

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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EMERSON ELECTRIC CO.,  
Petitioner

v.

SIPCO, LLC  
Patent Owner

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Case IPR2015-01973  
Patent 8,013,732

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DECLARATION OF DR. KEVIN C. ALMEROOTH  
Exhibit 2001

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## I. Introduction and Background

1. I have been retained as an independent expert in this *inter partes* review (IPR) by the Gonsalves Law Firm on behalf of SIPCO, LLC (SIPCO) to provide opinions and conclusions regarding the unpatentability grounds asserted by the Emerson Electric Co. (Emerson). Among other things, I have been asked to offer a rebuttal to the declaration of Dr. Stephen Heppel included as Exhibit 1004 to Emerson's Petition requesting IPR of U.S. Patent No. 8,013,732. I refer to this patent as the "the '732 patent."

2. As discussed in further detail in this declaration and any supplemental reports, testimony, or declarations that I may provide, it is my opinion that Emerson has failed to prove that the challenged claims of the '732 patent are unpatentable. It is further my opinion that the challenged claims are in fact valid over the cited art.

3. This declaration, including the accompanying exhibits, sets forth my opinions, conclusions, and other matters regarding this Petition for IPR and Patent Owner's Response by SIPCO (Response).

4. My opinions are based on information including (i) documents and other evidence that I have reviewed, including Petition for IPR and all associated exhibits, Patent Owner's Response and all associated exhibits, and the Board's Decision to institute trial for this IPR, (ii) other materials noted in this declaration

and the Heppe declaration, and (iii) my own education, training, experience, and knowledge. I may rely on any of these materials, experiences and knowledge, in addition to the evidence specifically cited as supportive examples in particular sections of this declaration, as additional support for my opinions.

5. I may also provide testimony (i) in rebuttal to Emerson's position, including opinions of any Emerson experts and materials they discuss or rely upon, (ii) based on any Orders from the Board, (iii) based on documents or other discovery that Emerson has not yet produced or that were produced too late to be considered before my declaration was due, or (iv) based on witness testimony which has not been given or was given too late to be considered before my declaration was due. I reserve the right to supplement or amend my opinions as further documentation and information is received.

6. I reserve the right to supplement or amend this declaration if additional facts and information that affect my opinions become available.

**A. Qualifications**

7. I am currently a Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara. I also hold an appointment and am a founding member of the Computer Engineering (CE) Program. I am a founding member of the Media Arts and Technology (MAT) Program, and the Technology Management Program (TMP). I also served as the Associate Director of the

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