

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

HUGGING FACE, INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

FRIENDLIAI INC.,
Patent Owner.

IPR2024-01234
Patent 11,442,775 B1

Before STACEY G. WHITE, KEVIN W. CHERRY, and
LISA A. MURRAY *Administrative Patent Judges*.

CHERRY, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION

Settlement Prior to Institution of Trial and
Granting Request to File Settlement Agreements
as Business Confidential Information
35 U.S.C. § 317; 37 C.F.R. § 42.74

I. INTRODUCTION

On January 22, 2025, pursuant to our e-mail authorization, Petitioner and Patent Owner (collectively, “the Parties”) filed a Joint Motion to Terminate the above-captioned *inter partes* review proceeding. Paper 10 (“Joint Motion”). Along with the Joint Motion, the Parties filed copies of a Settlement Agreement (Ex. 1023) and a Related Agreement (Ex. 1024) (collectively, “Settlement Agreements”). The Parties jointly request that the Settlement Agreements be filed as business confidential information and kept separate from the file of U.S. Patent No. 11,442,775 B1 (“the ’775 patent”). Paper 9 (“Joint Request”).

II. DISCUSSION

In the Joint Motion, the Parties represent that the Settlement Agreements resolve their underlying dispute involving the ’775 patent. Joint Motion 1. The Parties further represent that they have filed true copies of the Settlement Agreements made in connection with, or in contemplation of, the termination of the above-captioned proceeding. *Id.*

This proceeding is at an early stage, and we have not yet decided whether to institute a trial. In view of the early stage of the proceeding and the settlement between the Parties, we determine that good cause exists to dismiss the Petition (Paper 2) and terminate the proceeding with respect to the Parties.

The Parties jointly request that the Settlement Agreements be treated as business confidential information and kept separate from the file of the ’775 patent. Joint Motion 2. After reviewing the Settlement Agreements, we find that they contain confidential business information regarding the terms of settlement. Thus, good cause exists to treat the Settlement

Agreements as business confidential information pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.74(c).

This Order does not constitute a final written decision pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 318(a).

III. ORDER

Accordingly, it is:

ORDERED that the Joint Motion to terminate (Paper 10) is granted, and IPR2024-01234 is terminated with respect to Petitioner and Patent Owner; and

FURTHER ORDERED that the Parties' joint request to treat the Settlement Agreements as business confidential information (Paper 9) is granted, and the Settlement Agreements (Ex. 1023; Ex. 1024) shall be kept separate from the file of U.S. Patent No. 11,442,775 B1, and made available only to Federal Government agencies on written request, or to any person on a showing of good cause, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.74(c).

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