UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

FUJITSU SEMICONDUCTOR LIMITED AND FUJITSU SEMICONDUCTOR AMERICA, INC.

Petitioner

v.

ZOND, LLC Patent Owner

Case IPR2014-00850 Patent 7,147,759

ZOND LLC'S PATENT OWNER PRELIMINARY RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 42.107(a)



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| I. IN | TRO | DUCTION | I |
|--------|------|--|----|
| II. T | ECH | OLOGY BACKGROUND | 8 |
| A | Α. | Overview Of Magnetron Sputtering Systems | 8 |
| E | 3. | The '759 patent: Dr. Chistyakov invents a new magnetically enhanced sputtering source that creates a multi-step ionization process generating highly-ionized plasma from weakly ionized plasma without forming an arc discharge. | 0 |
| C | Z. | The Petitioner Mischaracterized The File History, the Patent Owner's Arguments To The Examiner, and Mozgrin1 | 3 |
| III. S | SUMI | IARY OF PETITIONER'S PROPOSED GROUNDS FOR REVIEW1 | 5 |
| IV. | PATE | NT OWNER'S CLAIM CONSTRUCTIONS1 | 6 |
| A | Α. | The construction of "weakly ionized plasma" and "strongly ionized plasma."1 | 7 |
| Е | 3. | The construction of "multi-step ionization process"1 | 8 |
| | | IS NO REASONABLE LIKELIHOOD OF PETITIONER PREVAILING A CHALLENGED CLAIM OF THE '738 PATENT2 | 1 |
| A | Α. | The Petition failed to set forth a proper obviousness analysis2 | 2 |
| Е | 3. | The Petition failed to demonstrate any motivation to combine2 | 5 |
| | 1. | Scope and content of prior art2 | .7 |
| | | Kudryavtsev – A. A. Kudryavtsev and V.N. Skerbov, Ionization relaxation in a plasma produced by a pulsed inert-gas discharge, Sov. Phys. Tech. Phys. 28(1), pp. 30-35, January 1983 (Ex. 1004),2 | |
| | | Mozgrin – D.V. Mozgrin, et al, High-Current Low-Pressure Quasi- Stationary Discharge in a Magnetic Field: Experimental Research, Plasma Physics Reports, Vol. 21, No. 5, pp. 400-409, 1995 (Ex. 1303). | 0 |
| | | c. Wang – U.S. Patent No. 6,413,382 (Exhibit 1005)3 | 3 |
| | 2. | The Petitioner Fails To Show That It Would Have Been Obvious To Combine The Cylindrical Tube System Without A Magnet Of Kudryavtsev With Either The Mozgrin or Wang Magnetron System3 | - |
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IPR2014-00850 U.S. Patent No. 7,147,759

| C. | | The Petition fails to demonstrate how the alleged combinations teach every element of the challenged claims |
|------|----|---|
| | 1. | The cited references do not teach "applying a voltage pulse to the weakly-ionized plasma, an amplitude and a rise time of the voltage pulse being chosen to increase an excitation rate of ground state atoms that are present in the weakly-ionized plasma to create a multi-step ionization process that generates a strongly-ionized plasma," as recited in independent claim 20 |
| | 2. | The cited references do not teach a "multi-step ionization process comprising exciting the ground state atoms to generate excited atoms, and then ionizing the excited atoms within the weakly-ionized plasma without forming an arc discharge," as recited in claim 20 |
| D. | | The Petition Fails to Identify Any Compelling Rationale for Adopting Redundant Grounds of Rejection With Mozgrin Or Wang As The Primary Reference |
| VI C | ON | CLUSION 57 |



I. INTRODUCTION

The Board should deny the present request for *inter partes* review of U.S. Patent No. 7,147,759 ("the '759 patent") because there is not a reasonable likelihood that the Petitioner will prevail at trial with respect to at least one claim of the '759 patent.¹

The references that are primarily relied upon by the Petitioner (*i.e.*, Mozgrin and Wang) were already considered by the Examiner and overcome during the prosecution of the application corresponding to the '759 patent.

Indeed, these references were considered by 6 different examiners and overcome during the prosecution of 9 other patents that are related to the '759 patent over nearly a 10 year period.²

Upon realizing that there was no prior art that was closer to the claimed invention than the art that had already been considered and overcome at the



¹ 35 U.S.C. § 314(a).

² Examiners Douglas Owens, Tung X. Le, Rodney McDonald, Wilson Lee, Don Wong, and Tuyet T. Vo allowed U.S. Patents 7,808,184, 7,811,421, 8,125,155, 6,853,142, 7,604,716, 6,896,775, 6,896,773, 6,805,779, and 6,806,652 over Mozgrin and Wang over nearly a decade from the time that the application for the '759 patent was filed on 9/30/2002 to the time that the '155 patent issued on 2/28/2012.

patent office, the Petitioner resorted to a desperate strategy of filing an enormous number of IPR petitions (*i.e.*, 5 IPRs against the '759 patent and an additional 17 against related patents) and alleging that the Patent Owner had mischaracterized Mozgrin to the patent office.³

But this strategy cannot succeed because the Patent Owner did not make any mischaracterizations and could not have possibly tricked 6 different examiners to allow 10 patents over the course of nearly a decade by mischaracterizing a reference that all 6 Examiners read themselves. Rather, the Petitioner mischaracterized the prior art references in its Petition and failed to set forth a prima facia case of obviousness for the proposed grounds of rejection, as shown by four main groups of reasons.

First, Petitioner neglected to follow the legal framework for an obviousness analysis set forth long ago by the Supreme Court. ⁴ That framework requires consideration of the following factors: (1) the scope and

⁴ Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 17-18, 148 USPQ 459, 467 (1966); see also KSR Int'l Co. v. Teleflex Inc., 550 U.S. 398, 399 (2007) ("While the sequence of these questions might be reordered in any particular case, the [Graham] factors define the controlling inquiry.")



³ Petition, p. 7.

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