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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Tang et al.

Serial No.: 10/716,121

Filed: November 18, 2003

For: Universal Tire Pressure Monitor

Attorney Docket No.: LEAR 04056 PUS

Group Art Unit: 2612

Examiner: Pope, Daryl C.

REPLY BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. §41.41

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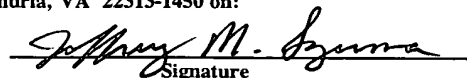
This is a Reply Brief filed in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed on January 10, 2007 for the above-identified patent application.

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ARGUMENT

The Examiner's Answer makes it clear that, in rejecting claims 1-20 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,087,930 ("the '930 patent"), the Examiner has disregarded the language of those claims. Indeed, the Examiner has reduced the Applicants' claimed invention to merely transmitting data according to some format.

Contrary to the Examiner's position, however, the "codes" of claims 1-20 are not simply data that is transmitted according to some format. Rather, the claimed codes each comprise a format for data, and that data is transmitted in one or more wireless signals according to one or more of the codes. Indeed, claims 1-20 all recite "a plurality of codes, each code comprising at least a data format." Claims 1- 10 further recite "a wireless signal including data representing the sensed tire pressure, wherein the wireless signal is transmitted . . . according to at least one of the stored plurality of codes." Claims 11-18 further recite "a wireless signal including data representing the sensed tire pressure, wherein the wireless signal is transmitted according to the one of the plurality of codes received." Claims 19 and 20 further recite "a series of wireless signals including data representing the sensed tire pressure, wherein each of the series of wireless signals is transmitted according to a different one of the stored plurality of codes."

Thus, prior art that merely discloses codes or data transmitted according to a serial format, such as the '930 patent relied upon by the Examiner, fails to anticipate the Applicants' claimed invention. The codes or data referenced by the Examiner in the '930 patent are simply data representing various physical parameters or other information. The very codes or data representing such information cannot also represent a format for that information. The codes or data of the '930 patent are therefore not the codes of the Applicants' claimed invention. Moreover, the codes or data referenced by the Examiner in the '930 patent, which again are simply data representing certain information, are not transmitted according to one

or more of a plurality of stored or received codes, each code comprising at least a data format, as in the Applicants' claimed invention.

Thus, contrary to the Examiner's characterization, the Applicants are arguing for reversal of the final rejection of claims 1-20 based on the language of those claims and the failure of the '930 patent to teach or suggest the Applicants' claimed invention. Indeed, it is the Examiner's characterization of the Applicants' invention as simply "a program signal comprising one of a plurality of codes, each code comprising at least a data format" that disregards the language of those claims. The Examiner's final rejection of those claims as anticipated by the '930 patent should therefore be reversed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the Appellants respectfully request that the Board reverse the final rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by the '930 patent.

Respectfully submitted,

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