

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

AISIN SEIKI CO., LTD.,
Petitioner,

v.

SIGNAL IP, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2016-00366
Patent 6,012,007

Before MEREDITH C. PETRAVICK, JEREMY M. PLENZLER, and
JAMES A. TARTAL, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

PLENZLER, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

SCHEDULING ORDER

A. *INITIAL CONFERENCE CALL*

No initial conference call is scheduled for this case. The parties are encouraged to contact the Board to request a call if any issues arise during trial. The parties are directed to the following matters:

1. *Confidential Information*

The parties must file confidential information using the appropriate availability indicator in PRPS (e.g., “Board and Parties Only”), regardless of whose confidential information it is. It is the responsibility of the party whose confidential information is at issue, not necessarily the proffering party, to file the motion to seal.

A protective order does not take effect until a protective order is filed in the case and approved by the Board. If a motion to seal is filed by either party, the proposed protective order should be presented as an exhibit to the motion. The parties are urged to operate under the Board’s default protective order. *See* Default Protective Order, Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. 48,756, App. B (Aug. 14, 2012). If the parties propose a protective order deviating from the default protective order, they should submit the proposed order jointly. A marked-up comparison of the proposed and default protective orders should be presented as an additional exhibit to the motion to seal, so that differences are highlighted. The parties should contact the Board if they cannot agree on the terms of the proposed protective order.

a. Redactions

Redactions should be limited strictly to isolated passages consisting of confidential information. The thrust of the underlying argument or evidence must be discernable from the redacted version.

b. Confidential Information in Final Written Decision

Information subject to a protective order will become public if identified in a final written decision in this proceeding. A motion to expunge the information will not necessarily prevail over the public interest in maintaining a complete and understandable file history. *See* Office Patent Trial Practices Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. at 48,761.

B. DUE DATES

This order sets due dates for the parties to take action after institution of the proceeding. The parties may stipulate to different dates for DUE DATES 1 through 4 (earlier or later, but no later than DUE DATE 5). A notice of the stipulation, specifically identifying the changed due dates, must be promptly filed. The parties may not stipulate to an extension of DUE DATES 5 and 6.

In stipulating to different times, the parties should consider the effect of the stipulation on times to object to evidence (37 C.F.R. § 42.64(b)(1)), to supplement evidence (37 C.F.R. § 42.64(b)(2)), to conduct cross-examination (37 C.F.R. § 42.53(d)(2)), and to draft papers depending on the evidence and cross-examination testimony (see section B, below).

The parties are reminded that the Testimony Guidelines appended to the Office Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. at 48,772 (Appendix D), apply to this proceeding. The Board may impose an appropriate sanction for failure to adhere to the Testimony Guidelines. 37 C.F.R. § 42.12. For example, reasonable expenses and attorneys' fees incurred by any party may be levied on a person who impedes, delays, or frustrates the fair examination of a witness.

1. DUE DATE 1

The patent owner may file a response to the petition (37 C.F.R. § 42.120). The patent owner must file any such response by DUE DATE 1. If the patent owner elects not to file anything, the patent owner must arrange a conference call with the parties and the Board. The patent owner is cautioned that any arguments for patentability not raised in the response will be deemed waived.

2. DUE DATE 2

The petitioner must file any reply to the patent owner's response by DUE DATE 2.

3. DUE DATE 3

a. Each party must file any motion for an observation on the cross-examination testimony of a witness (see section C, below) by DUE DATE 3.

b. Each party must file any motion to exclude evidence (37 C.F.R. § 42.64(c)) and any request for oral argument (37 C.F.R. § 42.70(a)) by DUE DATE 3.

4. DUE DATE 4

a. Each party must file any reply to an observation on cross-examination testimony by DUE DATE 4.

b. Each party must file any opposition to a motion to exclude evidence by DUE DATE 5.

5. DUE DATE 5

Each party must file any reply for a motion to exclude evidence by DUE DATE 5.

6. *DUE DATE 6*

The oral argument (if requested by either party) is set for DUE DATE 6.

C. *CROSS-EXAMINATION*

Except as the parties might otherwise agree, for each due date—

1. Cross-examination begins after any supplemental evidence is due. 37 C.F.R. §§ 42.53(d)(2).

2. Cross-examination ends no later than a week before the filing date for any paper in which the cross-examination testimony is expected to be used. *Id.*

D. *MOTION FOR OBSERVATION ON CROSS-EXAMINATION*

A motion for observation on cross-examination provides the parties with a mechanism to draw the Board's attention to relevant cross-examination testimony of a witness, since no further substantive paper is permitted after the reply. *See* Office Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. at 48,768. The observation must be a concise statement of the relevance of precisely identified testimony to a precisely identified argument or portion of an exhibit. Each observation should not exceed a single, short paragraph. The parties may respond to the observation. Any response must be equally concise and specific.

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