IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

NL GIKEN INC., Plaintiff, v. APPLE INC., Defendant.	Civil Action No. 1:24-cv-00013-MN

SCHEDULING ORDER

This 19th day of June, 2024, ~~the Court having conducted an initial Rule 16(b) scheduling conference pursuant to Local Rule 16.1(b), and~~ the parties having determined after discussion that the matter cannot be resolved at this juncture by settlement, voluntary mediation, or binding arbitration; MN

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Rule 26(a)(l) Initial Disclosures and E-Discovery Default Standard. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, the parties shall make their initial disclosures pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(l) within thirty (30) days of the date the Court enters this Order. If they have not already done so, the parties are to review the Court's Default Standard for Discovery, Including Discovery of Electronically Stored Information (''ESI"), which is posted at http://www.ded.uscourts.gov (*see* Other Resources, Default Standard for Discovery) and is incorporated herein by reference.

2. Joinder of Other Parties and Amendment of Pleadings. All motions to join other parties, and to amend or supplement the pleadings, shall be filed on or before **December 20, 2024**. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, any motion to join a party or motion to amend the

pleadings shall be made pursuant to the procedures set forth in Paragraphs 8(g) and 9.

3. Application to Court for Protective Order. Should counsel find it will be necessary to apply to the Court for a protective order specifying terms and conditions for the disclosure of confidential information, counsel should confer and attempt to reach an agreement on a proposed form of order and submit it to the Court within thirty (30) days from the date the Court enters this Order. Should counsel be unable to reach an agreement on a proposed form of order, counsel must follow the provisions of Paragraph 8(g) below.

Any proposed protective order must include the following paragraph:

> Other Proceedings. By entering this order and limiting the disclosure of information in this case, the Court does not intend to preclude another court from finding that information may be relevant and subject to disclosure in another case. Any person or party subject to this order who becomes subject to a motion to disclose another party's information designated "confidential" [the parties should list any other level of designation, such as "highly confidential," which may be provided for in the protective order] pursuant to this order shall promptly notify that party of the motion so that the party may have an opportunity to appear and be heard on whether that information should be disclosed.

4. Papers Filed Under Seal. In accordance with section G of the Revised Administrative Procedures Governing Filing and Service by Electronic Means, a redacted version of any sealed document shall be filed electronically within seven (7) days of the filing of the sealed document.

5. Courtesy Copies. The parties shall provide to the Court two (2) courtesy copies of all briefs and any other document filed in support of any briefs (*i.e.*, appendices, exhibits, declarations, affidavits etc.). This provision also applies to papers filed under seal. All courtesy copies shall be double-sided.

6. Disclosures. Absent agreement among the parties, and approval of the Court:

(a) By **July 12, 2024**, Plaintiff shall identify the accused product(s), including accused methods and systems, and its damages model, as well as the asserted patent(s) that the

accused product(s) allegedly infringe(s). Plaintiff shall also produce the file history for each asserted patent.

(b) By **August 23, 2024**, Defendant shall produce core technical documents related to the accused product(s), sufficient to show how the accused product(s) work(s), including but not limited to non-publicly available operation manuals, product literature, schematics, and specifications. Defendant shall also produce sales figures for the accused product(s).

(c) By **October 4, 2024**, Plaintiff shall produce an initial claim chart relating each known accused product to the asserted claims each such product allegedly infringes.

(d) By **November 15, 2024**, Defendant shall produce its initial invalidity contentions for each asserted claim, as well as the known related invalidating references.

(e) By **March 31, 2025**, Plaintiff shall provide final infringement contentions.

(f) By **April 28, 2025**, Defendant shall provide final invalidity contentions.

7. Claim and Prior Art Reduction.

(a) By **May 23, 2025**, Plaintiff shall serve an initial election of asserted claims, which shall assert no more than forty (40) total asserted claims, and no more than 10 claims per patent.

(b) By **June 6, 2025**, Defendant shall serve an initial election of asserted prior art references, which shall identify no more than sixty (60) total asserted prior art references, and no more than 15 references per patent.[1]

[1] For purposes of this Order, a prior art instrumentality (such as a device or process) and associated references that describe that instrumentality shall count as one reference, as shall the closely related work of a single prior artist.

(c) By **September 23, 2025**, Plaintiff shall serve a final election of asserted claims, which shall narrow the previously-asserted claims to no more than twenty-five (25) total asserted claims, and no more than 7 claims per patent.

(d) By **September 30, 2025**, Defendant shall serve a final election of asserted prior art references, which shall narrow the previously-identified prior art references to no more than thirty-five (35) total asserted prior art references, and no more than 10 references per patent.

(e) The limitations and deadlines in this Paragraph may be modified only by agreement of the parties, or by Court order upon a showing of diligence, good cause, and with due consideration for prejudice.

8. Discovery. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or agreed to by parties, the limitations on discovery set forth in the Federal Rules shall be strictly observed.

(a) Fact Discovery Cut Off. All fact discovery in this case shall be initiated so that it will be completed on or before **June 2, 2025**.

(b) Document Production. Document production shall be substantially complete by **February 13, 2025**.

(c) Requests for Admission. A maximum of 25 requests for admission are permitted for each side.

(d) Interrogatories.

i. A maximum of **30** interrogatories, including contention interrogatories, are permitted for each side.

ii. The Court encourages the parties to serve and respond to contention interrogatories early in the case. In the absence of agreement among the parties, contention interrogatories, if filed, shall first be addressed by the party with the burden of proof.

The adequacy of all interrogatory answers shall be judged by the level of detail each party provides (*i.e.*, the more detail a party provides, the more detail a party shall receive).

(e) Depositions.

i. Limitation on Hours for Deposition Discovery. Each side is limited to a total of **77** hours of taking testimony by deposition upon oral examination.

ii. Location of Depositions. Any party or representative (officer, director, or managing agent) of a party filing a civil action in this district court must ordinarily be required, upon request, to submit to a deposition at a place designated within this district. Exceptions to this general rule may be made by order of the Court. A defendant who becomes a counterclaimant, cross-claimant, or third-party plaintiff shall be considered as having filed an action in this Court for the purpose of this provision.

(f) Disclosure of Expert Testimony.

i. Expert Reports. For the party who has the initial burden of proof on the subject matter, the initial Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2) disclosure of expert testimony is due on or before **October 7, 2025**. The supplemental disclosure to contradict or rebut evidence on the same matter identified by another party is due on or before **November 4, 2025**. Reply expert reports from the party with the initial burden of proof are due on or before **December 9, 2025**. No other expert reports will be permitted without either the consent of all parties or leave of the Court. Along with the submissions of the expert reports, the parties shall advise of the dates and times of their experts' availability for deposition.

ii. Expert Report Supplementation. The parties agree they **will** permit expert declarations to be filed in connection with motions briefing (including case-dispositive

motions), but the declarations cannot exceed the scope of the relevant expert reports if the expert reports have already been served.

iii. Objections to Expert Testimony. To the extent any objection to expert testimony is made pursuant to the principles announced in *Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.,* 509 U.S. 579 (1993), as incorporated in Federal Rule of Evidence 702, it shall be made by motion no later than the deadline for dispositive motions set forth herein, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Briefing on such motions is subject to the page limits set out in connection with briefing of case dispositive motions.

iv. Expert Discovery Cut-Off. All expert discovery in this case shall be initiated so that it will be completed on or before **December 22, 2025**.

(g) Discovery Matters and Disputes Relating to Protective Orders.

i. Any discovery motion filed without first complying with the following procedures will be denied without prejudice to renew pursuant to these procedures.

ii. Should counsel find, after a reasonable effort pursuant to Local Rule 7.1.1 that they are unable to resolve a discovery matter or a dispute relating to a protective order, the parties involved in the discovery matter or protective order dispute shall contact the Court's Judicial Administrator to schedule an argument.

iii. On a date to be set by separate order, generally not less than four (4) days prior to the conference, the party seeking relief shall file with the Court a letter, not to exceed three (3) pages, outlining the issues in dispute and its position on those issues. On a date to be set by separate order, but generally not less than three (3) days prior to the conference, any party opposing the application for relief may file a letter, not to exceed three (3) pages, outlining that party's reasons for its opposition.

iv. The parties shall provide to the Court two (2) courtesy copies of its discovery letter and any other document filed in support of any letter (i.e., appendices, exhibits, declarations, affidavits etc.). This provision also applies to papers filed under seal. All courtesy copies shall be double-sided.

v. Should the Court find further briefing necessary upon conclusion of the conference, the Court will order it. Alternatively, the Court may choose to resolve the dispute prior to the conference and will, in that event, cancel the conference.

9. Motions to Amend / Motions to Strike.

(a) Any motion to amend (including a motion for leave to amend) a pleading or any motion to strike any pleading or other document shall be made pursuant to the discovery dispute procedure set forth in Paragraph 8(g) above.

(b) Any such motion shall attach the proposed amended pleading as well as a "redline" comparison to the prior pleading or attach the document to be stricken.

10. Technology Tutorials. Although technology tutorials are not required by the Court, they are appreciated and, if any party chooses to file such a tutorial, it shall be submitted on or before the date that the Joint Claim Construction Brief is filed.

11. Claim Construction Issue Identification. On **February 18, 2025**, the parties shall exchange a list of those claim term(s)/phrase(s) that they believe need construction and their proposed claim construction of those term(s)/phrase(s). This document will not be filed with the Court. Subsequent to exchanging that list, the parties will meet and confer to prepare a Joint Claim Construction Chart to be submitted two weeks prior to service of the opening claim construction brief. The parties' Joint Claim Construction Chart should identify for the Court the term(s)/phrase(s) of the claim(s) in issue, and should include each party's proposed construction

of the disputed claim language with citation(s) only to the intrinsic evidence in support of their respective proposed constructions. Intrinsic evidence (including copies of the patent(s) at issue) shall NOT be attached to the joint claim construction chart and, instead, the parties shall include a joint appendix with the joint claim construction brief, and the joint appendix shall include a copy of the patent(s) at issue and portions of all relevant intrinsic evidence that would have otherwise been included with the joint claim construction chart, as well as any additional evidence cited in the parties' briefing.

12. Claim Construction Briefing. The Plaintiff shall serve, but not file, its opening brief, not to exceed 20 pages, on **June 25, 2025**. The Defendant shall serve, but not file, its answering brief, not to exceed 30 pages, on **July 18, 2025**. The Plaintiff shall serve, but not file, its reply brief, not to exceed 20 pages, on **August 1, 2025**. The Defendant shall serve, but not file, their sur-reply brief, not to exceed 10 pages, on **August 15, 2025**. No later than **August 22, 2025**, the parties shall file a Joint Claim Construction Brief. The parties shall copy and paste their unfiled briefs into one brief, with their positions on each claim term in sequential order, in substantially the form below. If the joint brief as submitted is more than 80 pages, the parties must certify that the page limits (or equivalent word counts) in the Scheduling Order have been complied with and provide a brief explanation (e.g., formatting issues, listing of agreed-upon terms) as to why the brief is longer than 80 pages.

JOINT CLAIM CONSTRUCTION BRIEF

I. Agreed-Upon Constructions

II. Disputed Constructions

[TERM 1]

1. Plaintiff's Opening Position

2. Defendants' Answering Position

3. Plaintiff's Reply Position

4. Defendants' Sur-Reply Position

[TERM 2]

1. Plaintiff's Opening Position

2. Defendants' Answering Position

3. Plaintiff's Reply Position

4. Defendants' Sur-Reply Position

The parties need not include any general summaries of the law relating to claim construction. If there are any materials that would be submitted in an index, the parties shall submit them in a Joint Appendix.

13. Hearing on Claim Construction. **On or about September 16, 2025**, the Court will hear argument on claim construction, to be coordinated with the claim construction hearing in *NL Giken Inc. v. Amazon.com Inc., et al.*, C.A. No. 24-28. The parties need not include any general summaries of the law relating to claim construction in their presentations to the Court. The parties shall notify the Court, by joint letter submission, no later than the date on which their joint claim construction brief is filed: (i) whether they request leave to present testimony at the hearing; and (ii) the amount of time they are requesting be allocated to them for the hearing.

Provided that the parties comply with all portions of this Scheduling Order, and any other orders of the Court, the parties should anticipate that the Court will issue its claim construction order within sixty (60) days of the conclusion of the claim construction hearing. If the Court is unable to meet this goal, it will advise the parties no later than sixty (60) days after the conclusion of the claim construction hearing.

14. Supplementation. Absent agreement among the parties, and approval of the Court, no later than **March 3, 2025** the parties must finally supplement, *inter alia,* the identification of all accused products and of all invalidity references.

15. Case Dispositive Motions.

(a) All case dispositive motions, an opening brief, and affidavits, if any, in support of the motion shall be served and filed on or before **January 13, 2026**.** Briefing will be presented pursuant to the Court's Local Rules. No case dispositive motion under Rule 56 may be filed more than ten (10) days before the above date without leave of the Court.

(b) Concise Statement of Facts Requirement. Any motion for summary judgment shall be accompanied by a separate concise statement, not to exceed six (6) pages, which details each material fact which the moving party contends is essential for the Court's resolution of the summary judgment motion (not the entire case) and as to which the moving party contends there is no genuine issue to be tried. Each fact shall be set forth in a separate numbered paragraph and shall be supported by specific citation(s) to the record.

Any party opposing the motion shall include with its opposing papers a response to the moving party's concise statement, not to exceed six (6) pages, which admits or disputes the facts set forth in the moving party's concise statement on a paragraph-by-paragraph basis. To the extent a fact is disputed, the basis of the dispute shall be supported by specific citation(s) to the record. Failure to respond to a fact presented in the moving party's concise statement of facts shall indicate that fact is not in dispute for purposes of summary judgment. The party opposing the motion may also include with its opposing papers a separate concise statement, not to exceed four (4) pages, which sets forth material facts as to which the opposing party contends there is a

** **Per the attached chart, answering briefs shall be filed and served on or before February 6, 2026 and reply briefs on February 20, 2026.**

genuine issue to be tried. Each fact asserted by the opposing party shall also be set forth in a separate numbered paragraph and shall be supported by specific citation(s) to the record.

The moving party shall include with its reply papers a response to the opposing party's concise statement of facts, not to exceed four (4) pages, on a paragraph-by-paragraph basis. Failure to respond to a fact presented in the opposing party's concise statement of facts shall indicate that fact remains in dispute for purposes of summary judgment.

(c) Page limits combined with Daubert motion page limits. Each party is permitted to file as many case dispositive motions as desired provided, however, that each ***SIDE*** will be limited to a combined total of 40 pages for all opening briefs, a combined total of 40 pages for all answering briefs, and a combined total of 20 pages for all reply briefs regardless of the number of case dispositive motions that are filed. In the event that a party files, in addition to a case dispositive motion, a Daubert motion to exclude or preclude all or any portion of an expert's testimony, the total amount of pages permitted for all case dispositive and Daubert motions shall be increased to 50 pages for all opening briefs, 50 pages for all answering briefs, and 25 pages for all reply briefs for each ***SIDE***.[2]

16. Applications by Motion. Except as otherwise specified herein, any application to the Court shall be by written motion. Any non-dispositive motion should contain the statement required by Local Rule 7.1.1.

17. Motions *in Limine.* Motions *in limine* shall not be separately filed. All *in limine* requests and responses thereto shall be set forth in the proposed pretrial order. Each ***SIDE*** shall

[2] The parties must work together to ensure that the Court receives no more than a total of 250 pages (i.e., 50 + 50 + 25 regarding one side's motions, and 50 + 50 + 25 regarding the other side's motions) of briefing on all case dispositive motions and *Daubert* motions that are covered by this scheduling order and any other scheduling order entered in any related case that is proceeding on a consolidated or coordinated pretrial schedule.

be limited to three (3) *in limine* requests, unless otherwise permitted by the Court. The *in limine* request and any response shall contain the authorities relied upon; each *in limine* request may be supported by a maximum of three (3) pages of argument, may be opposed by a maximum of three (3) pages of argument, and the side making the *in limine* request may add a maximum of one (l) additional page in reply in support of its request. If more than one party is supporting or opposing an *in limine* request, such support or opposition shall be combined in a single three (3) page submission (and, if the moving party, a single one (1) page reply), unless otherwise ordered by the Court. No separate briefing shall be submitted on *in limine* requests, unless otherwise permitted by the Court.

18. Trial Scheduling Conference[3] and Pretrial Conference. On **April 21, 2026** beginning at 4:30 PM, the Court will hold a trial scheduling conference to discuss trial logistics and the order of trial. The parties shall submit their proposals no less than 2 business days before the conference.

On **June 15, 2026**, the Court will hold a pretrial conference in Court with counsel beginning at 2:00 PM. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the parties should assume that filing the pretrial order satisfies the pretrial disclosure requirement of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(3). The parties shall file with the Court the joint proposed final pretrial order in compliance with Local Rule 16.3(c) and the Court's Preferences and Procedures for Civil Cases not later than seven (7) days before the pretrial conference. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the parties shall comply with the timeframes set forth in Local Rule 16.3(d)(1)-(3) for the preparation of the joint proposed final pretrial order.

[3] This conference is not in the Court's form scheduling order but is a joint suggestion of the parties.

The parties shall provide the Court two (2) double-sided courtesy copies of the joint proposed final pretrial order and all attachments. The proposed final pretrial order shall contain a table of contents and the paragraphs shall be numbered.

19. Jury Instructions, Voir Dire, and Special Verdict Forms. Where a case is to be tried to a jury, pursuant to Local Rules 47.1(a)(2) and 51.1 the parties should file (i) proposed voir dire, (ii) preliminary jury instructions, (iii) final jury instructions, and (iv) special verdict forms seven (7) calendar days before the final pretrial conference. This submission shall be accompanied by a courtesy copy containing electronic files of these documents, in Microsoft Word format, which may be submitted by e-mail to mn_civil@ded.uscourts.gov.

20. Trial. This matter is scheduled for a five-day jury trial beginning at 9:30 a.m. on **June 22, 2026**, with the subsequent trial days beginning at 9:00 a.m. Until the case is submitted to the jury for deliberations, the jury will be excused each day at 4:30 p.m. The trial will be timed, as counsel will be allocated a total number of hours in which to present their respective cases.

21. Judgment on Verdict and Post-Trial Status Report. Within seven (7) days after a jury returns a verdict in any portion of a jury trial, the parties shall jointly submit a form of order to enter judgment on the verdict. At the same time, the parties shall submit a joint status report, indicating among other things how the case should proceed and listing any post-trial motions each party intends to file.

22. Post-Trial Motions. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, all ***SIDES*** are limited to a maximum of 20 pages of opening briefs, 20 pages of answering briefs, and 10 pages of reply briefs relating to any post-trial motions filed by that side, no matter how many such motions are filed.

Maryellen Noreika

The Honorable Maryellen Noreika
United States District Judge

Chart of All Relevant Deadlines

EVENT	DEADLINE
Rule 26(a)(1) initial disclosures (¶ 1)	30 days following entry of schedule
Application to Court for protective order (¶ 3)	30 days following entry of schedule
Initial disclosures per the Court's Default Standard for Discovery, Including Discovery of Electronically Stored Information ("ESI")	30 days following entry of schedule
Plaintiff to identify accused method(s) and/or products, its damages model, asserted patents, and produce file histories (¶ 6.a)	July 12, 2024
Defendant to produce core technical documents and sales figures of accused method(s) and/or products (¶ 6.b)	August 23, 2024
Plaintiff to provide an initial infringement claim chart (¶ 6.c)	October 4, 2024
Defendant to provide initial invalidity contentions (¶ 6.d)	November 15, 2024
Defendant's initial non-infringement contentions (D.I. 26)	November 15, 2024
Plaintiff's initial validity contentions (D.I. 26)	December 20, 2024
Joinder of other parties and amendment of pleadings (¶ 2)	December 20, 2024
Document production substantially complete (¶ 8.b)	February 13, 2025
Exchange list of claim terms (¶ 11)	February 18, 2025
Parties exchange initial proposed constructions (¶ 11)	February 28, 2025
Parties to supplement identification of all accused products and of all invalidity references (¶ 14)	March 3, 2025
Meet and confer regarding proposed constructions (¶ 11)	March 7, 2025
Plaintiff to provide final infringement contentions and identification of accused products (¶ 6.e)	March 31, 2025
Defendant to provide final invalidity contentions and identification of invalidity references (¶ 6.f)	April 28, 2025

EVENT	DEADLINE
Plaintiff to provide final validity contentions and Defendant to provide final noninfringement contentions (D.I. 26)	Non-infringement: April 28, 2025 Validity: May 23, 2025
Plaintiff to provide initial election of asserted claims (¶ 7.a)	May 23, 2025
Submit joint claim construction chart (¶ 11)	May 30, 2025
Fact discovery cut off (¶ 8.a)	June 2, 2025
Defendant to provide initial election of prior art references (¶ 7.b)	June 6, 2025
Serve Plaintiff's opening claim construction brief (20 pages) (¶ 12)	June 25, 2025
Serve Defendant's answering claim construction brief (30 pages) (¶ 12)	July 18, 2025
Serve Plaintiff's reply claim construction brief (20 pages) (¶ 12)	August 1, 2025
Serve Defendant's sur-reply claim construction brief (10 pages) (¶ 12)	August 15, 2025
File joint claim construction brief (¶ 12); joint letter re: live testimony and amount of time for the claim construction hearing (¶ 13); technology tutorial (¶ 10)	August 22, 2025
Claim construction hearing	September 16, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
Plaintiff to provide final election of asserted claims (¶ 7.c)	September 23, 2025
Defendant to provide final election of prior art references (¶ 7.d)	September 30, 2025
Opening expert reports (¶ 8.f.i)	October 7, 2025
Responsive expert reports (¶ 8.f.i)	November 4, 2025
Reply expert reports (¶ 8.f.i)	December 9, 2025

EVENT	DEADLINE
Expert discovery cut off (¶ 8.f.iv)	December 22, 2025
Case-dispositive motions and opening briefs (¶ 15.a); *Daubert* motions and opening briefs (¶ 8.f.iii)	January 13, 2026
Responses to case-dispositive motions and *Daubert* motions (¶¶ 8.f.iii, 15.a)	February 6, 2026
Replies in support of case-dispositive motions and *Daubert* motions (¶¶ 8.f.iii, 15.a)	February 20, 2026
Trial Scheduling Conference (¶ 18)	April 21, 2026 at 4:30 PM
Jury instructions, voir dire, and special verdict forms (¶ 19)	7 calendar days before pretrial conference
Joint proposed pretrial order (¶ 18; Local Rule 16.3(c))	7 calendar days before pretrial conference
Pretrial conference (¶ 18)	June 15, 2026 at 2:00 PM
Jury trial (¶ 20) (estimated five days)	June 22, 2026