

Filed on behalf of: INO Therapeutics, LLC

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION, INC.

Petitioner

v.

INO THERAPEUTICS LLC,

Patent Owner

Case IPR2015-00889

U.S. Patent No. 8,573,209 B2

Before KEN B. BARRETT, MICHAEL J. FITZPATRICK, AND
SCOTT A. DANIELS, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

**PATENT OWNER INO THERAPEUTICS LLC'S RESPONSE TO
PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION, INC.'S PETITION FOR *INTER PARTES*
REVIEW OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,573,209**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	1
II.	RELEVANT FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND	3
	A. Overview of the Board’s Institution Decision	3
	B. The ’209 Patent	4
	C. Claim Construction	7
	D. Patent Owner’s Commercial Embodiments of the Inventions of the ’209 Patent.....	7
	E. Other NO Delivery Systems Marketed at or Around the Time of Inventions of the ’209 Patent Lacked the Inventions of the ’209 Patent	8
	1. Petitioner Praxair’s NOMIX System	8
	2. The Opti Kinox Station from Air Liquide	9
	F. The Regulatory Environment Guiding the Work of a POSA Developing Medical Devices Like the Claimed Inventions	10
	1. Classes of Regulated Devices	10
	1. The 510(k) Process Is Necessary to Market a Class II Device	11
	2. The FDA Regulatory Regime Encourages the Use of Known Safety Solutions and Discourages Deviation in the Absence of an Identifiable and Known Problem	12
III.	THE CITED REFERENCES.....	13
	A. Bathe (U.S. Patent No. 5,558,083).....	13
	B. Peters (U.S. Patent No. 7,114,510)	14
	C. FR ’804 (FR 2,917,804)	17
	D. IR Standard (ISO/IEEE 11073-30300)	19
IV.	DR. STONE’S “COMBINABILITY” OPINIONS ARE DEFICIENT AS A MATTER OF LAW AND THE BOARD SHOULD DISREGARD THEM	19
	A. Dr. Stone Failed to Analyze the Claims.....	20
	B. Dr. Stone Did Not Know or Apply the Correct Legal Standards	24

C.	Dr. Stone Failed to Consider Objective Indicia of Non-Obviousness.....	26
D.	Dr. Stone Improperly Used Hindsight Bias	28
E.	Given Dr. Stone’s Deficient Declaration, the Petition is Insufficient As a Matter of Law	30
V.	THE ASSERTED COMBINATION FAILS TO SATISFY ALL LIMITATIONS OF THE CHALLENGED CLAIMS	32
VI.	THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO MOTIVATION TO COMBINE BATHE ’083, PETERS ’510, FR ’804, and THE IR STANDARD.....	36
A.	Petitioner Has Failed to Show That a POSA Was Aware of the Problem Addressed by the ’209 Patent Claims.....	38
B.	A POSA Would Not Be Motivated to Combine Bathe And Peters	40
C.	A POSA Would Not Be Motivated to Combine Bathe And Peters with FR ’804.....	45
1.	Mechanical Connection Limitations in NO Delivery Systems Eliminate Any Need for FR ’804	46
2.	Replacing the Peters Manual Valve with the Automatic Valve of FR ’804 Would Create Substantial Problems	48
D.	The IR Standard and Lebel Do Not Establish Motivation to Combine the Asserted References.....	53
E.	A Generalized Goal of “Improving Safety” Does Not Establish a Motivation to Combine Bathe, Peters, FR ’804, and the IR Standard.....	54
1.	FDA Guidelines Did Not Suggest a Safety Check Was Necessary or a “Risk”	55
2.	The MAUDE Database Provided No Motivation.....	56
3.	Minimizing Costs and Development Time Would Have Motivated the POA to Pursue a 510(k) Application.....	57
4.	Real World Evidence Regarding NO Delivery Systems Show That the Claimed Invention Is Not Obvious.....	58
VII.	CONCLUSION.....	59

I. INTRODUCTION

The Board's initial determination to institute *inter partes* review was erroneous because Petitioner's arguments and evidence fall substantially short of what the law requires to invalidate the claims of the '209 Patent:

- Petitioner's expert declarant, Dr. Stone did not even attempt to examine validity on a *claim-by-claim* basis (in fact, Dr. Stone testified he performed no analysis of the claims);
- Petitioner presented no credible evidence whatsoever of any alleged motivation to combine its many asserted prior art references, and ignores entirely the fact that no one in the industry had even *perceived* of the problem the '209 Patent *solves*; and
- Petitioner ignores entirely evidence that those of ordinary skill in the art (including Petitioner, its expert, and the assignee of the FR '804 reference) developed nitric oxide delivery systems without including the patented features Petitioner now claims, in hindsight, would have been "common sense" to add.

First, Petitioner's expert declarant, Dr. Stone, failed to examine validity on a claim-by-claim basis. Indeed, he failed to even identify the differences between any of the asserted prior art references and the claims of the '209 Patent, or any the differences between the collection of prior art on which he relies and the claims of the '209 Patent. As part of what he called a "combinability" analysis, Dr. Stone opined without the benefit of any legal framework. Dr. Stone's opinions are

therefore insufficient as a matter of law, and leave Petitioner without any meaningful expert testimony. In this complicated technological field, the absence of any appropriate, substantive expert testimony or proof is alone sufficient to prevent Petitioner from being able to invalidate the '209 Patent claims.

Second, Petitioner and its expert declarant failed to provide sufficient evidence to establish that a POSA would have been motivated to combine (and in many instances, further modify) the prior art to create the inventions claimed in the '209 Patent. Dr. Stone admits that the efforts of those of skill in the field of medical device design are constrained by the FDA regulatory environment, which encourages the use of known safety solutions and discourages deviation in the absence of a known problem. Here, neither party's expert could identify any evidence that the problem the '209 Patent addresses was recognized in the field at the time of the invention. Under controlling Federal Circuit law, this failure alone leaves the Board with no evidentiary basis whatsoever to conclude that a POSA would have combined the prior art in the manner Petitioner claims.

Third, Petitioner and its expert declarant deliberately ignored *entirely* the real world evidence of what those of ordinary skill in the art who were actually developing NO delivery systems actually *did* with knowledge of the prior art. Petitioner offered its own NO delivery device shortly before the '209 Patent's priority date (but after all of the prior art Petitioner relies upon was available), and

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