

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

YEALINK (USA) NETWORK TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD., and
YEALINK NETWORK TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD.
Petitioners,

v.

BARCO N.V.
Patent Owner

U.S. Patent No. 11,422,951
IPR2024-01439

**REPLY TO
PATENT OWNER PRELIMINARY RESPONSE**

Petitioner submits this Reply to address Patent Owner’s (1) argument that the Board should exercise its discretionary to deny institution, and (2) attorney argument that the prior art in the Petition does not disclose the “*an input device*” limitation. Both of Patent Owner’s arguments lack merit.

I. Discretionary Denial Is Inappropriate.

Discretionary denial is inappropriate because the Office neither considered nor discussed the prior art from the grounds of unpatentability. Pet., 84–86. Therefore, the *Advanced Bionics* analysis should end there. Patent Owner essentially argues that prior art in a related field of endeavor (*i.e.*, Banerjee and Epstein discussing universal plug-and-play and collaboration software) considered during a reexamination of a parent patent is *per se* “substantially the same” because the prior art disclose a “similar system” POPR 62, 64. But under this logic, the Office would routinely, if not always, deny IPR institution because all challenged patents, or their parent applications, would have had such prior art directed to “similar systems.” Not surprisingly, Patent Owner cites no authority in support of its argument.

“Substantially the same” requires more than the prior art being in a similar field of endeavor. *Agrofresh Solutions, Inc. v. Lytone Enterprise, Inc.*, IPR2021-00451, Paper 11, 11–13 (PTAB July 27, 2021). The prior art in this IPR has materially different disclosure, inventors, and assignees. Patent Owner’s attorney argument that the prior art is “similar” does not warrant discretionary denial.

II. The Prior Art in the IPR Renders Obvious “*an input device ... that triggers transfer of said user selected arbitrary media content from the transmitter to the wireless communications network.*”

A. Ground I – Ono in Combination with Corbett

Ono discloses, “transmit[ing] the image information signal ... to ... the projector 60” in response to pressing a key on the remote control 69. Pet., 31–33 (citing, *e.g.*, Ex-1005, ¶82–83, 88); *see also*, Pet., 26, (FIG. 1 illustrating transmitting image of a vehicle; and FIG. 9, “IMAGE TRANSFER” step of the “connection process.”). Patent Owner is incorrect that pressing the key on the remote control is only “used to select the desired information terminal apparatus to request connection.” POPR, 23. Instead, pressing the key results in an “image transfer.” Ex-1005, FIG. 9. Corbett further teaches that the “*input device*” can be on the “*peripheral device.*” Pet., 21–22 (citing Ex-1007, FIG. 1, ¶23 (“transfer of data through the transmitter 122 may be initiated through selection of one or more selectors 130 of the USB flash drive.”). Therefore, Ono in combination with Corbett renders obvious the “*input device*” limitation.

Patent Owner makes a second incorrect and irrelevant argument that “connecting to a network brings the danger of virus, malware or spyware transfer in either direction, and there is danger of copying of confidential information.” POPR, 24 (citing Ex-1001, 3:3–6). There is nothing in the claims of the ’951 patent

addressing this issue. Moreover, the claims expressly require transferring the media content “*to the wireless communications network.*”

Finally, Patent Owner is incorrect that there is no reason why the POSA would have combined Ono and Corbett. The Petition explained that, before the priority date of the '951 patent, both Ono and Corbett described input devices and various places where they could be. Pet., 18–23. There were also a finite number of locations to place the input devices with a reasonable expectation of success to achieve “predictable variations.” *Id.*; *see also*, MPEP § 2143.I.E. Therefore, the Petition provided multiple reasons why known techniques using a finite number of predictable solutions could improve Ono’s system by moving the “*input device.*”

B. Ground II – Uchida in Combination with Grimshaw

Uchida teaches that after activating “image transfer stop switch 140” the client computer “executes an image transfer application and transmits a request to the image projection device 3 ... to project a specific image ... on the image projection 50 device 3.” Pet., 57–58 (citing, Ex-1009, ¶71). The Petition further explained that Uchida combined with Grimshaw renders obvious that multiple users can push buttons on user modules to trigger transmission of image data. Pet., 47–49. To be sure, Grimshaw discloses:

a user may engage or push a button 344, 354, 364, 374 on their user module in order to take control of display module 22 (e.g., display

module 22 could show whatever is currently being displayed on the screen of the laptop computer connected to the selected user module).

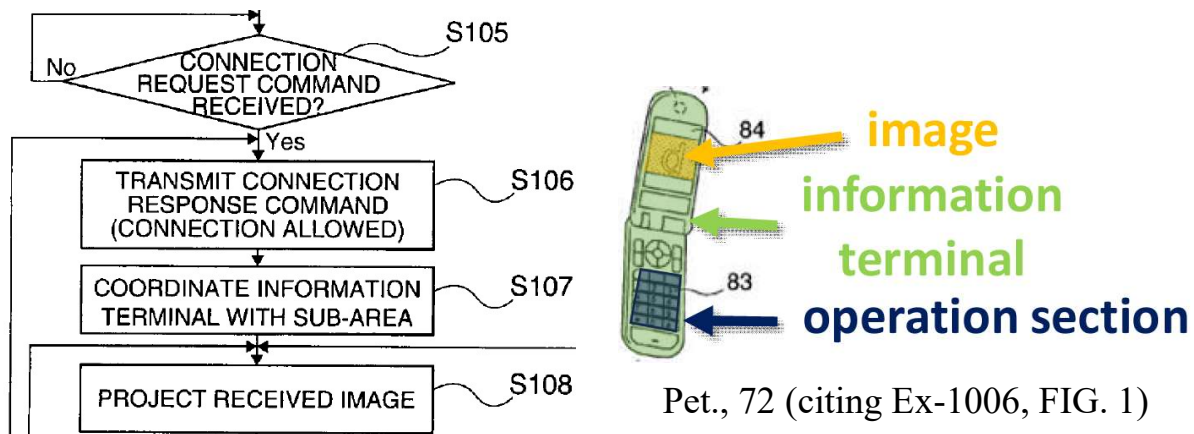
Ex-1008, ¶¶19–20; Ex-1012, 5:8–6:17. Therefore, the combination of Uchida and Grimshaw renders obvious the “*input device*” limitation.

The Petition also explained that the POSA would have found it obvious to combine Uchida and Grimshaw to solve the problem of multiple users “vying for control of the display.” Pet., 46–49. Therefore, the modification of Uchida to include an input device to trigger transfer of image data would have been a simple modification using known methods to achieve the predictable result of allowing multiple users to “show whatever is currently being displayed on [their] laptop computer.” Pet., 46–49 (citing Ex-1008, ¶¶19–20; Ex-1002, ¶¶164–168).

Finally, Patent Owner provided no basis for the attorney argument that Uchida combined with Grimshaw would not “prevent image data from being erroneously sent from a computer device.” POPR, 42, 46. Neither the ’951 patent nor the prior art references express any concern about such errors. Indeed, nothing in the claims or the disclosure of the ’951 patent would prevent the same error. Uchida identifies a “security risk” when “the wireless communication setting information remains on the computer device.” Ex-1009, ¶12. Combining Uchida and Grimshaw would not affect this security risk because Grimshaw does not require storing wireless settings on the computer. Therefore, this erroneous transmission argument lacks foundation.

C. Ground III – Ichieda

Ichieda teaches a flow chart having steps S105–S108 referring to a “connection request” (S105) resulting in “project[ing] the received image” (S108) Pet., 77 (citing Ex-1006, FIG. 3, ¶¶81–83):



Ex-1006, FIG. 3.

The Petition explains that an operation section 83 (*e.g.*, keypad) can be the “*input device*” that initiates the connection request. Pet., 77. Patent Owner focused on a different embodiment that uses a QR code. POPR, 50–56. The Petition did not rely on the QR code *per se* and instead focused on using the operation section embodiment as a “connection button” or request as illustrated in FIG. 3.

III. Conclusion

The Petition therefore presents a reasonable likelihood that the claims are unpatentable because they rely on new, non-cumulative prior art rendering obvious the claims, including the “*input device*” limitations.

Dated: January 31, 2025

By: /Stephen Yang/
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 Reg. No. 70,589

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 31, 2025, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Reply to Patent Owner Preliminary response at the following email addresses:

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Dated: January 31, 2025

Respectfully submitted,
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