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Paper 9
Entered: March 17, 2015

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. and QUANTUM CORPORATION,
Petitioners,

v.

CROSSROADS SYSTEMS, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2014-01463
Patent 7,934,041 B2

Before HYUN J. JUNG, NEIL T. POWELL, and
KRISTINA M. KALAN, *Administrative Patent Judges.*

POWELL, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

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

I. INTRODUCTION

Cisco Systems, Inc. and Quantum Corporation ("Petitioners") filed a Petition (Paper 3, "Pet."), requesting institution of an *inter partes* review of claims 1–53 of U.S. Patent No. 7,934,041 B2 (Ex. 1001, "the '041 Patent"). Crossroads Systems, Inc. ("Patent Owner") timely filed a Preliminary Response (Paper 7, "Prelim. Resp."). We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 314.

We determine that the information presented in the Petition and in the Preliminary Response shows that there is a reasonable likelihood that Petitioners would prevail with respect to at least one of the claims challenged in the Petition. *See* 35 U.S.C. § 314(a). Accordingly, we institute *inter partes* review with respect to claims 1–53.

A. Related Proceedings

The '041 Patent has been asserted against Petitioners in the following district court proceedings: *Crossroads Systems, Inc. v. Cisco Systems, Inc.*, Case No. 1-14-cv-00148 (W.D. Tex.); and *Crossroads Systems, Inc. v. Quantum Corporation*, Case No. 1-14-cv-00150 (W.D. Tex.). Pet. 1. The '041 Patent is also the subject of other district court proceedings. *Id.*

The '041 Patent was also the subject of a petition for *inter partes* review in Case IPR2014-01177. That petition was denied. *See Oracle Corporation, NetApp Inc., and Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. v. Crossroads Systems, Inc.*, Case IPR2014-01177, slip op. (Jan. 28, 2015) (Paper 13).

Additionally, the '041 Patent belongs to a family of patents that were the subject of multiple petitions for *inter partes* review in other cases, including IPR2014-01197, IPR2014-01207, IPR2014-01209, IPR2014-01226, and IPR2014-01233. *Inter partes* review was instituted in IPR2014-

01197, IPR2014-01207, IPR2014-01209, and IPR2014-01226. *See Oracle Corporation, NetApp Inc., and Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. v. Crossroads Systems, Inc.*, Case IPR2014-01197, slip op. (Jan. 29, 2015) (Paper 13); *Oracle Corporation, NetApp Inc., and Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. v. Crossroads Systems, Inc.*, Case IPR2014-01207, slip op. (Feb. 2, 2015) (Paper 12); *Oracle Corporation, NetApp Inc., and Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. v. Crossroads Systems, Inc.*, Case IPR2014-01209, slip op. (Jan. 30, 2015) (Paper 12); *Cisco Systems, Inc. and Quantum Corporation v. Crossroads Systems, Inc.*, Case IPR2014-01226, slip op. (Jan. 30, 2015) (Paper 9). The petition for *inter partes* review was denied in IPR2014-01233. *See NetApp Inc. v. Crossroads Systems, Inc.*, Case IPR2014-01233, slip op. (Feb. 10, 2015) (Paper 8).

B. The '041 Patent (Ex. 1001)

The '041 Patent discloses "[a] storage router and storage network [that] provide virtual local storage on remote storage devices." Ex. 1001, Abstract. One embodiment of the storage network appears in Figure 3. *Id.* at col. 3, ll. 19–21, col. 4, ll. 25–27. Figure 3 is reproduced below.

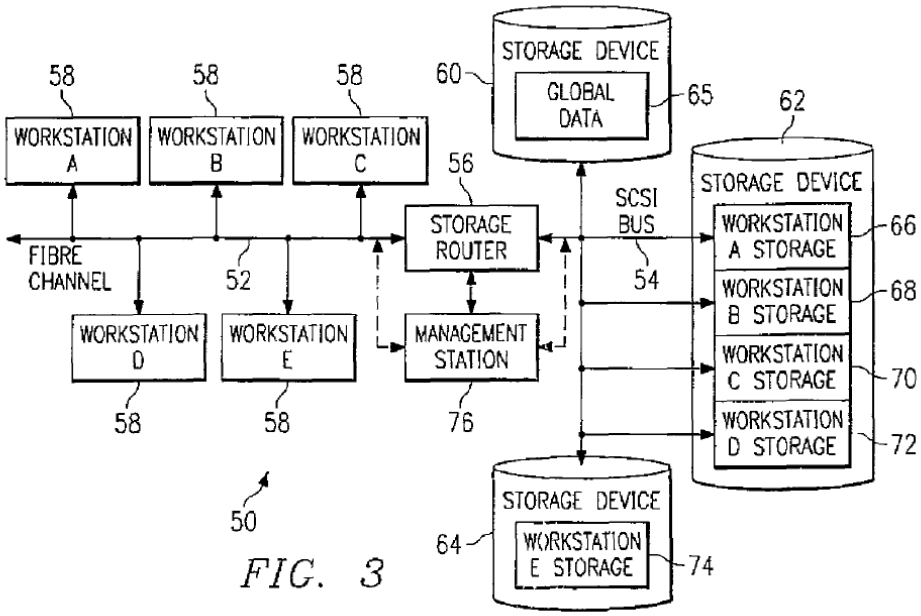

FIG. 3

Figure 3 of the '041 Patent shows storage network 50, which includes storage router 56 bridging Fibre Channel high speed serial interconnect 52 and SCSI bus 54. *Id.* at col. 4, ll. 25–30. Storage router 56 allows a number of workstations 58 to interconnect on a common storage transport and "access common storage devices 60, 62 and 64 through native low level, block protocols." *Id.* at col. 4, ll. 30–33. Storage router 56 also implements security controls to allow each workstation 58 to access a specific subset of data stored in storage devices 60, 62, and 64. *Id.* at col. 4, ll. 35–39.

The '041 Patent shows more details of one embodiment of storage router 56 in Figure 4. *Id.* at col. 3, ll. 22–23, col. 5, ll. 34–35. Figure 4 is reproduced below.

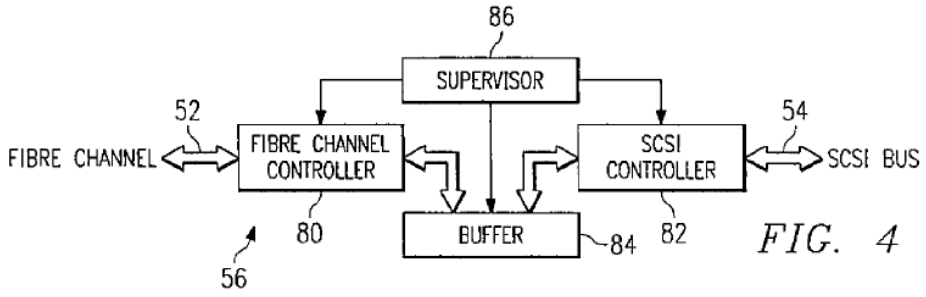

FIG. 4

Figure 4 of the '041 Patent shows components of storage router 56, including supervisor 86, buffer 84, Fibre Channel controller 80, and SCSI controller 82. *Id.* at col. 5, ll. 35–41. Buffer 84 connects to Fibre Channel controller 80 and SCSI controller 82. *Id.* at col. 5, ll. 37–39. Memory work space is provided by buffer 84. *Id.* Supervisor unit 86 includes a microprocessor for controlling storage router 56. *Id.* at col. 5, ll. 41–43. The microprocessor of supervisor unit 86 also processes mapping and security access for requests between Fibre Channel 52 and SCSI bus 54. *Id.* at col. 5, ll. 41–44.

C. Illustrative Claim

Petitioners challenge claims 1–53 of the '041 Patent. Claims 1, 20, and 37 are independent. Each of claims 2–19, 21–36, and 38–53 depends directly or indirectly from one of claims 1, 20, and 37. Claim 1 is illustrative and is reproduced below:

> 1. A storage router for providing virtual local storage on remote storage devices, comprising:
>
> a first controller operable to interface with a first transport medium, wherein the first medium is a serial transport media; and
>
> a processing device coupled to the first controller, wherein the processing device is configured to:

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