

Sir:

1. I am Steven Altamura, an employee of Seasonal Specialties, ~~Inc.~~, LLC, the assignee of the above identified patent application and the inventor of the subject matter of the above application.
2. I began work on this invention in 2005 and began documenting my work on paper on January 2006.
3. In 2004 and 2005, it was known that blue and green LEDs had a high failure rate (relative to other colors) and thus multicolored light strings could go dark if there wasn't a solution to this failure rate problem. This problem had to be solved to create a commercially reliable product.
4. My employer was interested in finding a solution to the problem of series light strings, typically used for holiday or ornamental lighting, failing if a single ~~bulb~~ illumination element burning out.
45. At the time, in 2005 ~~and early 2006~~, most light strings were still using incandescent ~~bulb~~ elements since they were much less expensive than LED elements, but I was working on a resistor by-pass circuit for both LED and incandescent elements. ~~Both LED and incandescent elements have~~ simultaneously. I built LED and incandescent prototype light strings at the same failure problem which can benefit similarly with time. It was not known to me, until building the LED prototype, that the LED prototype would function, because it was unknown whether sufficient voltage and current would be applied across the LED if a solution, such as described by bypass resistor was in the above patent application parallel.
56. My first written documentation of this concept is dated January 12, 2006 and written in my own hand. I scanned this document into my computer shortly thereafter. See Exhibit A.
67. I documented in writing further refinements of this bypass concept on Jan 31, 2006 and Feb 27, 2006, showing an illumination element having a bypass resistor in the base of a mini-lamp socket. The socket is used to hold either incandescent or LED elements. See Exhibits B, C and D. I built a prototype of the subject matter of Exhibits A, B, C and D at least as early as 15 Jan 2006, in order to have it reviewed by a customer.
78. I ~~built~~ personally hand made a prototype ~~of the subject matter of Exhibits A, B, C and D in the at least as early~~ spring of as 15 Jan 2006, to further test the concept of my invention in order to have it reviewed by a potential customer. Such review would normally occur in March/April of every year the above application.
89. The invention as disclosed in USSN 60/876,868 was submitted to our patent attorneys for drafting into a patent application as early as June 2006.

[910](#). A provisional application according to this invention was filed on 11 Dec 2006 as USSN 60/876,868.

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 are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

### **REDLINE PREPARATION NOTES**

This is a comparison of only the text of the '252 and '794 Declarations of Steven Altamura. The heading and signature blocks have been omitted from the comparison. Exhibits A-D of the '794 Declaration, but Exhibits A-D were not included in the '252 Declaration despite being referenced within the text of the '252 Declaration.

The comparison was performed by Microsoft Word using the '252 Declaration as the original (base) document and the '794 Declaration as the revised document.

It is also noted that both the '252 and '794 Declarations state the filing date of the USSN 60/876,868 provisional patent application is December 11, 2006. The file history of the applications reflects the filing date of the '868 provisional patent as being December 22, 2006.