

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

THE GILLETTE COMPANY

Petitioner

v.

ZOND, LLC
Patent Owner

Case IPR2014-01012
Patent 6,853,142

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

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Petitioner has represented in a motion for joinder that this petition “is identical to the Intel IPR 2014-00494 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. IPR2014-00494, which is repeated below:

The Board should deny the present request for *inter partes* review of U.S. Patent No. 6,853,142 (“the ’142 patent”) because there is not a reasonable likelihood that the Petitioner will prevail at trial with respect to at least one claim of the ’142 patent.¹

Indeed, there are five different and independent groups of reasons why the Petitioner cannot prevail. First, 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 that led to the issuance of the ’142 patent. These references were considered by 6

¹ 35 U.S.C. § 314(a).

different examiners and overcome during the prosecution of 9 other patents that are related to the '142 patent over nearly a 10 year period.²

Second, the Petitioner's obviousness rejections are all predicated on the false assumption that a skilled artisan could have achieved the combination of i) an ionization source generating a weakly-ionized plasma from feed gas, ii) an electrical pulse having a magnitude and a rise-time that is sufficient to increase the density of the weakly-ionized plasma to generate a strongly-ionized plasma, and iii) a gas line supplying feed gas to diffuse the strongly-ionized plasma to thereby allow additional power from the pulsed power supply to be absorbed by the strongly-ionized plasma, as required by independent claim 1 of the '142 patent by combining the teachings of either Mozgrin or Wang and Lantsman.³ But these three references disclose very

² Examiners Douglas Owens, Tung X. Le, Rodney McDonald, Wilson Lee, Don Wong, and Tuyet T. Vo allowed U.S. Patents 7,147,759, 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 at pp. 14-60.

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