

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

RØDE MICROPHONES, LLC AND
FREEDMAN ELECTRONICS PTY LTD,
Petitioners

v.

ZAXCOM, INC.,
Patent Owner

Case IPR2025-00230
U.S. Patent 7,711,443

DECLARATION OF JEFFREY S. WEXLER

Exhibit 2126

1. I, Jeffrey S. Wexler have been asked by counsel for Patent Owner Zaxcom, Inc. ("Zaxcom") to provide this declaration to describe my experience with the Zaxcom products that embody Zaxcom's U.S. Patent 7,711,443 ("the '443 Patent") including, without limitation, the Zaxcom TRX900 series of products. I am above the age of eighteen and capable of making this declaration. All statements set forth herein are true and correct and based on my personal knowledge.

2. I have been working in the motion picture and television industry for 48 years, primarily as a Production Sound Mixer. I have been nominated twice for an Academy Award for "The Last Samurai" and "Independence Day." I won the British Academy Award for Cameron Crowe's "Almost Famous." I was honored with the Cinema Audio Society's Career Achievement Award and completed over 80 feature films. I also received an Emmy nomination for "61*"

3. I have owned and used almost every piece of professional sound recording equipment, always striving to find the most useful tools for the job. The primary and fundamental responsibility of a Production Sound Mixer is to capture the performance of the talent, authentic on the day of filming, at the

moment of recording, providing post production tracks that will form the basis of the final soundtrack.

4. For the first ten years or so of my career, the use of wireless microphones on most jobs was an occasional thing. Over the years, wireless technology improved considerably and trends in production, such as increasing the use of multiple cameras, practical locations, car-to-car filming, tended to make reliance on wireless technology vital. Coupled with these trends was the shrinking spectrum of RF channels we were permitted to use for filming, as well as the overall crowding and proliferation of wireless devices in use in production.

5. Zaxcom produced the first wireless systems designed specifically for our usage in sound for picture that utilized digital RF transmission. This went a long way in solving some of the problems associated with frequency allocation. Soon after introducing digital wireless transmitters, Zaxcom developed a transmitter that had recording capability. When I first used the recording wireless transmitters, I hadn't really thought about what a significant achievement this was or how useful it might be. I soon realized that this was truly a "game changer" for my work (a term I rarely use because it is often over used by others).

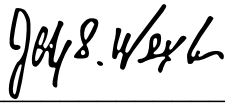
6. Each Zaxcom transmitter can digitally locally record the output of the microphone in the talent's bodypack along with transmitting the audio signal to the remote receiver. If there is a drop out of the RF signal, the identical local recording in the transmitter bodypack can be used by post production to repair the dropout. If there is a failure of the primary recording, the track recorded by the transmitter is a perfect backup recording. I have been in many situations where for a variety of reasons there have been RF dropouts and in some cases the wireless on the talent has moved way out of range, something that happens all too often when working with moving cars, moving shots or ambitious and unplanned scenes. In the past, prior to the ability to locally record audio while simultaneously transmitting the audio to the remote receiver/recorder, the audio would be lost forever in these situations. With the Zaxcom recording transmitters, the backup recording of the audio will always be available directly from the transmitter after filming. I have done scenes where the actors have gone out of wireless range, resulting in no audio at the remote receiver, but when the transmitters are back in range, I have played back the full track from the transmitters, re-mixed the audio, and delivered it to post

production. The microSD cards from the transmitter can be directly delivered to post production engineers for their use as well.

7. As use of wireless microphones increased dramatically, reliance on RF transmission became even more problematic - often an otherwise perfect take is useless because of RF transmission hits. With Zaxcom's brilliant invention of creating a backup recording while simultaneously transmitting the audio to a remote receiver/recorder, I had the fool-proof solution that I could only have imagined. Using the digital recording wireless transmitter with backup recording, I had the assurance and confidence that I could always deliver a track to post production even in those situations where there were failures of the RF transmission. Zaxcom was the first and only company to provide this; nothing else even came close. I would never want to be without this function, because it has allowed me to deliver audio to post production in a manner in which no other product is able to provide even today.

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury 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. I understand that willfully false statements and the like are punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

Executed on September 2 in Santa Monica CA 90405 .

By: 

Jeffrey S. Wexler