UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MIDLAND/ODESSA DIVISION

HFT Solutions, LLC, *Plaintiff/* *Counterclaim Defendant*, v. OPTIVER US LLC and OPTIVER TRADING US LLC, *Defendants/* *Counterclaim Plaintiffs*	Case No. 7:25-CV-00415-DC-DTG **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

SCHEDULING ORDER

Pursuant to Rule 16, Federal Rules of Civil procedure, the Court **ORDERS** that the following schedule will govern deadlines up to and including the trial of this matter:

Deadline	**Item**
1/7/26	Deadline to file a motion to transfer. After this deadline movants must seek leave of Court and show good cause for the delay.
12/10/25	Plaintiff serves preliminary[1] infringement contentions in the form of a chart setting forth where in the accused product(s) each element of the asserted claim(s) are found. Plaintiff shall also identify the earliest priority date (*i.e.*, the earliest date of invention) for each asserted claim and produce: (1) all documents evidencing conception and reduction to practice for each claimed invention, and (2) a copy of the file history for each patent in suit.

[1] The parties may amend preliminary infringement contentions and preliminary invalidity contentions without leave of court so long as counsel certifies that it undertook reasonable efforts to prepare its preliminary contentions and the amendment is based on material identified after those preliminary contentions were served and should do so seasonably upon identifying any such material. Any amendment to add patent claims requires leave of court so that the Court can address any scheduling issues.

12/8/25	Proposed Scheduling Order due (*see* Dkt. 19). The Parties shall file a motion to enter an agreed Scheduling Order. If the parties cannot agree, the parties shall submit a separate Joint Motion for entry of Scheduling Order briefly setting forth their respective positions on items where they cannot agree. Absent agreement of the parties, the Plaintiff shall be responsible for the timely submission of this and other Joint filings.
2/4/26	Defendant serves preliminary invalidity contentions in the form of (1) a chart setting forth where in the prior art references each element of the asserted claim(s) are found, (2) an identification of any limitations the Defendant contends are indefinite or lack written description under section 112, and (3) an identification of any claims the Defendant contends are directed to ineligible subject matter under section 101. Defendant shall also produce (1) all prior art referenced in the invalidity contentions, and (2) technical documents, including software where applicable, sufficient to show the operation of the accused product(s).
2/18/26	Parties exchange claim terms for construction.
3/4/26	Parties exchange proposed claim constructions.
3/11/26	Parties disclose extrinsic evidence. The parties shall disclose any extrinsic evidence, including the identity of any expert witness they may rely upon with respect to claim construction or indefiniteness. With respect to any expert identified, the parties shall identify the scope of the topics for the witness's expected testimony.[2] With respect to items of extrinsic evidence, the parties shall identify each such item by production number or produce a copy of any such item if not previously produced.
3/18/26	Deadline to meet and confer to narrow terms in dispute and exchange revised list of terms/constructions.
3/25/26	Defendant files Opening claim construction brief, including any arguments that any claim terms are indefinite.
4/15/26	Plaintiff files Responsive claim construction brief.

[2] Any party may utilize a rebuttal expert in response to a brief where expert testimony is relied upon by the other party.

4/29/26	Defendant files Reply claim construction brief.
4/29/26	Parties to jointly email the law clerks (*see* OGP at 1) to confirm their *Markman* date and to notify if any venue or jurisdictional motions remain unripe for resolution.
5/13/26	Plaintiff files a Sur-Reply claim construction brief.
5/15/26	Parties submit optional technical tutorials to the Court and technical advisor (if appointed).
5/18/26	Parties submit Joint Claim Construction Statement and email the law clerks an editable copy. *See* General Issues Note #9 regarding providing copies of the briefing to the Court and the technical advisor (if appointed).
5/27/26 (or as soon as practicable)	*Markman* Hearing at 9:00 a.m. This date is a placeholder and the Court may adjust this date as the Markman hearing approaches.
5/28/26	Fact Discovery opens; deadline to serve Initial Disclosures per Rule 26(a).
7/8/26	Deadline to add parties.
7/22/26	Deadline to serve Final Infringement and Invalidity Contentions. After this date, leave of Court is required for any amendment to infringement or invalidity contentions. This deadline does not relieve the parties of their obligation to seasonably amend if new information is identified after initial contentions.
9/16/26	Deadline to amend pleadings. A motion is not required unless the amendment adds patents or patent claims. (Note: This includes amendments in response to a 12(c) motion.)
11/25/26	Deadline for the first of two meet and confers to discuss significantly narrowing the number of claims asserted and prior art references at issue. Unless the parties agree to the narrowing, they are ordered to contact the Court's law clerk to arrange a teleconference with the Court to resolve the disputed issues.
12/23/26	Close of Fact Discovery.
1/13/27	Opening Expert Reports.

2/10/27	Rebuttal Expert Reports.
2/26/27	Close of Expert Discovery.
3/3/27	Deadline for the second of two meet and confers to discuss narrowing the number of claims asserted and prior art references at issue to triable limits. If it helps the parties determine these limits, the parties are encouraged to contact the Court's law clerk for an estimate of the amount of trial time anticipated per side. The parties shall file a Joint Report within 5 business days regarding the results of the meet and confer.
3/9/27	Dispositive motion deadline and *Daubert* motion deadline. Deadline for parties desiring to consent to trial before the magistrate judge to submit Form AO 85, "Notice, Consent, And Reference Of A Civil Action To A Magistrate Judge," available at https://www.uscourts.gov/forms/civil-forms/notice-consent-and-reference-civil-action-magistrate-judge.
3/19/27	Serve Pretrial Disclosures (jury instructions, exhibits lists, witness lists, deposition designations).
4/2/27	Serve objections to pretrial disclosures/rebuttal disclosures.
4/2/27	Parties to jointly email the Court to confirm their pretrial conference and trial dates.
4/16/27	Serve objections to rebuttal disclosures; file motions *in limine.*
4/23/27	File Joint Pretrial Order and Pretrial Submissions (jury instructions, exhibits lists, witness lists, deposition designations); file oppositions to motions *in limine*
5/3/27	Deadline to file replies to motions in limine.
5/5/27	Deadline to meet and confer regarding remaining objections and disputes on motions *in limine*.

5/7/27	File joint notice identifying remaining objections to pretrial disclosures and disputes on motions *in limine.*
5/13/27	Final Pretrial Conference at 10 a.m.
6/7/27	Jury Selection/Trial at 8 a.m.

SIGNED this 16th day of December, 2025.

DEREK T. GILLILAND
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE