

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

PALO ALTO NETWORKS, INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

FINJAN, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2015-01974
Patent 7,647,633 B2

Before, THOMAS L. GIANNETTI, MIRIAM L. QUINN, and
PATRICK M. BOUCHER *Administrative Patent Judges*.

QUINN, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION

Partial Institution of *Inter Partes* Review
37 C.F.R. § 42.108; 35 U.S.C. § 325(d)

Palo Alto Networks, Inc. (“Petitioner”) filed a Petition to institute *inter partes* review of claims 1–4, 6–8, 13, 14, 19, 28, and 34 of U.S. Patent No. 7,647,633 B2 (“the ’633 patent”) pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 311–319. Paper 1 (“Pet.”). Finjan, Inc. (“Patent Owner”) timely filed a Preliminary Response. Paper 6 (“Prelim. Resp.”). We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 314.

For the reasons that follow, we institute *inter partes* review of claims 14 and 19, and exercise our discretion under 35 U.S.C. § 325(d) to deny the asserted challenges to all other claims.

I. BACKGROUND

A. RELATED MATTERS

Petitioner identifies the ’633 patent as the subject matter of various district court cases filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (Case Nos. 3-14-cv-04908, 13-cv-03133, 13-cv-03999, 5-13-cv-04398, 13-cv-05808, and 5-15-cv-01353). Pet. 2. Petitioner also states that petitions for *inter partes* review have been filed regarding other patents assigned to Patent Owner. *Id.*

More importantly, certain claims of the ’633 patent are undergoing *ex parte* reexamination. *Id.* at 2, 12–13; *See* Ex. 1003. The final rejection of the claims undergoing reexamination has been appealed to the Board. *See* Ex. 1029. The details of the reexamination are discussed in more detail below.

B. THE '633 PATENT (EX. 1001)

The '633 patent relates to a system and a method for protecting network-connectable devices from undesirable downloadable operation. Ex. 1001, 1:30–33. The patent describes that “Downloadable information comprising program code can include distributable components (e.g. Java™ applets and JavaScript scripts, ActiveX™ controls, Visual Basic, add-ins and/or others).” *Id.* at 1:60–63. Protecting against only some distributable components does not protect against application programs, Trojan horses, or zip or meta files, which are other types of Downloadable Information. *Id.* at 1: 63–2:2. The '633 patent “enables more reliable protection.” *Id.* at 2:27–28. According to the Summary of the Invention,

In one aspect, embodiments of the invention provide for determining, within one or more network “servers” (e.g. firewalls, resources, gateways, email relays or other devices/processes that are capable of receiving-and-transferring a Downloadable) whether received information includes executable code (and is a “Downloadable”). Embodiments also provide for delivering static, configurable and/or extensible remotely operable protection policies to a Downloadable-destination, more typically as a sandboxed package including the mobile protection code, downloadable policies and one or more received Downloadables. Further client-based or remote protection code/policies can also be utilized in a distributed manner. Embodiments also provide for causing the mobile protection code to be executed within a Downloadable-destination in a manner that enables various Downloadable operations to be detected, intercepted or further responded to via protection operations. Additional server/information-destination device security or other protection is also enabled, among still further aspects.

Id. at 2:39–57.

C. ILLUSTRATIVE CLAIM

Challenged claims 1, 8, 13, 14, 28, and 34 are independent.

Illustrative claims 1 and 14 are reproduced below.

1. A computer processor-based method, comprising:
receiving, by a computer, downloadable-information;
determining, by the computer, whether the
downloadable-information includes executable code; and
based upon the determination, transmitting from the
computer mobile protection code to at least one information-
destination of the downloadable-information, if the
downloadable-information is determined to include executable
code.

14. A computer program product, comprising a
computer usable medium having a computer readable program
code therein, the computer readable program code adapted to be
executed for computer security, the method comprising:
providing a system, wherein the system comprises
distinct software modules, and wherein the distinct software
modules comprise an information re-communicator and a
mobile code executor;
receiving, at the information re-communicator,
downloadable-information including executable code; and
causing mobile protection code to be executed by the
mobile code executor at a downloadable-information
destination such that one or more operations of the executable
code at the destination, if attempted, will be processed by the
mobile protection code.

Id. at 20:54–62, 21:58–22:5

D. ASSERTED GROUNDS OF UNPATENTABILITY

Petitioner challenges claims 1–4, 6–8, 13, 14, 19, 28, and 34 on the following grounds:

Reference(s)	Basis	Challenged Claims
Shin ¹	§ 103	1–4, 6–8, 13, 14, and 19
Poison Java ²	§ 102	28
Poison Java and Shin	§ 103	1
Poison Java and Brown ³	§ 103	14, 19, and 34

II. ANALYSIS

Petitioner acknowledges that claims 1–7 and 28–33 of the '633 patent are (or were) subject to *ex parte* reexamination (Control No. 90/013,016), which resulted in a Final Office Action rejecting the claims over (at least in part) Ji.⁴ Pet. 12–13. According to Patent Owner, Ji discloses the same “applet instrumentation prior art” that Petitioner asserts as prior art in this Petition, namely Poison Java. Prelim. Resp. 17–21. Patent Owner also asserts that the same techniques described in Ji are disclosed in Shin.

¹ Insik Shin, et al., *Java Bytecode Modification and Applet Security* (Technical Report, Computer Science Dept., Stanford University, 1998), <https://web.archive.org/web/19980418130342/http://www-cs-students.stanford.edu/~ishin/reserach.html> (Ex. 1009) (“Shin”).

² Eva Chen, *Poison Java*, IEEE SPECTRUM, August 1999 at 38 (Ex. 1004) (“Poison Java”).

³ Mark W. Brown, et al., SPECIAL EDITION USING NETSCAPE 3, (Que Corp. 1996) (Ex. 1041) (“Brown”).

⁴ U.S. Patent No. 5,983,348 (Ex. 2006) (“Ji”).

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