

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

ERICSSON INC. and NOKIA OF AMERICA CORPORATION,
Petitioner,

v.

ACTIVE WIRELESS TECHNOLOGIES LLC,
Patent Owner.

IPR2024-00986
Patent 10,785,764 B2

Before MONICA S. ULLAGADDI, DAVID COTTA, and
JASON M. REPKO, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

REPKO, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

ERRATA

SUMMARY

Section 6 of the Scheduling Order in this case provided guidance on filing a motion to amend under the pilot program. *See* Paper 14, 5–6 (citing Notice Regarding a New Pilot Program Concerning Motion to Amend Practice and Procedures in Trial Proceedings Under the America Invents Act Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, 84 Fed. Reg. 9,497 (Mar. 15, 2019)). The USPTO recently modified its rules of practice governing amendment practice to make permanent certain provisions of the pilot program and to revise the rules that allocate burdens of persuasion in connection with motions to amend. *See* Rules Governing Motion To Amend Practice and Procedures in Trial Proceedings Under the America Invents Act Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, 89 Fed. Reg. 76,421 (Sept. 18, 2024). Any motion to amend and briefing related to such a motion must now comply with those rules. *See id.* Thus, the following section replaces Section 6 of the previously issued Scheduling Order. *See* Paper 14, 5–6.

REPLACEMENT SECTION

6. Motion to Amend

Patent Owner may file a motion to amend without prior authorization from the Board. Nevertheless, Patent Owner must confer with the Board before filing such a motion. 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(a). To satisfy this requirement, Patent Owner should request a conference call with the Board no later than two weeks prior to DUE DATE 1. *See* Section B below regarding DUE DATES.

Any motion to amend and briefing related to such a motion shall comply with the rules pertaining to motions to amend (37 C.F.R. § 42.121)

and the practices and procedures described in *Lectrosonics, Inc. v. Zaxcom, Inc.*, IPR2018-01129, Paper 15 (PTAB Feb. 25, 2019) (precedential).

Patent Owner has the option to receive preliminary guidance from the Board on its motion to amend. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(e). If Patent Owner elects to request preliminary guidance from the Board on its motion, it must do so in its motion to amend filed on DUE DATE 1. *Id.* at § 42.121(a)(1)(ii).

At DUE DATE 3, Patent Owner may file a reply to the opposition to the motion to amend and/or the preliminary guidance. 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(e)(3). In lieu of a reply, Patent Owner has the option to file a revised motion to amend that addresses the issues raised in the preliminary guidance or in petitioner's opposition to the motion to amend. *Id.* at § 42.121(f)(1)-(2). Patent Owner may elect to file a revised motion to amend even if Patent Owner did not request to receive preliminary guidance on its motion to amend. A revised motion to amend must include one or more new proposed substitute claims in place of the previously presented substitute claims, where each new proposed substitute claim presents a new claim amendment. *Id.*

If Patent Owner files a revised motion to amend, the Board may determine whether to request the Chief Administrative Patent Judge to extend the final written decision deadline more than one year from the date a trial is instituted in accordance with § 42.100(c) and whether to extend any remaining deadlines under § 42.5(c)(2). 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(f)(1). Typically the Board will enter a revised scheduling order setting the briefing schedule for that revised motion and adjusting other due dates as needed.

At DUE DATE 5, Petitioner may file a sur-reply that is limited to responding to the preliminary guidance and/or arguments made in the patent owner's reply brief. *Id.* at § 42.121(e)(3). The sur-reply may not be accompanied by new evidence, but may comment on any new evidence filed with the reply and/or point to cross-examination testimony of a reply witness, if relevant to the arguments made in the reply brief. *Id.*

If the Board issues preliminary guidance on the motion to amend, and Patent Owner files neither a reply to the opposition to the motion to amend nor a revised motion to amend at DUE DATE 3, Petitioner may file a reply to the Board's preliminary guidance, no later than three (3) weeks after DUE DATE 3 or at any other DUE DATE that the Board specifies in a revised scheduling order. The reply may only respond to the preliminary guidance and may not be accompanied by new evidence. 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(e)(4). Patent Owner may file a sur-reply in response to Petitioner's reply to the Board's preliminary guidance. *Id.* The sur-reply may only respond to petitioner's reply and may not be accompanied by new evidence. *Id.* The sur-reply must be filed no later than three (3) weeks after Petitioner's reply or at any other DUE DATE that the Board specifies in a revised scheduling order.

In the event the Board requests examination assistance pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(d)(3)(ii), the parties will be notified of the request and may adjust the scheduling order as needed.

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