (13) and at

Original Claims	Annotated Substitute Claims
which the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be latched, with the latched connection configured to be cancelled for removing the conveyor belt unit (13) and configured to be established for installing the conveyor belt unit (13).	which the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be latched, with the latched connection configured to be cancelled for removing the conveyor belt unit (13) and configured to be established for installing the conveyor belt unit (13).
14. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has a conveying width in the range from approximately 300 mm to 700 mm.	32. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) has a conveying width in the range from approximately 300 mm to 700 mm.
15. The apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one continuous belt or continuous band (55) or a plurality of parallel continuous straps (57) is/are provided as conveying means of the conveyor belt unit (13).	33. The apparatus in accordance with claim 25, wherein at least one continuous belt or continuous band (55) or a plurality of parallel continuous straps (57) is/are provided as conveying means of the conveyor belt unit (13).

Contingent Claims

Original Claims	Annotated Substitute Claims
22. A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising: at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25); a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and a first drive (15) is coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) at the left side and at a second drive (15) at the right side, when viewed in the conveying direction, the coupling between the drives (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be simultaneously	34. A slicing apparatus for food products, the slicing apparatus comprising: at least one removable conveyor belt unit (13) having at least one track and a base (25); a substructure (41) having a mount (11) coupled to the base (25); and a first drive (15) is coupled to the conveyor belt unit (13) at the left side and at a second drive (15) at the right side, when viewed in the conveying direction, the coupling between the drives (15) and the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be simultaneously

Original Claims	Annotated Substitute Claims
cancelled and established for at least one of the first drive (15) and the second drive (15).	cancelled and established for at least one of the first drive (15) and the second drive (15); <u>wherein the conveyor belt unit (13) is configured to be removed and/or installed without tools.</u>

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing MOTION TO AMEND was served on July 2, 2024, by email on the following counsel of record for Petitioner:

Michael G. Babbit	mbabbit@willkie.com
Sara T. Horton	shorton@willkie.com
Ren-how H. Harn	rharn@willkie.com
Mitchell M. Feldhake	mfeldhake@willkie.com

WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER LLP
ProvisurPTAB@willkie.com

Dated: July 2, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

/Adam P. Seitz/
Adam P. Seitz, Reg. No. 52,206
adam.seitz@eriseip.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PATENT OWNER

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.24(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that this motion complies with the type-volume limitation of 37 C.F.R. § 42.24 because this motion is less than 25 pages, excluding the parts of the brief exempted by 37 C.F.R. § 42.24(a)(1) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(b).

Dated: July 2, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

/Adam P. Seitz/

Adam P. Seitz, Reg. No. 52,206

ERISE IP, P.A.

7015 College Boulevard, Suite 700

Overland Park, Kansas 66211

Telephone: (913) 777-5600

Facsimile: (913) 777-5601

adam.seitz@eriseip.com

PTAB@eriseip.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PATENT OWNER