

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

PALO ALTO NETWORKS, INC.,

Petitioner,

v.

QOMPLX LLC,

Patent Owner.

IPR2026-00432

U.S. Patent No. 12,143,424

PETITIONER'S RANKING OF PARALLEL PETITIONS

Petitioner hereby notes that, on May 15, 2026, Petitioner filed a Petition against the '424 patent, in Case No. IPR2026-00363, which is a “copycat” of the Petition filed by Microsoft in IPR2026-00298 (“Copycat Petition”). The Copycat Petition challenges claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9-11, and 13 as obvious in view of (1) Barsness; (2) Barsness in view of Chakradhar; (3) Barsness in view of Siripurapu; and (4) Barsness in view of Chakradhar and Siripurapu. Thus, this Petition and the Copycat Petition challenge mutually exclusive sets of claims. In the Copycat Petition proceeding, Petitioner has moved for joinder to Microsoft's IPR proceeding in IPR2026-00298.

The Board's Consolidated Practice Guide requests that, for parallel petitions against the same patent, the Petitioner provides “(1) a ranking of the petitions in the order in which it wishes the Board to consider the merits, if the Board uses its discretion to institute any of the petitions, and (2) a succinct explanation of the differences between the petitions, why the issues addressed by the differences are material, and why the Board should exercise its discretion to institute additional petitions if it identifies one petition that satisfies petitioner's burden under 35 U.S.C. § 314(a).” Consolidated Trial Practice Guide at 60.

Ranking. Petitioner provides the following ranking of the Petitions in the order it wishes the Board to consider the merits: (1) this Petition (IPR2026-00432), (2) the Copycat Petition (IPR2026-00363).

Explanation. The differences between the two Petitions are reflected in the below table.

Ground	Basis	Reference(s)	Claims
This Petition (IPR2026-00432)			
1	§103	Barsness	4, 6, 8, 12
2	§103	Barsness, Chakradhar	4, 6, 8, 12
3	§103	Barsness, Siripurapu	4, 6, 8, 12
4	§103	Barsness, Chakradhar, Siripurapu	4, 6, 8, 12
Copycat Petition (IPR2026-00363)			
1	§103	Barsness	1-3, 5, 7, 9-11, 13
2	§103	Barsness, Chakradhar	1-3, 5, 7, 9-11, 13
3	§103	Barsness, Siripurapu	1-3, 5, 7, 9-11, 13
4	§103	Barsness, Chakradhar, Siripurapu	1-3, 5, 7, 9-11, 13

This petition challenges several dependent claims of the '424 patent that were not challenged in the Copycat Petition nor Microsoft's petition. Petitioner Palo Alto Networks filed the Copycat Petition because Patent Owner has asserted those claims against Petitioner in the parallel litigation. However, while Patent Owner has asserted claims 4, 6, 8, and 12 against Petitioner Palo Alto Networks, Patent Owner has not asserted those claims against Microsoft—and thus Microsoft did not

challenge them. Accordingly, Petitioner had good reason to file a second Petition to challenge additional claims that have only been asserted against Petitioner.

Petitioner could not have filed a single Petition challenging the claims in both this Petition and the Copycat Petition, because it is likely a hypothetical single Petition would have been denied for discretionary reasons. Such a petition would have presented significant overlap with Microsoft's IPR, and therefore would have required the unnecessary expenditure of additional Board resources to resolve overlapping issues. However, a single Petition would not have been granted joinder to Microsoft's IPRs because, by challenging additional claims, it would present new issues. *Facebook, Inc. v. Windy City Innovations, LLC*, 973 F.3d 1321, 1333 (Fed. Cir. 2020) ("The clear and unambiguous text of § 315(c) does not authorize ... the joinder of new issues.").

Petitioner's decision to file separate Petitions therefore is the most efficient use of Board resources. The Copycat Petition, if instituted and joined to Microsoft's IPR, would not require the expenditure of additional resources as the presented issues are in complete overlap with Microsoft's IPR. This Petition is narrowly tailored to only those claims asserted against Petitioner Palo Alto Networks that Microsoft did not challenge, thereby minimizing the amount of Board resources needed to resolve the narrow set of unique issues presented in this Petition.

Date: July 20, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ James M. Glass

James M. Glass

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART
& SULLIVAN, LLP

295 5th Ave., 9th Floor

New York, NY 10016

Tel: (212) 849-7000

Fax: (212) 849-7100

Counsel for Petitioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on July 20, 2026, true and correct copies of the foregoing document and supporting materials were served in its entirety on the Patent Owner at the following address of record as listed on PAIR via First-Class Mail:

NK Patent Law
4101 Lake Boone Trail, Suite 218
Raleigh, NC 27607

Official Correspondence Address

Courtesy copies were also sent via electronic mail to Patent Owner's counsel of record in the related district court proceeding

aberge@irell.com
cwen@irell.com
dslusarczyk@irell.com
iwashburn@irell.com
claire@millerfairhenry.com

Date: July 20, 2026

By: /s/ James M. Glass
James Glass
QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART
& SULLIVAN, LLP
295 5th Ave., 9th Floor
New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 849-7000
Fax: (212) 849-7100

Counsel for Petitioner