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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/013,302	07/21/2014	6,542,076 B1		2538
RAYMOND A	7590 09/08/201 JOAO ESQ.	EXAMINER		
122 BELLEVUE PLACE YONKERS, NY 10703			REICHLE, KARIN M	
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			3992	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/08/2014	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.





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(THIRD PARTY R	EQUESTER'S	CORRESPO	NDENCE A	DDRESS)

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EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/013,302.

PATENT NO. 6,542,076 B1 E.

ART UNIT 3992.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).



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DECISION ON REQUEST FOR EX PARTE REEXAMINATION

Third Party requester submitted a request for reexamination with a filing date of July 21, 2014, requesting reexamination of claim 3 of US Patent 6,542,076 (hereinafter also referred to as '076). A substantial new question of patentability affecting claim 3 of '076 is raised by the request for *ex parte* reexamination. Accordingly, claim 3 will be reexamined.

Extensions of Time

Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) will not be permitted in these proceedings because the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 apply only to "an applicant" and not to parties in a reexamination proceeding. Additionally, 35 U.S.C. 305 requires that reexamination proceedings "will be conducted with special dispatch" (37 CFR 1.550(a)). Extension of time in *ex parte* reexamination proceedings are provided for in 37 CFR 1.550(c).

Notification of Concurrent Proceedings

The patent owner is reminded of the continuing responsibility under 37 CFR 1.565(a), to apprise the Office of any litigation activity, or other prior or concurrent proceeding, involving Patent No. 6,542,076 throughout the course of this reexamination proceeding. See MPEP §§ 2207, 2282 and 2286.

Amendment in Reexamination Proceedings

Patent owner is notified that any proposed amendment to the specification and/or claims in this reexamination proceeding must comply with 37 CFR 1.530(d)-(j), must be formally



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presented pursuant to 37 CFR 1.52(a) and (b), and must contain any fees required by 37 CFR 1.20(c). See also discussion *infra*, i.e. *Other Matters*

Submissions

In order to insure full consideration of any amendments, affidavits or declarations or other documents as evidence of patentability, such documents must be submitted in response to the first Office action on the merits (which does not result in a close of prosecution).

Submissions after the second Office action on the merits, which is intended to be a final action, will be governed by the requirements of 37 CFR 1.116, after final rejection and by 37 CFR 41.33 after appeal, which will be strictly enforced.

Waiver of Right to File Patent Owner Statement

In a reexamination proceeding, Patent Owner may waive the right under 37 C.F.R. 1.530 to file a Patent Owner Statement. The document needs to contain a statement that Patent Owner waives the right under 37 C.F.R. 1.530 to file a Patent Owner Statement and proof of service in the manner provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.248, if the request for reexamination was made by a third party requester, see 37 C.F.R 1.550(f). The Patent Owner may consider using the following statement in a document waiving the right to file a Patent Owner Statement:

WAIVER OF RIGHT TO FILE PATENT OWNER STATEMENT

Patent Owner waives the right under 37 C.F.R. 1.530 to file a Patent Owner Statement.



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The Interview Summary dated August 4, 2014 indicates that USPTO personnel were unable to reach the patent owner, i.e. the patent owner did not agree to waive its right to file a patent owner statement under 35 U.S.C. 304 in the event the reexamination request is granted.

Service of Papers

After filing of a request for *ex parte* reexamination by a third party requester, any document filed by either the patent owner or the third party requester must be served on the other party (or parties where two or more third party requester proceedings are merged) in the reexamination proceeding in the manner provided in 37 CFR 1.248. The document must reflect service or the document may be refused consideration by the Office. See 37 CFR 1.550(f).

References Asserted as Raising a Substantial New Question

The asserted substantial new question of patentability (SNQP) regarding claim 3 of the '076 Patent is based upon the following references:

- (1) U.S. Patent 5,070,320 to Ramono, filed June 12, 1989 and issued December 3, 1991 (hereinafter also referred to as '320 or Ramono '320).
- (2) U.S. Patent 6,072,402 to Kniffin, filed January 9, 1992 and issued June 6, 2000 (hereinafter also referred to as '402 or Kniffin '402).
- (3) U.S. Patent 5,113,427 to **Ryoichi** et al, filed August 24, 1990 and issued May 12, 1992 (hereinafter also referred to as '**427** or **Ryoichi** '427).
- (4) U.S. Patent 5,276,728 to **Pagliaroli** et al, filed November 6, 1991 and issued January 4, 1994 (hereinafter also referred to as '**728** or **Pagliaroli** '728).



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