

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

SIMPSON STRONG-TIE COMPANY INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

COLUMBIA INSURANCE COMPANY,
Patent Owner.

PGR2024-00050
Patent 11,920,339 B2

Before JEFFREY N. FREDMAN, NEIL T. POWELL, and
STEPHEN E. BELISLE, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

FREDMAN, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

ORDER
Granting Joint Motion to Expunge Confidential Information
37 C.F.R. § 42.56

Petitioner and Patent Owner filed a Joint Motion to Expunge Confidential Information requesting

to Expunge the confidential versions of the Patent Owner's Response (Paper 18), Petitioner's Reply (Paper 43), Patent Owner's Sur-Reply (Paper 56), Patent Owner's Reply in Support of Patent Owner's Contingent Motion to Amend (Paper 58), and Exhibits 1047–1049, 1052, 1055, 1068, 1073–1077, 1079–1080, 1082–1085, 1089, 2050–2051, 2055, 2059, 2064, 2066, 2068–2069, 2071–2072, 2075, 2086–2090, 2092–2131, 2136–2139, 2141, 2151, 2159, 2165, and 2197– 2199 (collectively “the Confidential Documents”), from the record.

Paper 70, 1 (“Motion”).

The Parties explained that the “Confidential Documents contain confidential information relating to sales, revenue, market share, and pricing information; research and development; identification of, and communications with, customers; and business strategies.” Paper 70, 1. The Parties note that we have already granted their motion to seal these documents. Paper 70, 4 (citing Papers 23, 51, and 61). The parties note that “there is no public interest in seeing these confidential documents” because “no final written decision was issued in this case, and all sealed, confidential documents were submitted after trial was instituted.” Paper 70, 6.

Because we did not rely on any information in these documents in rendering any decisions or orders in this proceeding, we find that the public's interest in having access to that information does not outweigh the parties' need to protect any confidential information contained therein.

Based on the above uncontested assertions and the unopposed nature of the request, we find good cause exists to expunge the record to the extent requested by the Parties and we *grant* the Motion.

ORDER

It is hereby:

ORDERED that the Joint Motion to Expunge Confidential Information (Paper 70) is *granted*; and

FURTHER ORDERED that the confidential versions of the Patent Owner's Response (Paper 18), Petitioner's Reply (Paper 43), Patent Owner's Sur-Reply (Paper 56), Patent Owner's Reply in Support of Patent Owner's Contingent Motion to Amend (Paper 58), and Exhibits 1047–1049, 1052, 1055, 1068, 1073–1077, 1079–1080, 1082–1085, 1089, 2050–2051, 2055, 2059, 2064, 2066, 2068–2069, 2071–2072, 2075, 2086–2090, 2092–2131, 2136–2139, 2141, 2151, 2159, 2165, and 2197–2199 be expunged from the record in this proceeding.

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