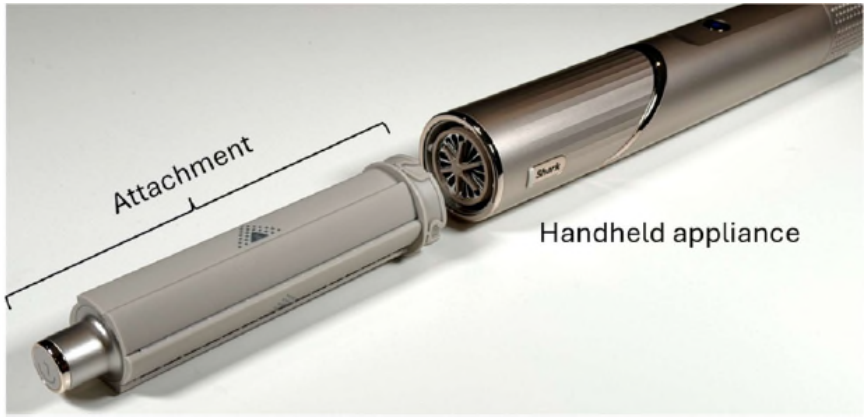
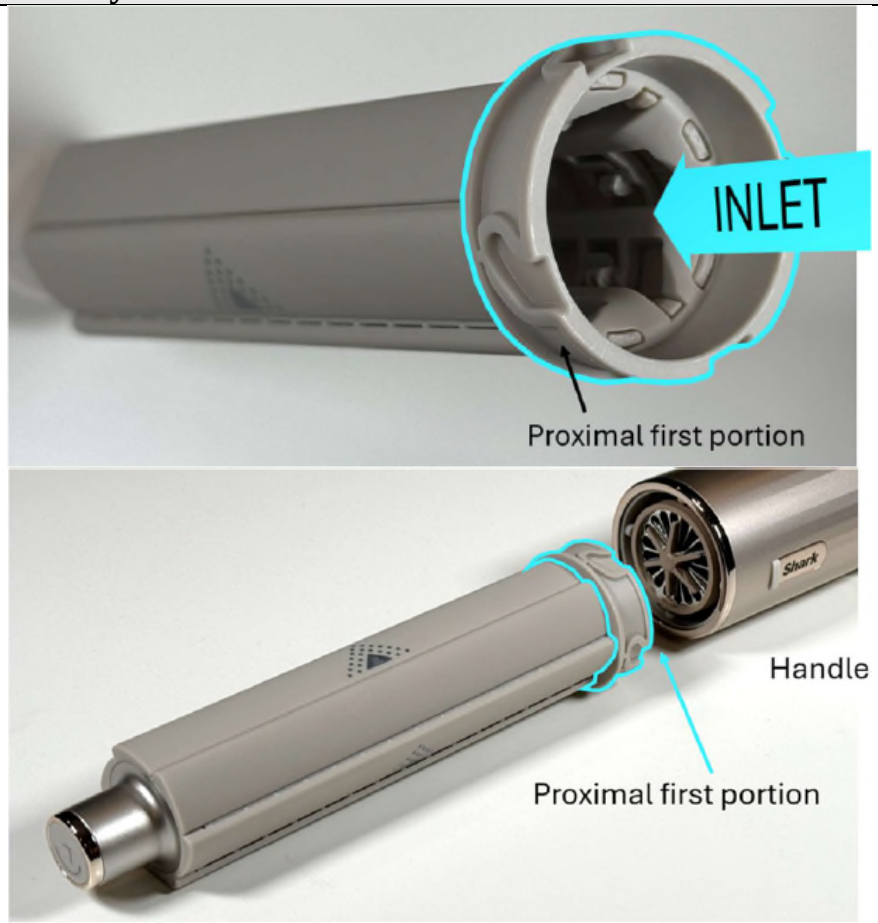
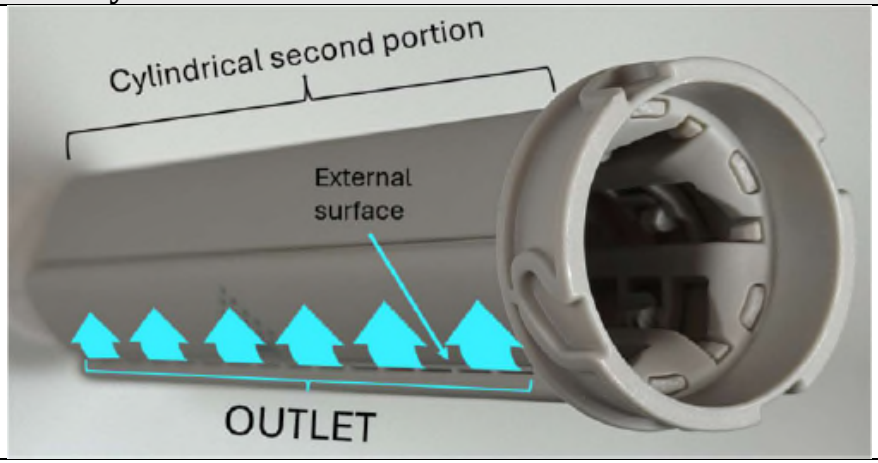
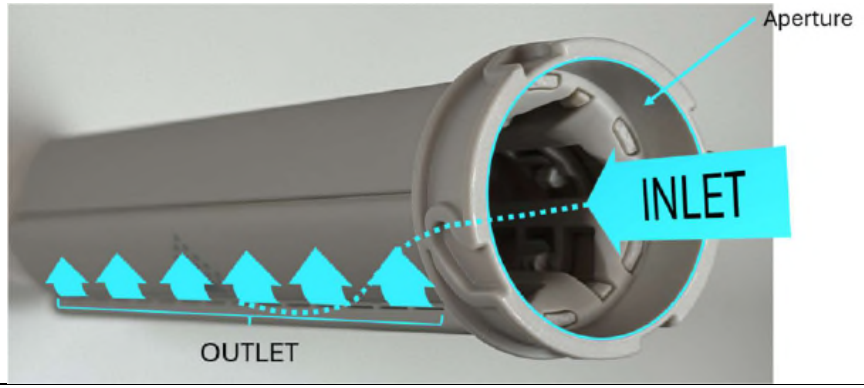
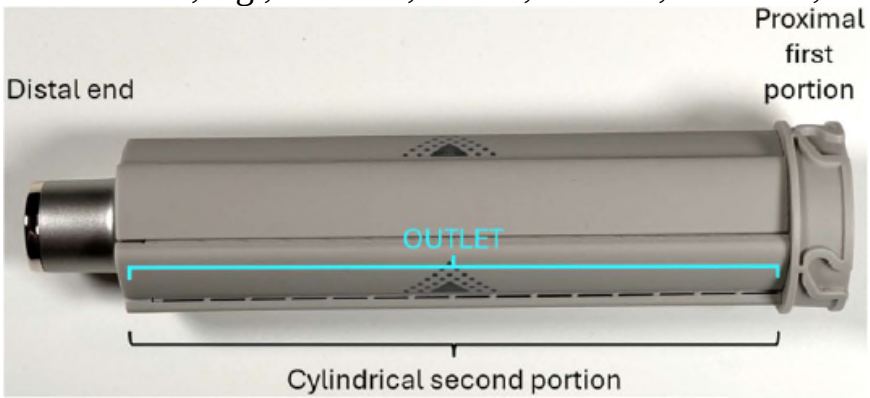
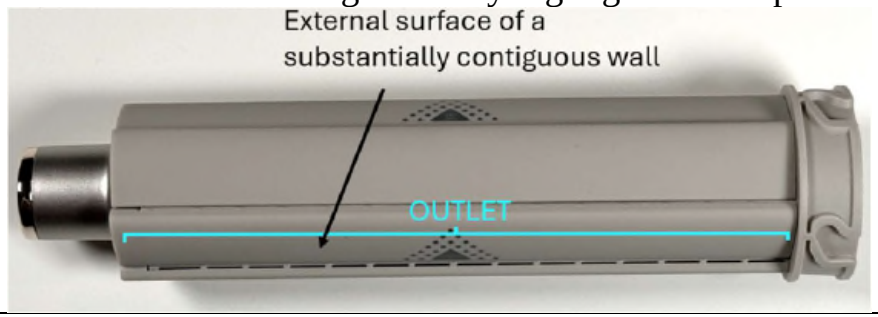
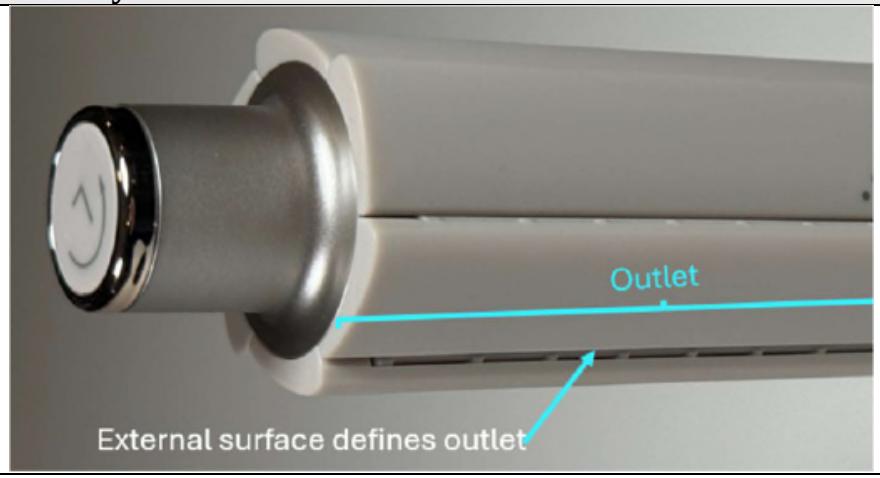
LIMITATION-BY-LIMITATION ANALYSIS OF PETITIONERS' FLEXSTYLE

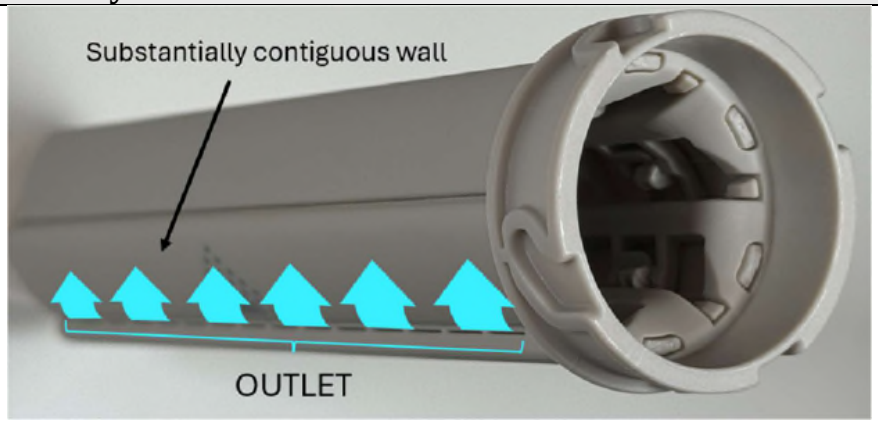
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
1[pre] An attachment for a hand held appliance comprising	The FlexStyle includes an attachment for a handheld appliance. The FlexStyle .95"Auto-Wrap Curlers, and the Shark FlexStyle 1.25"Auto-Wrap Curlers are attachments for a handheld appliance, namely the FlexStyle, which Shark admits. EX2008, ¶ 32. 
1[a] an inlet in a proximal first portion of the attachment;	As shown below, the FlexStyle Auto-Wrap Curler attachment includes an inlet to the head at an open aperture at the proximal end.

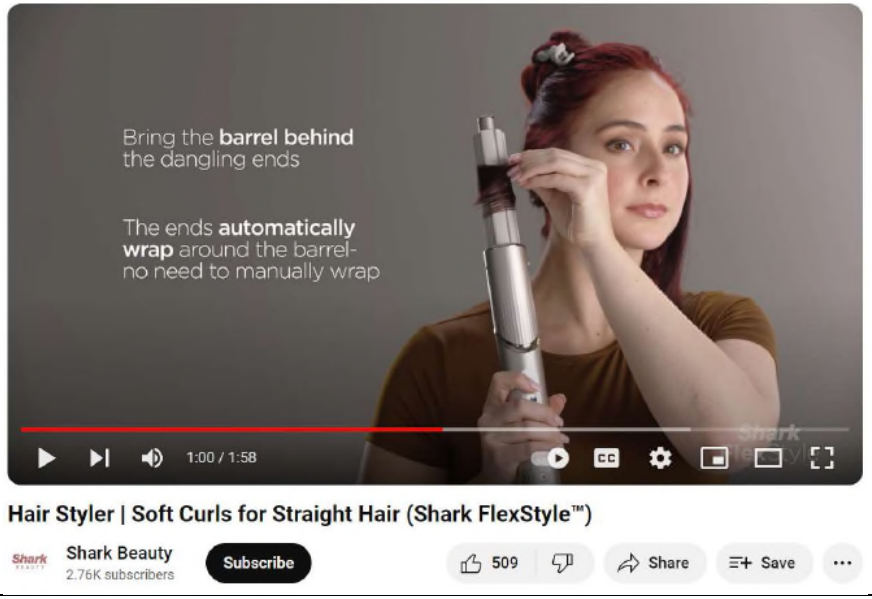
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	
1[b] an outlet in a cylindrical second portion of the attachment; and	The FlexStyle includes an outlet in a cylindrical second portion of the attachment. The outlet consists of at least one outlet, and in the alternative six outlets for air, each outlet being in a cylindrical second portion of the attachment.

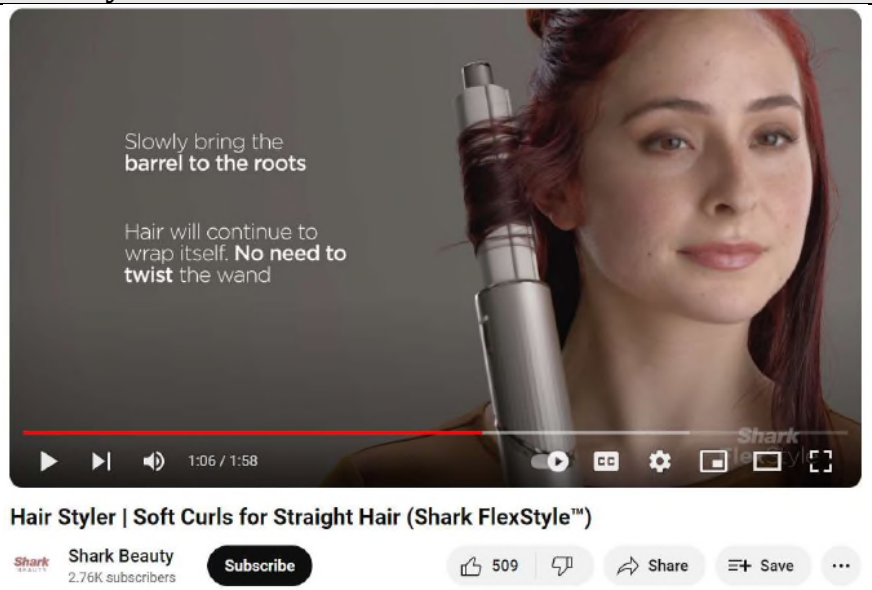
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	
1[c] a fluid flow path between the inlet and the outlet,	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes an inlet within the curler attachment allowing fluid drawn into the fluid flow path within the handle by the fan unit to flow into the inlet, the aperture in the first proximal end of the attachment, and out of the outlet in the sides of the attachment. 
1[d] wherein the outlet in the cylindrical second portion of the attachment comprises at least one slot extending continuously from	As shown below, the FlexStyle curler attachment includes a slot that extends continuously from the proximal first portion to a distal end of the attachment. The outlet comprises a slot which also has spacers provided along the length of the slot. A POSITA would understand that this can constitute a single slot.

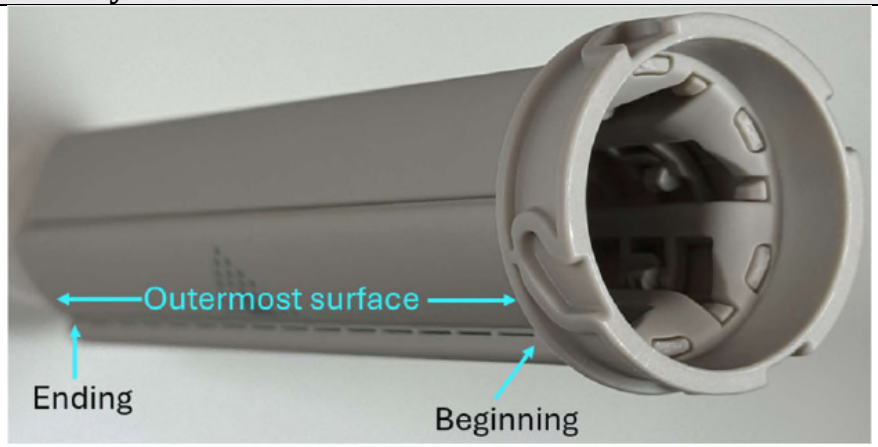
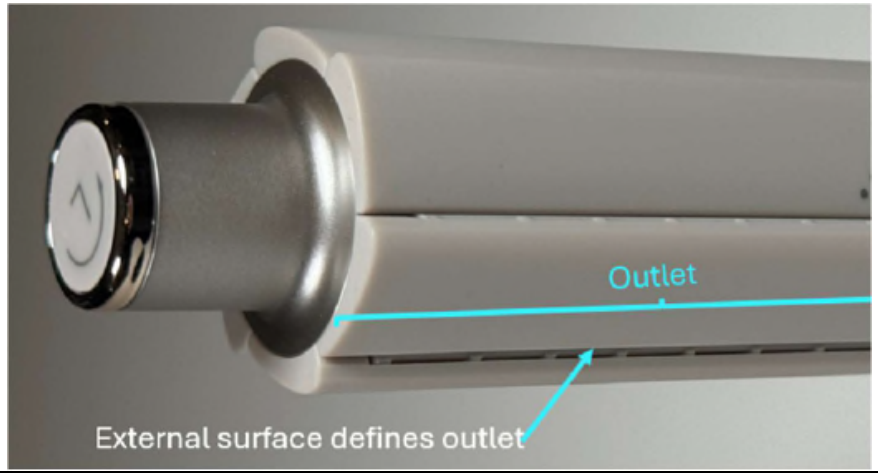
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
the proximal first portion to a distal end of the attachment,	The spacers perform the purpose of maintaining the gap between the adjacent plates forming the slot or thickness of the slot, thereby allowing a more even air flow. See, e.g., EX1001, 3:7-14, 7:24-29; FIGS. 3a, 3b. 
1[e] wherein the outlet is at least partially defined by an external surface of a substantially contiguous wall of the attachment	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes a fluid outlet which outlet is at least partially defined by an external surface of a substantially contiguous wall of the attachment. This arrangement enables fluid (i.e., air) to exit the attachment all the way around the attachment and along the length of the attachment maximizing a hair styling region of the product. 

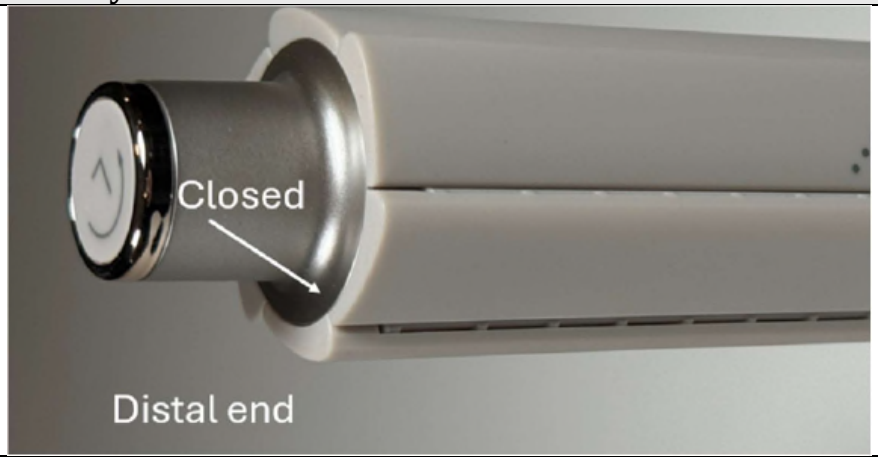
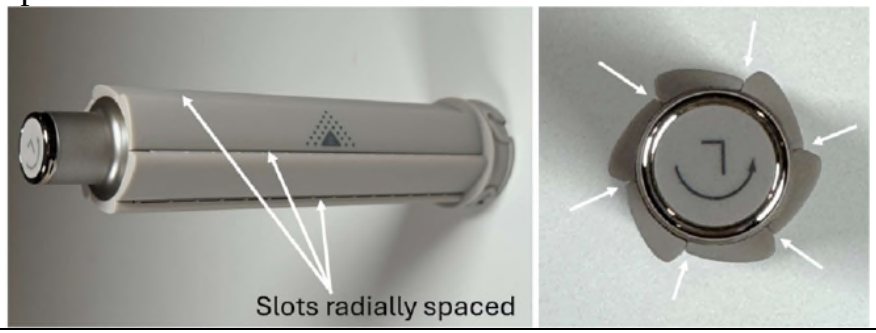
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	
1[f] and is configured to direct fluid flow emitted from the outlet tangentially along and around the external surface of the substantially contiguous wall to form a circumferential fluid flow around the cylindrical second portion of the attachment that encourages hair to automatically wrap around the cylindrical second portion,	The FlexStyle practices this limitation. The fluid flowing out of the slots is tangential to the outer surface of the curler attachment plate and joins with the fluid flowing out of the other slots of the fluid outlet forming a fluid flow around the circumference of the attachment. Thus, the fluid is blown out along the external surface of the attachment and this encourages hair to wrap around the attachment automatically. The fluid exiting the outlet is attracted to the curved surface of the attachment by the Coanda effect. This in turn causes hair that is presented to the attachment to automatically wrap around the surface to style into curls.

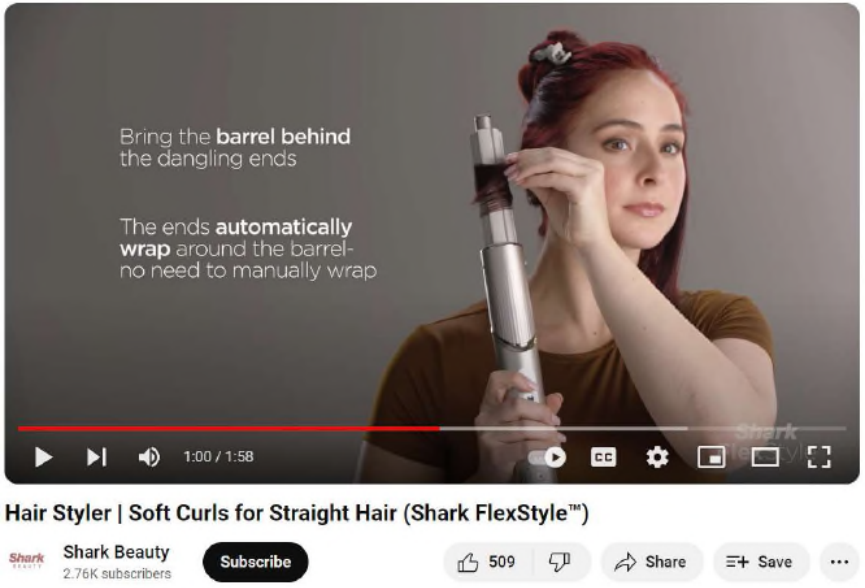
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 The configuration of the outlet is critical to the creation of the Coanda effect. The fact that hair automatically wraps around the cylindrical second portion (as shown in the videos, including SharkNinja's video) is evidence that the outlet is in fact configured to direct fluid flow emitted from the outlet tangentially along and around the external surface of the substantially contiguous wall to form a circumferential fluid flow around the cylindrical second portion of the attachment.

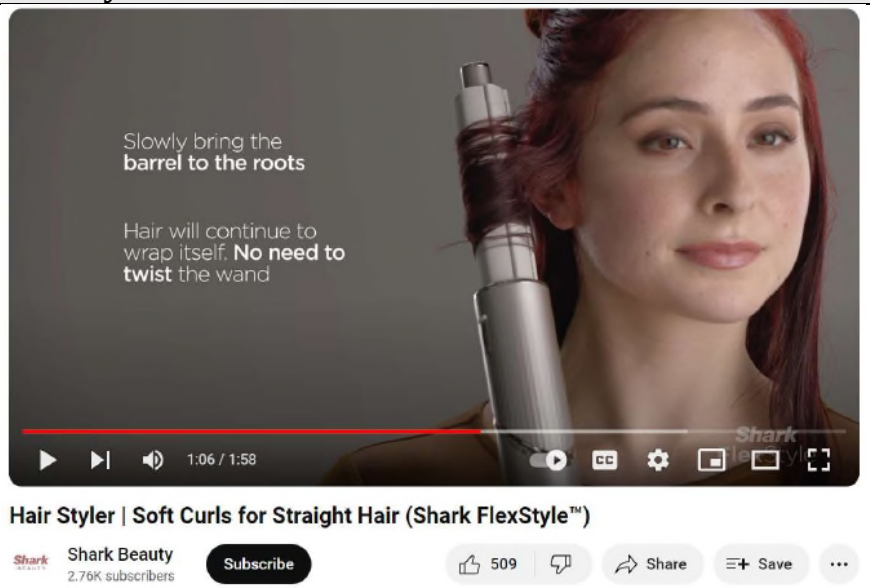
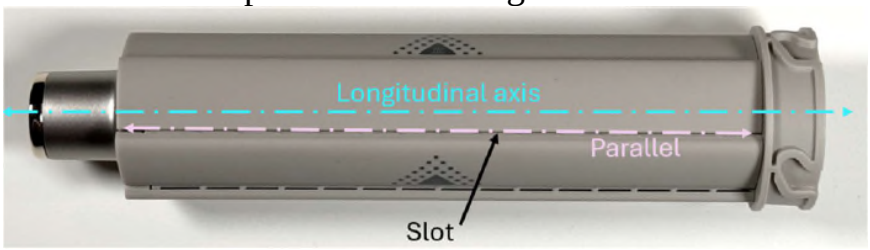
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 EX2071 (https://youtu.be/aSmaPyE4HQQ) 

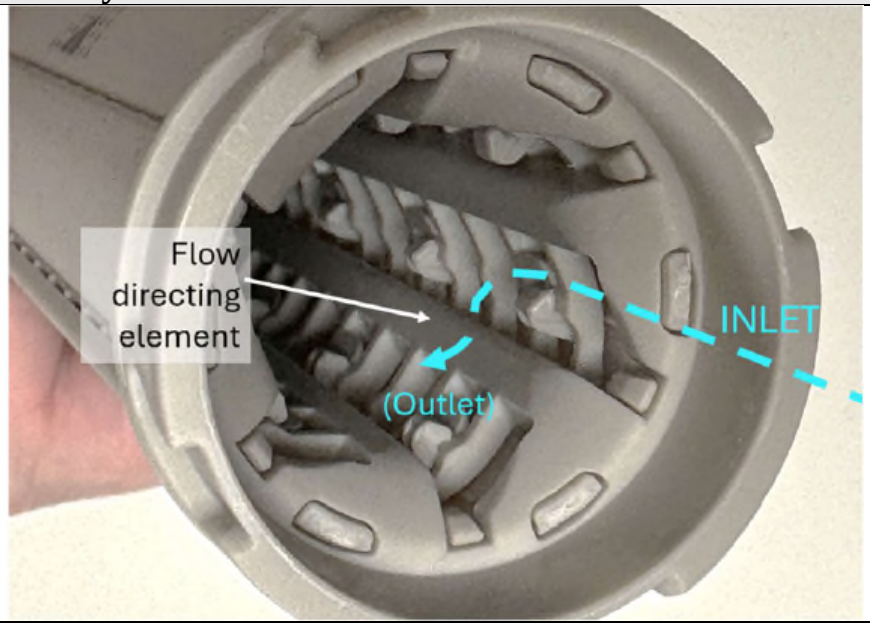
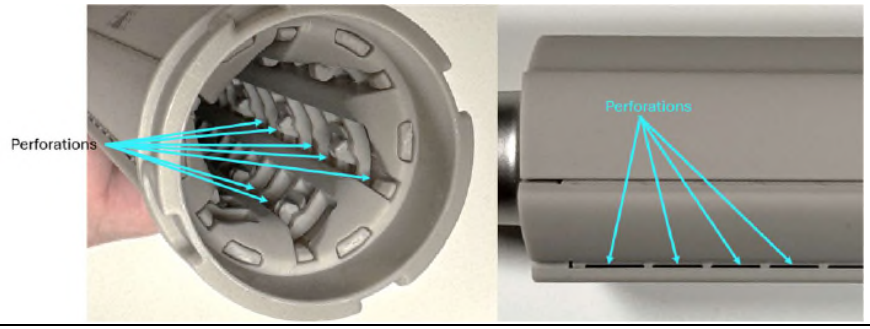
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 EX2072 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rurcIIhIvmo) Petitioners' documents confirm that the FlexStyle uses the Coanda effect to curl the hair, and that its outlet is configured to direct fluid flow emitted from the outlet tangentially along and around the external surface of the substantially contiguous wall to form a circumferential fluid flow around the cylindrical second portion of the attachment that encourages hair to automatically wrap around the cylindrical second portion. EX2028, EX2029.
1[g] wherein the external surface of the substantially contiguous wall is an outermost surface of the attachment along an entire length of the attachment from a	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes an outermost surface along the entire length of the attachment from the beginning of each slot to the end of each slot. This arrangement enables the air to flow onto and across the outermost surfaces to help guide the hair.

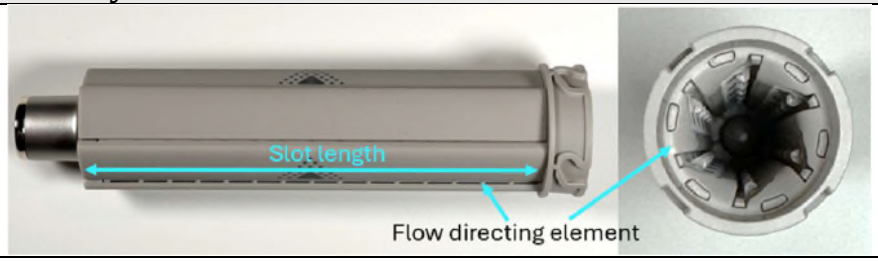
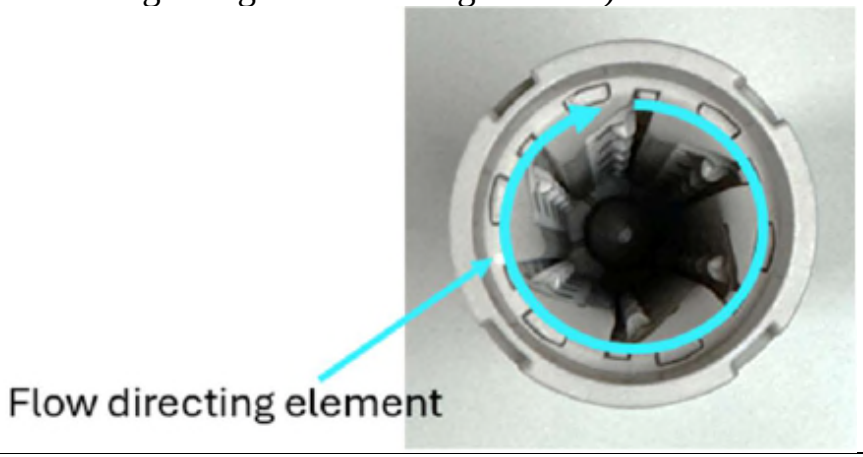
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
beginning of the at least one slot to an end of the at least one slot,	 
1[h] and wherein the distal end of the attachment is closed.	As shown below, the distal end of the FlexStyle curler attachment is closed.

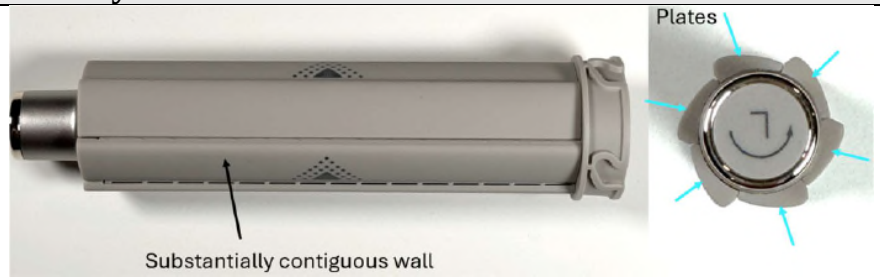
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	
2. The attachment of claim 1, wherein the outlet comprises a plurality of slots radially spaced around the attachment.	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes a plurality of (i.e., six) slots radially spaced around the attachment. 
3. The attachment of claim 1, wherein the attachment is configured so that, in use, the fluid emitted from the outlet is attracted to the external surface of the attachment.	As shown below, including SharkNinja's video, the FlexStyle curler attachment is configured so that, in use, the fluid emitted from the outlet is attracted to the external surface of the attachment (e.g., Coanda effect).

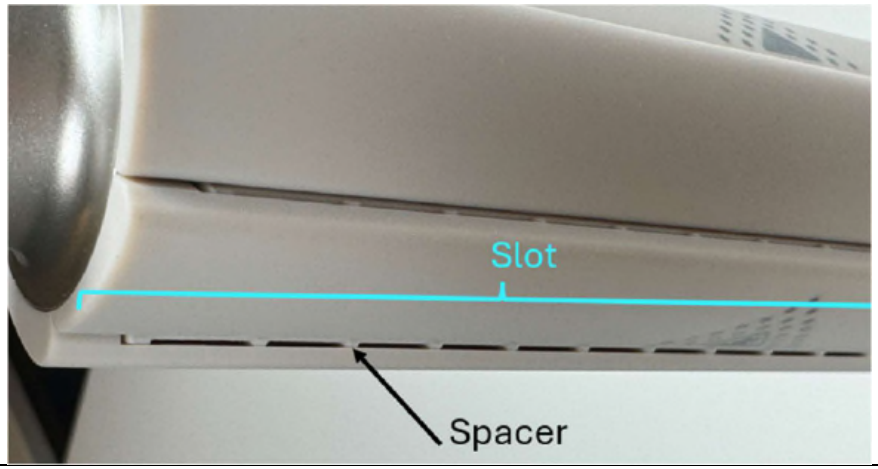
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 EX2071 (https://youtu.be/aSmaPyE4HQQ) 

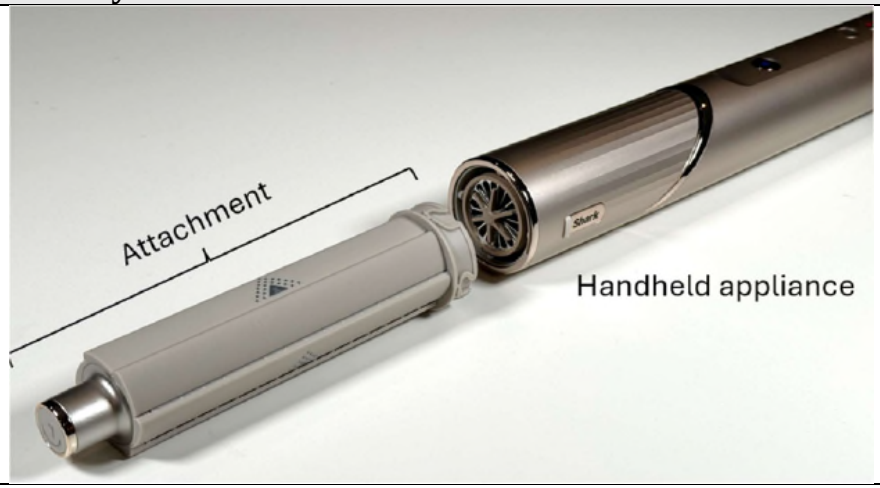
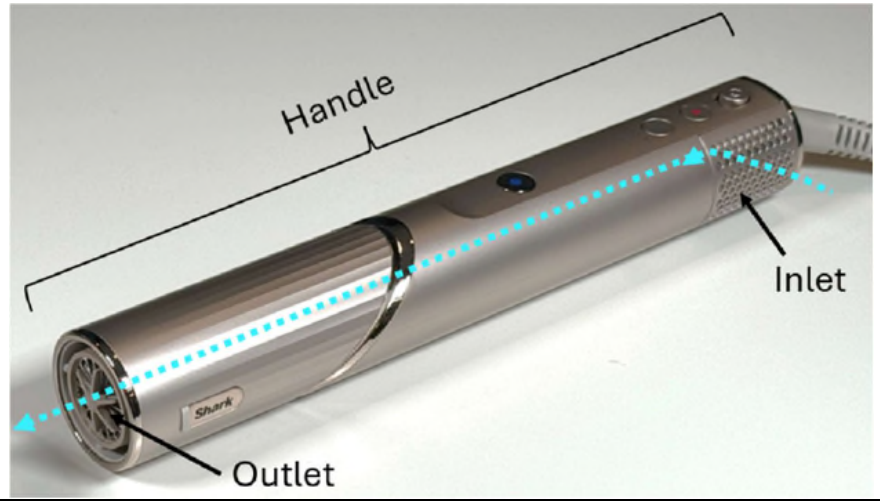
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 EX2072 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rurcIIhIvmo)
5. The attachment of claim 1, wherein the attachment has a longitudinal axis and the at least one slot is parallel to the longitudinal axis.	As shown below, the FlexStyle attachments include a longitudinal axis, and at least one slot parallel to the longitudinal axis. 
8. The attachment of claim 1, further comprising a flow directing element between the inlet and the outlet.	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes a flow directing element between the inlet and the outlet, which is the skeletal substructure of the FlexStyle. This element changes the direction that air flows out from the outlet tending to give a flow that is more normal to the surface of the attachment.

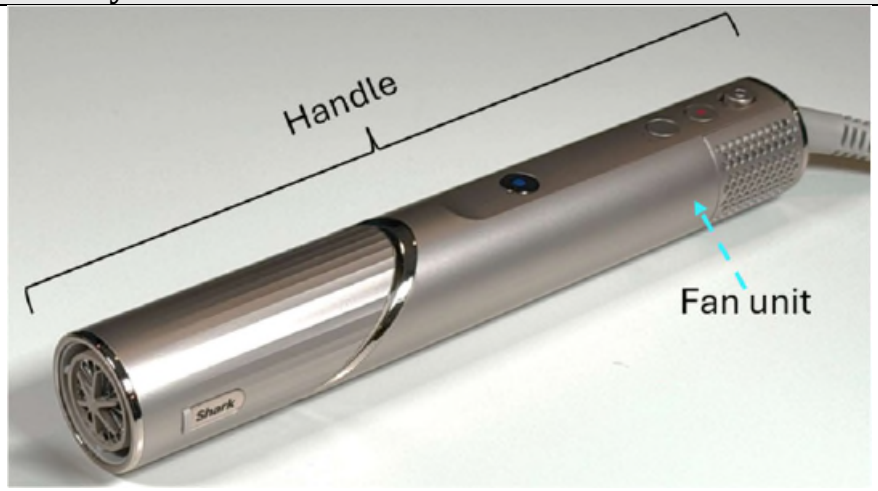
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	
9. The attachment of claim 8, wherein the flow directing element comprises a perforated layer.	As shown below, the FlexStyle's flow directing element includes a perforated layer (see discussion of claim 8). 
12. The attachment of claim 9, wherein the flow directing element extends substantially	As shown below, the FlexStyle's flow directing element extends substantially along a length of the at least one slot (see also discussion of claim 8 regarding discussion of flow directing element).

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
along a length of the at least one slot.	
13. The attachment of claim 9, wherein the flow directing element extends substantially around an inner circumference of the attachment.	As shown below, the FlexStyle's flow directing element extends substantially around an inner circumference of the attachment (see also discussion of claim 8 regarding flow directing element). 
14. The attachment of claim 1, wherein the wall comprises a plurality of plates.	As shown below, the FlexStyle curler attachment includes a wall that comprises a plurality of (six) plates. The plates are also shown in the image below, after disassembly.

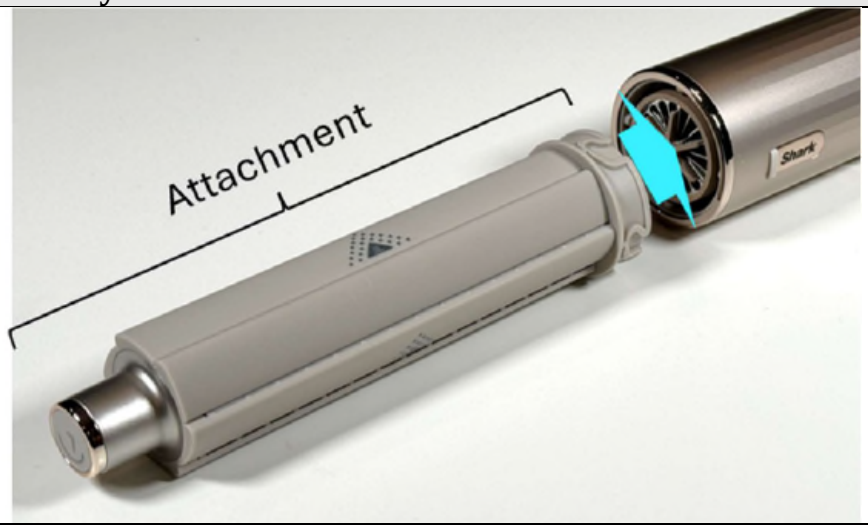
Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
15. The attachment of claim 1, wherein the at least one slot is formed by a gap between adjacent sections of the wall that are joined by at least one spacer disposed between the beginning of the at least one slot and the end of the at least one slot to maintain the gap.	As shown below, the FlexStyle curler attachment's at least one slot is formed by a gap between adjacent sections of the wall that are joined by at least one spacer disposed between the beginning of the at least one slot and the end of the at least one slot to maintain the gap. 
17[pre] A hand held appliance comprising	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes a hand held appliance. See analysis related to claim element 1[pre], incorporated here by reference.

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	
17[a] a handle having a fluid flow path from a handle inlet to a handle outlet,	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes a handle having a fluid flow path from a handle inlet to a handle outlet. 
17[b] a fan unit for drawing fluid into the handle inlet,	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes a fan unit for drawing fluid into the handle inlet.

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 https://support.sharkclean.com/hc/en-us/article_attachments/8830005972764
17[c] and an attachment for attaching to the handle,	As shown below, the FlexStyle includes an attachment (i.e., the Auto-Wrap Curler attachment) for attaching to the handle. See analysis related to claim element 1[pre], incorporated here by reference.

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	
17[d] the attachment comprising an inlet in a proximal first portion of the attachment;	See analysis related to claim element 1[a], incorporated here by reference.
17[e] an outlet in a cylindrical second portion of the attachment;	See analysis related to claim element 1[b], incorporated here by reference.
17[f] and a fluid flow path between the inlet and the outlet,	See analysis related to claim element 1[c], incorporated here by reference.
17[g] wherein the outlet in the cylindrical second portion of the attachment comprises at least one slot extending continuously from the proximal first portion to a distal end of the attachment,	See analysis related to claim element 1[d], incorporated here by reference.
17[h] wherein the outlet is at least partially defined by an external	See analysis related to claim element 1[e], incorporated here by reference.

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
surface of a substantially contiguous wall of the attachment	
17[i] and is configured to direct fluid flow emitted from the outlet tangentially along and around the external surface of the substantially contiguous wall to form a circumferential fluid flow around the cylindrical second portion of the attachment that encourages hair to automatically wrap around the cylindrical second portion,	See analysis related to claim element 1[f], incorporated here by reference.
17[j] wherein the external surface of the substantially contiguous wall is an outermost surface of the attachment along an entire length of the attachment from a beginning of the at least one slot to an end of the at least one slot,	See analysis related to claim element 1[g], incorporated here by reference.
17[k] and wherein the distal end of the attachment is closed.	See analysis related to claim element 1[h], incorporated here by reference.
18. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the outlet comprises a plurality of slots radially spaced around the attachment.	See analysis related to claim 2, incorporated here by reference.

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
19. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the attachment is configured so that, in use, the fluid emitted from the outlet is attracted to the external surface of the attachment.	See analysis related to claim 3, incorporated here by reference.
21. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the attachment has a longitudinal axis and the at least one slot is parallel to the longitudinal axis.	See analysis related to claim 5, incorporated here by reference.
24. The appliance of claim 17, further comprising a flow directing element between the inlet and the outlet.	See analysis related to claim 8, incorporated here by reference.
25. The appliance of claim 24, wherein the flow directing element comprises a perforated layer.	See analysis related to claim 9, incorporated here by reference.
27. The appliance of claim 24, wherein the flow directing element extends substantially along a length of the at least one slot.	See analysis related to claim 12, incorporated here by reference.
29. The appliance of claim 24, wherein the flow directing element extends	See analysis related to claim 13, incorporated here by reference.

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
substantially around an inner circumference of the attachment.	
30. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the appliance is a hair care appliance.	See analysis related to claim element 1[pre], incorporated here by reference.
31. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the appliance is a hot styling appliance.	As shown below, the FlexStyle is a hot styling appliance, a fact Petitioners admit. See, e.g., EX2008, ¶ 31 ("The Shark FlexStyle™Air Styling & Drying System is a revolutionary product that can act as a fast, powerful hair dryer, and with just a twist transforms into an ultra-versatile multi-function hair styling product").


How it works.
Styler Attachment Location
Push styler onto the nozzle until it clicks.
click
Cool Shot
Press and hold Cool Shot as desired to seal the hair cuticle and lock in your styles.
Styler Lock
Slide lock down to unlock the styler so it can be removed.
Airflow
Low / Medium / High
Temperature
No Heat / Low / Medium / High
On/Off
Hinge Latch
Slide latch down and rotate the nozzle left to switch to hair dryer mode.
TIP: All 3 red temperature lights will be OFF when Cool Shot is engaged.

Claim Limitation	FlexStyle
	 https://support.sharkclean.com/hc/en-us/article_attachments/8830005972764