

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

LUPIN LTD. and LUPIN PHARMACEUTICALS INC.,

Petitioner,

v.

SENJU PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.,

Patent Owner.

Case IPR2015-01099

Patent 8,669,290 B2

Before FRANCISCO C. PRATS, ERICA A. FRANKLIN, and
GRACE KARAFFA OBERMANN, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

FRANKLIN, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION

Denying Patent Owner's Motion to Seal Exhibit 2323

37 C.F.R. § 42.14

I. INTRODUCTION

Patent filed a Motion to Seal portions of the “Reply Expert Report of John C. Jarosz” (Exhibit 2323). Paper 41 (“Mot.”). Patent Owner asserts that Petitioner does not oppose the motion. Mot. 1.

For the reasons described in the following discussion, we *deny* Patent Owner’s Motion to Seal Exhibit 2323.

II. DISCUSSION

“There is a strong public policy for making all information filed in a quasi-judicial administrative proceeding open to the public, especially in an *inter partes* review which determines the patentability of claims in an issued patent and therefore affects the rights of the public.” *Garmin Int’l v. Cuozzo Speed Techs., LLC*, IPR2012-00001, slip op. at 1–2 (PTAB Mar. 14, 2013) (Paper 34). A motion to seal may be granted for good cause. 37 C.F.R. § 42.54. The moving party bears the burden of showing that there is good cause for the relief requested, including why the information is appropriate to be filed under seal. 37 C.F.R. §§ 42.20, 42.54. The Office Patent Trial Practice Guide notes that 37 C.F.R. § 42.54 identifies confidential information in a manner consistent with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c)(1)(G), which provides for protective orders for trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information. 77 Fed. Reg. at 48,760. Until a motion to seal is decided, documents filed with the motion shall be sealed provisionally. 37 C.F.R. § 42.14.

Patent Owner asserts that to the best of its knowledge, the information in Exhibit 2323 identified as confidential has not been published or otherwise been made public. *Id.* Specifically, Patent Owner asserts that portions of pages 26 and 29 of Exhibit 2323 contain confidential information. *Id.* at 3. According to Patent Owner, the exhibit “contains Patent Owner’s commercial embodiment of the Patents-at-Issue,” relied upon to show Patent Owner’s commercial success. *Id.* Therefore, Patent Owner requests that the indicated portions of Exhibit 2323 be sealed as “PROTECTIVE ORDER MATERIAL,” for the duration of this proceeding. *Id.* at 4.

Patent Owner has sufficiently established that the cited portions of Exhibit 2323 contain confidential information. However, a protective order has not been entered in the captioned proceedings and an acceptable proposed protective order has not been filed. Thus, Patent Owner's Motion to Seal Exhibit 2323 is *denied* without prejudice. Under the circumstances, we exercise our discretion to maintain Exhibit 2323 under a provisional seal, in the manner requested, through July 31, 2016, to allow time for Patent Owner to file a renewed motion to seal after a protective order is entered in this proceeding and/or to withdraw the provisionally sealed exhibit.

ORDER

In accordance with the foregoing, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the Patent Owner's Motion to Seal Exhibit 2323 is *denied* without prejudice;

FURTHER ORDERED that Exhibit 2323 shall remain provisionally sealed until further notice by the Board;

FURTHER ORDERED the parties may file a renewed motion to seal and/or withdraw provisionally sealed exhibits on or before July 31, 2016; and

FURTHER ORDERED that any opposition to a renewed motion to seal shall be filed within 5 business days after the filing of the motion.

IPR2015-01099
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PETITIONER:

Deborah H. Yellin
Jonathan Lindsay
Teresa Rea
Shannon Lentz
CROWELL & MORING LLP
DYellin@crowell.com
JLindsay@crowell.com
trea@crowell.com
slentz@crowell.com

PATENT OWNER:

Bryan C. Diner
Joshua L. Goldberg
Justin J. Hasford
Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP
bryan.diner@finnegan.com
joshua.goldberg@finnegan.com
justin.hasford@finnegan.com