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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

APPLE INC.
Petitioner

v.

VIRNETX INC.
Patent Owner

Case IPR2014-00237
Patent 8,504,697

**Patent Owner's Preliminary Response
to Petition for *Inter Partes* Review
of U.S. Patent No. 8,504,697**

Table of Contents

- I. Introduction.....1
- II. The Petition Fails to Meet the Requirements for Instituting an *Inter Partes* Review2
 - A. The Petition Fails to Comply with 35 U.S.C. § 312(a)(3) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.104(b)(4)3
 - B. The Board Should Not Institute Based on the Petition’s Redundant Grounds7
- III. The Petition’s Claim Constructions Are Flawed and Should Be Rejected12
 - A. Overview of the ’697 Patent.....13
 - B. Level of Ordinary Skill in the Art15
 - C. “Domain Name” (Claims 1, 14, 16, and 28)16
 - D. “Secure Communication Link” (Claims 1-3, 11-13, 16-17, and 24-27)17
 - E. “Secure Communications Service” (Claims 1, 4-5, 10, 13-14, 16, 18-19, and 28-29)23
 - F. “Intercept[ing] . . . a request to look up an internet protocol (IP) address” (Claims 1 and 16)24
 - G. “Modulation” (Claims 6, 7, 20, and 21)28
- IV. If Trial Is Instituted, VirnetX Requests an 18-Month Schedule29
- V. Conclusion29

Table of Authorities

	Page(s)
FEDERAL CASES	
<i>In re Bigio</i> , 381 F.3d 1320 (Fed. Cir. 2004)	19
<i>EMC Corp. v. Personal Web Techs.</i> , IPR2013-00087 (June 5, 2013) Paper No. 25.....	8
<i>Garmin Int’l, Inc. v. Cuozzo Speed Techs. LLC</i> , IPR2012-00001 (Jan. 9, 2013) Paper No. 15.....	13, 19
<i>Idle Free Sys., Inc. v. Bergstrom, Inc.</i> , IPR2012-00027 (June 11, 2013) Paper No. 26.....	8
<i>InterDigital Comms., LLC v. Int’l Trade Comm’n</i> , 690 F.3d 1318 (Fed. Cir. 2012)	22
<i>LaRose Indus., LLC v. Capriola Corp.</i> , IPR2013-00120 (July 22, 2013) Paper No. 20	7, 12
<i>Liberty Mut. Ins. Co. v. Progressive Cas. Ins. Co.</i> , CBM2012-00003 (Oct. 25, 2012) Paper No. 7.....	7, 9, 12
<i>Motorola Solutions, Inc. v. Mobile Scanning Techs., LLC</i> , IPR2013-00093 (Apr. 29, 2013) Paper No. 28.....	13, 19
<i>Phillips v. AWH Corp.</i> , 415 F.3d 1303 (Fed. Cir. 2005) (en banc)	13
<i>Tasco, Inc. v. Pagnani</i> , IPR2013-00103 (May 23, 2013) Paper No. 6.....	3
<i>ScentAir Techs., Inc. v. Prolitec, Inc.</i> , IPR2013-00180 (Aug. 26, 2013) Paper No. 18	8
<i>Wenger Mfg., Inc. v. Coating Mach. Sys., Inc.</i> , 239 F.3d 1225 (Fed. Cir. 2001)	21, 22
<i>Wowza Media Sys., LLC et al. v. Adobe Sys., Inc.</i> , IPR2013-00054 (July 13, 2013) Paper No. 16	3

Xilinx, Inc. v. Intellectual Ventures I LLC,
 IPR2013-00112 (June 27, 2013) Paper No. 14.....19

ZTE Corp. & ZTE (USA) Inc. v. ContentGuard Holdings, Inc.,
 IPR2013-00134 (June 19, 2013) Paper No. 12.....19

In re Zletz,
 893 F.2d 319 (Fed. Cir. 1989)12

FEDERAL STATUTES

35 U.S.C. § 3121, 2, 3, 7

35 U.S.C. § 3131

FEDERAL REGULATIONS

37 C.F.R. § 42.100(b)12

37 C.F.R. § 42.100(c).....29

37 C.F.R. § 42.104(b)(4)2, 3, 7

37 C.F.R. § 42.1071

I. Introduction

Patent Owner VirnetX Inc. respectfully submits this Preliminary Response in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 313 and 37 C.F.R. § 42.107, responding to the Petition for *Inter Partes* Review of VirnetX's U.S. Patent No. 8,504,697 ("the '697 patent") filed by Apple Inc. VirnetX requests that the Board not institute *inter partes* review for several reasons.

First, the Petition proposes rejections that the Examiner considered during prosecution of the '697 patent and over which the Examiner allowed the claims. For example, the Petition proposes rejections based on U.S. Patent No. 6,496,867 to *Beser* and RFC 2543 by *Handley et al.* (*See* Pet. at i-iii.) During prosecution of the '697 patent, however, VirnetX submitted these references through an Information Disclosure Statement and the Examiner considered them. (*See* Ex. 1001 at 2, 5.) The Examiner also considered materials from reexaminations of patents related to the '697 patent, including claim charts for *Beser* and RFC 2543 against the claims of those patents. (*See id.* at 9, 11, 14-16.) Accordingly, Apple asks the Board and VirnetX to divert resources to revisit issues that the Office has already considered.

Second, the Petition fails to comply with several rules and regulations regarding the content of petitions. The Petition either never or rarely cites the asserted prior art references, violating the particularity requirements of 35 U.S.C.

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