

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

NEXT STEP GROUP, INC.,
Petitioner

v.

DECKERS OUTDOOR CORPORATION,
Patent Owner

Case IPR2024-00525
U.S. Patent No. D927,161

DECLARATION OF CHRISTOPHER S. HERMANSON

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Patent Trial and Appeal Board
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-145

Deckers Outdoor Corp. EX2004
Next Step Group, Inc. v. Deckers Outdoor Corp.
IPR2024-00525

I, Christopher S. Hermanson, hereby declare as follows.

1. I am a partner at Greer, Burns & Crain, LTD., which prosecuted U.S. Patent Application No. 29/712,480 (“the ’480 application”) on behalf of Patent Owner, Deckers Outdoor Corporation.

2. Greer, Burns & Crain, LTD. submitted an information disclosure statement (IDS) for the ’480 application on behalf of Patent Owner on January 14, 2020. The IDS cited two non-patent literature documents. The first document cited was a copy of the webpage www.zappos.com/ugg-classic-mini-sand showing the UGG® Classic Mini boot (“NPL1”). The second document cited was a copy of the webpage <https://www.zappos.com/p/ugg-classic-mini-ii/product/8733926> showing the UGG® Classic Mini II boot (“NPL2”)

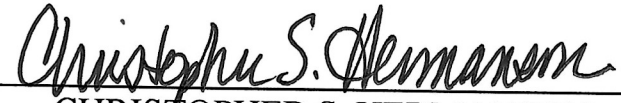
3. Exhibit 2002 is a true and correct copy of NPL1 electronically submitted to the U.S. Patent Office with the IDS on January 14, 2020.

4. Exhibit 2003 is a true and correct copy of NPL2 electronically submitted to the U.S. Patent Office with the IDS on January 14, 2020.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the

knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

Executed on this 29th day of April, 2024, in Chicago, Illinois.


CHRISTOPHER S. HERMANSON