

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

XILINX, INC.
Petitioner

v.

INTELLECTUAL VENTURES I LLC
Patent Owner

Case IPR2013-00112 (SCM)
Patent 5,779,334

Before SALLY C. MEDLEY, KARL D. EASTHOM, and
JUSTIN T. ARBES, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

ARBES, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION
Institution of *Inter Partes* Review
37 C.F.R. § 42.108

Xilinx, Inc. filed a Petition (“Pet.”) to institute an *inter partes* review of claims 1-14 of Patent 5,779,334 (the “’334 patent”) pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 311 *et seq.* Patent Owner Intellectual Ventures I LLC filed a preliminary response (“Prelim. Resp.”) to the Petition. We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 314. For the reasons that follow, the Board has determined to institute an *inter partes* review.

I. BACKGROUND

The standard for instituting an *inter partes* review is set forth in 35 U.S.C. § 314(a):

THRESHOLD – The Director may not authorize an *inter partes* review to be instituted unless the Director determines that the information presented in the petition filed under section 311 and any response filed under section 313 shows that there is a reasonable likelihood that the petitioner would prevail with respect to at least 1 of the claims challenged in the petition.

Petitioner challenges claims 1-14 of the ’334 patent as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Pet. 5-6. We grant the Petition as to claims 1-6 and 11-14 on certain grounds as discussed below.

A. The ’334 Patent (*Ex. 1001*)

The ’334 patent, entitled “Enhanced Video Projection System,” issued on July 14, 1998 based on Application 08/780,351, filed January 8, 1997. The ’334 patent is a continuation-in-part of Application 08/686,809, filed July 26, 1996, which issued as Patent 5,632,545 (the “’545 patent”). The ’545 patent is the subject of Case IPR2013-00029.

The ’334 patent relates to a “color video projector system” having “separate light sources for producing separate beams of light which are

passed each first through color filters to provide separate color beams before being processed by video-controlled light shutter matrices and then combined into a single beam projectable to provide a full-color video display with superimposed color spots.” Abstract. In another embodiment, “a single white-light source is used, and the beam of white light is split by a prism system into separate color beams.” *Id.* The patent describes how prior art video projector systems, such as color Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) projectors, were expensive and had difficulty providing adequate light levels. Col. 1, ll. 15-25. According to the patent, “using a triple monochrome LCD structure instead of a color [active matrix LCD] AM-LCD, and pre-coloring of light,” results in a less expensive projector with better light output and better image quality. Col. 2, ll. 7-19.

Figure 1 of the '334 patent is reproduced below:

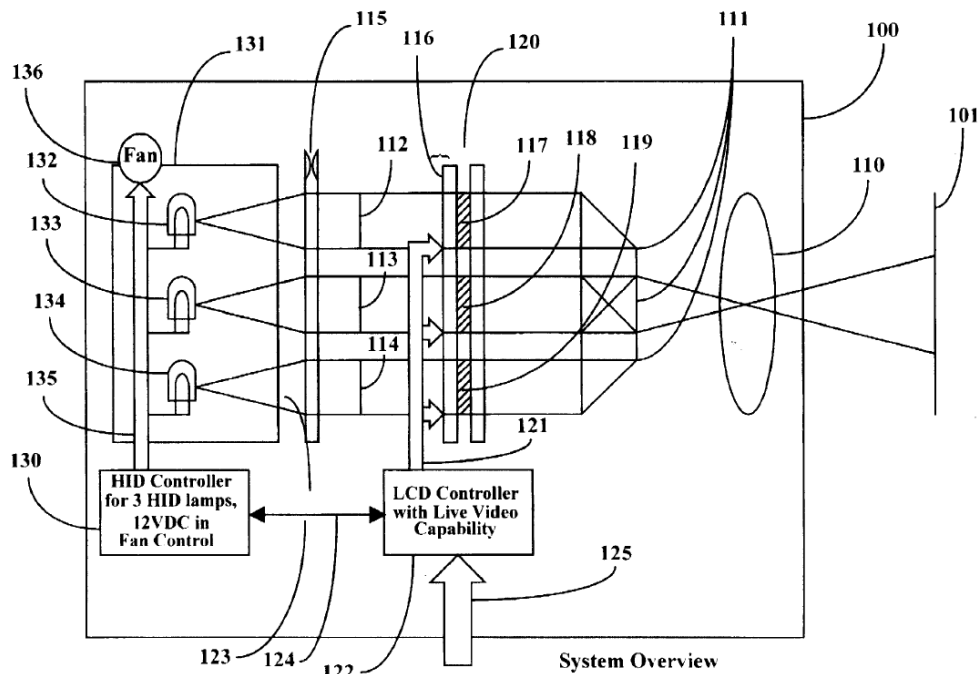


Fig. 1

Figure 1 depicts an exemplary video projector system comprising, *inter alia*, (A) lamps 132-134, which emit light; (B) condenser lens system 115, which

focuses the three light beams emitted by the lamps; (C) red/green/blue filters 112-114, through which the respective light beams pass; (D) three monochrome LCD arrays 117, 118, and 119 in LCD unit 120; (E) controller 122, which controls the arrays; and (F) mirror and prism system 111, which combines the separate beams into a single beam for projection onto surface 101. Col. 3, ll. 5-60.

Figure 2 of the '334 patent depicts another embodiment and is reproduced below:

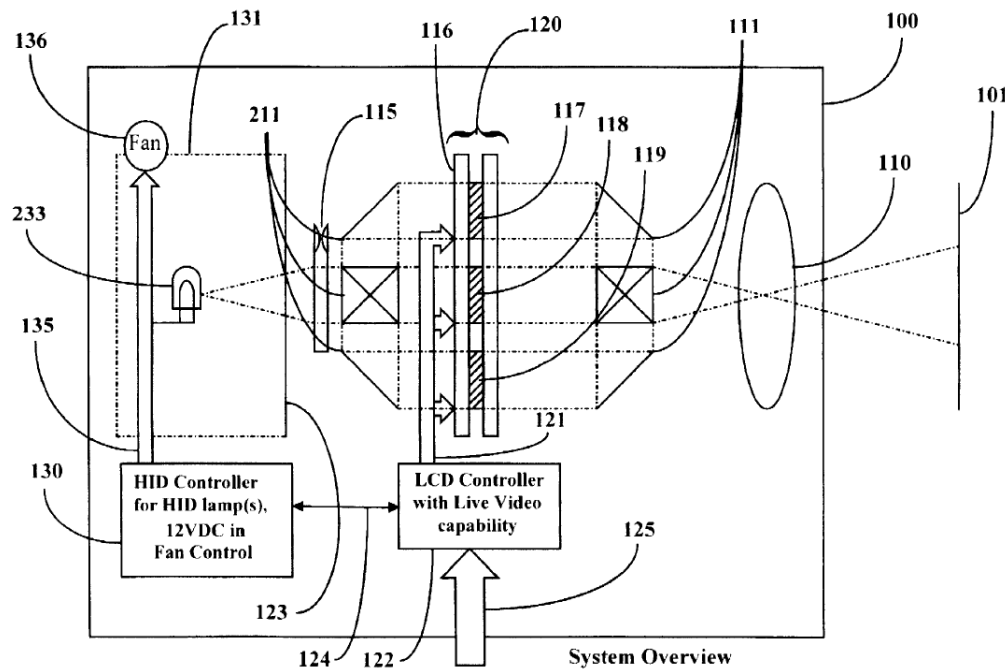


Fig. 2

In the system depicted in Figure 2, a single white-light source 233 is used instead of three lamps and the single white-light beam is split into red, green, and blue beams by prism system 211. Col. 3, l. 61-col. 4, l. 1. The three light beams pass through “monochrome LCD array 120, which in this embodiment is HID controlled by controller 122 just as described for the first embodiment.” Col. 4, ll. 8-12.

B. Exemplary Claims

Claims 1 and 7 of the '334 patent are exemplary of the claims at issue:

1. A video projector system comprising:
 - a source projecting parallel beams of light of different colors;
 - a light-shutter matrix system comprising a number of equivalent switching matrices equal to the number of beams and placed one each in the beam paths;
 - a video controller adapted for controlling the light-shutter matrix system; and
 - an optical combination system adapted for combining the separate beams after the light-shutter matrix system into a single composite beam for projection on a surface to provide a video display.
7. A method for projecting a dynamic color image, comprising steps of:
 - a) providing separate parallel beams of colored light;
 - b) directing the separate color beams on separate cells of a monochrome LCD array;
 - c) switching the monochrome matrix by action of a video signal through an LCD controller;
 - d) recombining the beams of colored light into a single beam; and
 - e) focusing the recombined beam on a surface to provide a dynamic color image.

C. The Prior Art

Petitioner relies on the following prior art:

1. Patent 5,264,951, issued Nov. 23, 1993 (“Takanashi”) (Ex. 1002);
2. Patent 5,287,131, issued Feb. 15, 1994 (“Lee”) (Ex. 1003); and

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