**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
**FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**
**MARSHALL DIVISION**

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| Stratasys, Inc.,<br><br>*Plaintiff*,<br><br>v.<br><br>Shenzhen Tuozhu Technology Co., Ltd., *et al.*,<br><br>*Defendants*. | §<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§ | Case No. 2:24-cv-00644-JRG<br>(Lead Case) |

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| Stratasys, Inc.,<br><br>*Plaintiff*,<br><br>v.<br><br>Shenzhen Tuozhu Technology Co., Ltd., *et al.*,<br><br>*Defendants*. | §<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§<br>§ | Case No. 2:24-cv-00645-JRG<br>(Member Case) |

**DISCOVERY ORDER**

After a review of the pleaded claims and defenses in this action, in furtherance of the management of the Court's docket under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16, and after receiving the input of the parties to this action, it is ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

**1. Initial Disclosures.** In lieu of the disclosures required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1), each party shall disclose to every other party the following information:

(a) the correct names of the parties to the lawsuit;

(b) the name, address, and telephone number of any potential parties;

(c) the legal theories and, in general, the factual bases of the disclosing party's claims or defenses (the disclosing party need not marshal all evidence that may be offered at trial);

(d) the name, address, and telephone number of persons having knowledge of relevant facts, a brief statement of each identified person's connection with the case, and a brief, fair summary of the substance of the information known by any such person;

(e) any indemnity and insuring agreements under which any person or entity carrying on an insurance business may be liable to satisfy part or all of a judgment entered in this action or to indemnify or reimburse for payments made to satisfy the judgment;

(f) any settlement agreements relevant to the subject matter of this action; and

(g) any statement of any party to the litigation.

2. **Disclosure of Expert Testimony.**[1] A party must disclose to the other parties the identity of any witness it may use at trial to present evidence under Federal Rule of Evidence 702, 703 or 705, and:

(a) if the witness is one retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony in the case or one whose duties as the party's employee regularly involve giving expert testimony, provide the disclosures required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B) and Local Rule CV-26; and

(b) for all other such witnesses, provide the disclosure required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(C).

[1] All expert reports should be written such that the report is organized with discrete paragraph numbers.

**3. Additional Disclosures.** Without awaiting a discovery request,[2] each party will make the following disclosures to every other party:

(a) provide the disclosures required by the Patent Rules for the Eastern District of Texas with the following modifications to P.R. 3-1 and P.R. 3-3:

i. If a party claiming patent infringement asserts that a claim element is a software limitation, the party need not comply with P.R. 3-1 for those claim elements until 30 days after source code for each Accused Instrumentality is produced by the opposing party. Thereafter, the party claiming patent infringement shall identify, on an element-by-element basis for each asserted claim, what source code of each Accused Instrumentality allegedly satisfies the software limitations of the asserted claim elements.

ii. If a party claiming patent infringement exercises the provisions of Paragraph 3(a)(i) of this Discovery Order, the party opposing a claim of patent infringement may serve, not later than 30 days after receipt of a Paragraph 3(a)(i) disclosure, supplemental "Invalidity Contentions" that amend only those claim elements identified as software limitations by the party claiming patent infringement.

(b) produce or permit the inspection of all documents, electronically stored information, and tangible things in the possession, custody, or control of the party that are relevant to the pleaded claims or defenses involved in this action, except to

[2] The Court anticipates that this disclosure requirement will obviate the need for requests for production.

the extent these disclosures are affected by the time limits set forth in the Patent Rules for the Eastern District of Texas; and

(c) provide a complete computation of any category of damages claimed by any party to the action, and produce or permit the inspection of documents or other evidentiary material on which such computation is based, including materials bearing on the nature and extent of injuries suffered, except that the disclosure of the computation of damages may be deferred until the time for Expert Disclosures if a party will rely on a damages expert.

**4. Protective Orders.** The Court will enter the parties' Agreed Protective Order.

**5. Discovery Limitations.** The combined discovery across both member cases (-644 and -645) is limited to the disclosures described in Paragraphs 1-3 together with:

- Interrogatories: Each Side shall be permitted to serve 50 interrogatories on each other.
- Request for Admission: Each Side shall be permitted to serve 50 Requests for admission on each other. Requests for admission directed to document authentication shall be clearly denoted as such. Each Side is permitted an unlimited number of requests for admission directed to document authentication. Prior to serving requests for admission relating to authenticity, the parties agree to meet and confer telephonically to determine whether agreement may be reached before serving such requests.
- Party Depositions Pursuant to 30(b)(6) and 30(b)(1): Each Side is allowed no more than 90 hours of oral deposition of party witnesses (including Rule 30(b)(6) and Rule 30(b)(1) depositions but excluding experts) per opposing Side. For any deposition

requiring the use of a translator, only seventy percent (70%) of the time used will count toward the time limits (for example, 10 hours of translated deposition time would count as 7 hours for purposes of the deposition time limits). No individual deponent will be required to sit for more than seven hours of deposition time per day, regardless of the use of a translator. Counsel should confer in advance to schedule depositions at mutually convenient times and places, or otherwise facilitate depositions by remote means whenever possible. In the case of depositions to be taken in a foreign country, the parties are directed to make efforts to coordinate such depositions to minimize travel burdens and expense incurred by the parties.

- Third Party Depositions: Third party depositions are to be conducted in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Each Side is allowed no more than 70 hours of nonparty depositions. Depositions, including depositions on written questions, of custodians of business records for third parties are also permitted but are not included in the limit on deposition hours per Side set forth above. For any deposition requiring the use of a translator, only seventy percent (70%) of the time used will count toward the time limits (for example, 10 hours of translated deposition time would count as 7 hours for purposes of the deposition time limits).
- Expert Depositions: Depositions of expert witnesses are limited to 7 hours per witness per issue, such as infringement/non-infringement, validity/invalidity, and damages. To the extent an expert is subject to more than seven (7) hours of deposition time, the deposition will not exceed seven (7) hours in one day as set forth in Rule 30(d)(1) unless otherwise agreed to by the parties
- "Side" means a party or a group of parties with a common interest.

- Any party may later move to modify these limitations for good cause.

6. **Privileged Information.** There is no duty to disclose privileged documents or information. However, the parties are directed to meet and confer concerning privileged documents or information after the Status Conference. By the deadline set in the Docket Control Order, the parties shall exchange privilege logs identifying the documents or information and the basis for any disputed claim of privilege in a manner that, without revealing information itself privileged or protected, will enable the other parties to assess the applicability of the privilege or protection. Any party may move the Court for an order compelling the production of any documents or information identified on any other party's privilege log. If such a motion is made, the party asserting privilege shall respond to the motion within the time period provided by Local Rule CV-7. The party asserting privilege shall then file with the Court within 30 days of the filing of the motion to compel any proof in the form of declarations or affidavits to support their assertions of privilege, along with the documents over which privilege is asserted for *in camera* inspection. However, if the party asserting privilege seeks an *in camera* review by the Court, such party shall first obtain leave from the Court prior to delivery of documents to the Court.

7. **Signature.** The disclosures required by this Order shall be made in writing and signed by the party or counsel and shall constitute a certification that, to the best of the signer's knowledge, information and belief, such disclosure is complete and correct as of the time it is made. If feasible, counsel shall meet to exchange disclosures required by this Order; otherwise, such disclosures shall be served as provided by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5. The parties shall promptly file a notice with the Court that the disclosures required under this Order have taken place.

**8. Duty to Supplement.** After disclosure is made pursuant to this Order, each party is under a duty to supplement or correct its disclosures **immediately** if the party obtains information on the basis of which it knows that the information disclosed was either incomplete or incorrect when made, or is no longer complete or true.

**9. Discovery Disputes.**

(a) Except in cases involving claims of privilege, any party entitled to receive disclosures ("Requesting Party") may, after the deadline for making disclosures, serve upon a party required to make disclosures ("Responding Party") a written statement, in letter form or otherwise, of any reason why the Requesting Party believes that the Responding Party's disclosures are insufficient. The written statement shall list, by category, the items the Requesting Party contends should be produced. The parties shall promptly meet and confer. If the parties are unable to resolve their dispute, then the Responding Party shall, within 7 days after service of the written statement upon it, serve upon the Requesting Party a written statement, in letter form or otherwise, which identifies (1) the requested items that will be disclosed, if any, and (2) the reasons why any requested items will not be disclosed. The Requesting Party may thereafter file a motion to compel.

(b) An opposed discovery related motion, or any response thereto, shall not exceed 7 pages. Attachments to a discovery related motion, or a response thereto, shall not exceed 5 pages. No further briefing is allowed absent a request or order from the Court.

(c) Prior to filing any discovery related motion, the parties must fully comply with the substantive and procedural conference requirements of Local Rule CV-7(h) and (i).

Within 72 hours of the Court setting any discovery motion for a hearing, each party's lead attorney (*see* Local Rule CV-11(a)) and local counsel shall meet and confer in person or by telephone, without the involvement or participation of other attorneys, in an effort to resolve the dispute without Court intervention.

(d) Counsel shall promptly notify the Court of the results of that meeting by filing a joint report of no more than two pages. Unless excused by the Court, each party's lead attorney shall attend any discovery motion hearing set by the Court (though the lead attorney is not required to argue the motion).

(e) Any change to a party's lead attorney designation must be accomplished by motion and order.

(f) Counsel are directed to contact the chambers of the undersigned for any "hot-line" disputes before contacting the Discovery Hotline provided by Local Rule CV-26(e). If the undersigned is not available, the parties shall proceed in accordance with Local Rule CV-26(e).

**10.** **No Excuses.** A party is not excused from the requirements of this Discovery Order because it has not fully completed its investigation of the case, or because it challenges the sufficiency of another party's disclosures, or because another party has not made its disclosures. Absent court order to the contrary, a party is not excused from disclosure because there are pending motions to dismiss, to remand or to change venue.

**11.** **Filings.** Only upon request from chambers shall counsel submit to the court courtesy copies of any filings.

**12. Proposed Stipulations by the Parties Regarding Discovery.**

(a) The parties will negotiate in good faith on the terms of an appropriate Order Regarding E-Discovery ("ESI Order") and submit said ESI Order by December 17.

(b) The parties agree to accept service of letters, discovery requests, and other documents (except in the case of document required to be filed with the Court electronically, the service of which is governed by the Local Rules, or documents that are too voluminous for email) via email listserv addresses designated by each of the parties or via email to at least each attorney listed on the docket as attorney of record for the opposing party. The parties further agree that service via this method is deemed to have occurred on the date sent. However, per Local Rule CV-5(d), documents e-mailed after 5:00 p.m. Central Time shall be deemed served on the following day for purposes of calculating a response date to the document served.

(c) The parties agree that in preparing any privilege log (whether pursuant to Paragraph 6 above or otherwise), the preparing party is under no obligation to search for nor to log any privileged document or information that was prepared after the filing of the original complaint.

(d) Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d), the inadvertent production of materials covered by attorney-client privilege or work-product protection shall not operate as a waiver in this or any other federal or state proceeding. Counsel's representation that a disclosure is in advertent shall be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of Federal Rule of Evidence 502(b) that "(1) the disclosure is inadvertent; [and] (2) the holder of the privilege of protection took reasonable steps to prevent disclosure." To the extent any documents are clawed back, the receiving party must certify within 3

business days that all clawed-back documents (and all copies of such documents) have been destroyed. Within 7 business days of that certification, the party clawing-back the documents must serve a privilege log identifying the nature of the privilege at issue. Any challenge to the assertion of privilege shall be governed by Paragraph 6 above.

(e) The parties agree that communications with experts and draft expert reports are not discoverable, subject to the exceptions set forth under the Fed. R. Civ. P. 26.

(f) The parties agree that they will serve each other with copies of any subpoena or deposition notice directed to a third-party. A party who receives documents from a third party will reproduce those documents to the other party within 3 business days. Where reproduction of documents within 3 business days is not possible, the party who received the documents will provide prompt notice to the other party and will work in good faith to resolve the issue on a case-by-case basis. This provision does not alter any provision of the Protective Order to be entered in this case.

**13. Standing Orders.** The parties and counsel are charged with notice of and are required to fully comply with each of the Standing Orders of this Court. Such are posted on the Court's website at http://www.txed.uscourts.gov/?q=court-annexed-mediation-plan. The substance of some such orders may be included expressly within this Discovery Order, while others (including the Court's Standing Order Regarding Protection of Proprietary and/or Confidential Information to Be Presented to the Court During Motion and Trial Practice) are incorporated herein by reference. All such standing orders shall be binding on the parties and counsel, regardless of whether they are expressly included herein or made a part hereof by reference.

# So Ordered this

**Nov 27, 2024**

RODNEY GILSTRAP
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE