

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

THE GILLETTE COMPANY

Petitioner

v.

ZOND, LLC
Patent Owner

Case IPR2014-00985
Patent 7,147,759

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

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 a. 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), 28

 b. 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. 1203). 30

 c. Wang – U.S. Patent No. 6,413,382 (Exhibit 1005). 33

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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.....41

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Petitioner has represented in a motion to joinder that this petition “is identical to the Intel IRP no. IRP2014-00445 in all substantive respects, includes identical exhibits, and relies upon the same expert declarant.”

Accordingly, based upon that representation, the Patent Owner opposes review on the same basis presented in opposition to Intel’s request no. IRP2014-00445, which is reproduced below:

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

¹ 35 U.S.C. § 314(a).

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 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

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.

³ Petition, p. 7.

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