

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

T-REX PROPERTY AB,

Plaintiff,

v.

ECM MEDIA, LLC,

Defendant.

Case No.: 16-cv-5222

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

**PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

Plaintiff T-Rex Property AB for its Complaint against Defendant ECM Media, LLC, states as follows:

**NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, including 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, 281, 283, 284 and 285.

**PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff T-Rex Property AB is a company organized and existing under the laws of Sweden with its principal place of business at Vårvägen 6, 18274 Stocksund, Sweden.

3. On information and belief, Defendant ECM Media, LLC, is a Wisconsin limited liability corporation with a main office located at 393 Fair Oaks Drive, Williams Bay, Wisconsin 53191.

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this patent infringement action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

5. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant ECM Media, because, on information and belief, Defendant has systematic and continuous contacts with Illinois and this judicial district because Defendant regularly transacts business in the State of Illinois and this judicial district and it has thereby purposefully availed itself of the benefits and protections of the laws of the State of Illinois. Furthermore, this Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because, as described further below, Defendant has committed acts of patent infringement giving rise to this action within the State of Illinois and has thus established minimum contacts such that the exercise of personal jurisdiction over Defendant does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

6. Venue is proper in this Judicial District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(b).

#### **THE PATENTS-IN-SUIT**

7. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 6 are hereby alleged and incorporated herein by reference.

#### **The '470 Patent**

8. On January 16, 2007, U.S. Patent Number RE39,470 (the "'470 Patent"), entitled "Digital Information System," was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A true and correct copy of the '470 Patent is attached as Exhibit A to this Complaint.

9. The '470 Patent is a reissue of U.S. Patent Number 6,005,534, which was filed on July 2, 1996 and which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Number 60/017,403, which was filed on May 14, 1996. The '534 Patent also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) to foreign patent application number 9601603-5, which was filed on April 26, 1996 in Sweden. As "[p]riority under section 119, 365(a), 365(b), 386(a), or 386(b) shall not be taken into account in determining the term of a patent," (35 U.S.C. § 154(a)(3)), the '470 Patent expires 20 years from July 2, 1996.

10. The innovations disclosed in the '470 Patent "relate[] to a method and apparatus for controlling and coordinating" electronic displays "in a digital information system for displaying information on at least one display device . . . said information being displayed in places that are accessible to and frequented by a general public." ('470 Patent at 1:15-21.) "An object of the present invention is to provide a flexible system in which external information mediators are able to dynamically control in real time the transmission of display instructions to a larger public in different places" "and to enable similar or specific information to be displayed in places that are mutually far apart." (*Id.* at 2:39-42; 2:52-54.)

11. A system operating according to an embodiment of the '470 Patent can include a control center with a communication interface that connects devices to create and update a display list in real time using control instruction fields sent from external mediators and to transmit and display the desired images to one or more electronic displays that can be controlled independently of other electronic displays. (*Id.* at 3:4-19; 4:42-45.) In embodiments, the control center can include one or more servers, workstations, and databases stored on one or more physical storage devices, and can include redundancy, of both computer hardware and the information stored, where the devices can be connected using a network, such as a LAN (Local Area Network) or by using a cable-carried ISDN solution (Integrated Services Digital Network) or other fixed lines that have a similar capacity. (*Id.* at 4:57-5:16; 5:59-67; 6:41-59; 12:55-13:7.) In one embodiment of the devices or projectors, the projector is a large picture screen in LCD or LED technology or the like that includes or is connected to a computer. (*Id.* at 6:26-32.)

12. In one embodiment of the invention, personnel operating a work station can enter information to be displayed from an external mediator via projector control instructions in the exposure list created by the server. (*Id.* at 8:10-26.) Operators are able to interrupt a queue in the server in order to update the exposure list with information generated centrally from the control center or with information from an external information mediator. (*Id.*)

13. Information mediators can use an exposure program to deliver complete images (*e.g.* an image, a series of images or a video clip) for display which would not require processing

by the control center. (*Id.* at 11:19-28.) These can be dynamically added to the exposure list by the exposure handler. (*Id.*) External information mediators can thus deliver a complete image for display (an image, a series of images or a video clip) which can be processed automatically and inserted into the exposure list, or an administrator can select information from an external mediator and process the information so that it can be inserted into the exposure list via the exposure handler. (*Id.* at 8:27-41.)

### **The '334 Patent**

14. On June 3, 2008, U.S. Patent Number 7,382,334, entitled “Digital Information System,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A true and correct copy of the '334 Patent is attached as Exhibit B to this Complaint.

15. The innovations described by the '334 Patent relate to methods and arrangements “for controlling and coordinating” digital display devices “in a digital information system for displaying information on at least one display device” “wherein the information is displayed in places that are accessible to and frequented by a general public.” ('334 Patent at Abstract; 1:13-24; 5:20-32.) The present invention is able “to provide a flexible system in which external information mediators are able to dynamically control in real time the transmission of display instructions to a larger public in different places” “and to enable similar or specific information to be displayed in places that are mutually far apart.” (*Id.* at 2:56-60; 3:5-11.)

16. A system operating according to an embodiment of the '334 Patent can include a control center with a communication interface that connects devices to create and update a display list in real time using control instruction fields sent from external mediators and to transmit and display the desired images to one or more electronic displays that can be controlled independently of other electronic displays. (*Id.* at 3:38-60; 5:29-30.) In embodiments, the control center can include one or more servers, workstations, and databases stored on one or more physical storage devices, and can include redundancy, of both computer hardware and the information stored, where the devices can be connected using a network, such as a LAN (Local

Area Network) or by using a cable-carried ISDN solution (Integrated Services Digital Network) or other fixed lines that have a similar capacity. (*Id.* at 6:17-45; 7:17-29; 11:60-67.) In some embodiments, a relational database can be used to store image and video data and each electronic display can be assigned a unique TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol / Internet Protocol) address such that each display can be individually addressed and sent content for display. (*Id.* at 14:50-15:8.)

17. In one embodiment of the invention, personnel operating a work station can enter information to be displayed from an external mediator via projector control instructions in the exposure list created by the server. (*Id.* at 9:45-61.) Operators are able to interrupt a queue in the server in order to update the exposure list with information generated centrally from the control center or with information from an external information mediator. (*Id.*)

18. Information mediators can use an exposure program to deliver complete images (*e.g.* an image, a series of images or a video clip) for display which would not require processing by the control center. (*Id.* at 12:12-22.) These can be dynamically added to the exposure list by the exposure handler. (*Id.*) External information mediators can thus deliver a complete image for display (an image, a series of images or a video clip) which can be processed automatically and inserted into the exposure list, or an administrator can select information from an external mediator and process the information so that it can be inserted into the exposure list via the exposure handler. (*Id.* at 9:62-10:9.)

### **The '603 Patent**

19. On August 6, 2002, U.S. Patent Number 6,430,603, entitled "System for Direct Placement of Commercial Advertising, Public Service Announcements and Other Content on Electronic Billboard Displays" was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A true and correct copy of the '603 Patent is attached as Exhibit C to this Complaint.

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