

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.,
Petitioner

v.

BLITZSAFE TEXAS, LLC,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2016-01473
Patent 8,155,342 B2

Before JAMESON LEE, MIRIAM L. QUINN, and KERRY BEGLEY,
Administrative Patent Judges.

QUINN, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

DECISION
Denying Institution of *Inter Partes* Review
37 C.F.R. § 42.108

I. INTRODUCTION

Petitioner, American Honda Motor Co., Inc., filed a Petition requesting an *inter partes* review of claims 49, 53, 54, 56, 57, 62, 66, 70, 73, 77, and 78 of U.S. Patent No. 8,155,342 B2 (“the ’342 patent”). Paper 2 (“Pet.”). Patent Owner, Blitzsafe Texas, LLC, filed a Preliminary Response. Paper 8 (“Prelim. Resp.”). We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 314(a).

For the reasons that follow, we *deny* the Petition.

A. Related Matters

Petitioner asserts that the ’342 patent is the subject matter of district court litigation in *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Honda Motor Co., Ltd.*, 2-15-cv-01274-JRG-RSP (Lead Case). Pet. 53. Various ongoing litigation matters have been identified as also involving the ’342 patent: *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.*, 2-15-cv-01276; *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Toyota Motor Corp.*, 2-15-cv-01277; *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Volkswagen Group of Am., Inc.*, 2-15-cv-01278; and *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Hyundai Motor Co.*, 2-15-cv-01275. *Id.*

Patent Owner asserts that, in addition to the above-identified five district court litigations, the ’342 patent was asserted in *Marlowe Patent Holdings LLC v. DICE Electronics, LLC*, 3:10-cv-01199 (D. NJ) and *Marlowe Patent Holdings LLC v. Ford Motor Company*, 3:10-cv-07044 (D. NJ). Paper 5, 1–2. According to Patent Owner, these cases are no longer pending due to settlement. *Id.* at 2.

The ’342 patent is the subject matter of an ongoing *inter partes* review, *Toyota Motor Corporation v. Blitzsafe Texas, LLC*, Case

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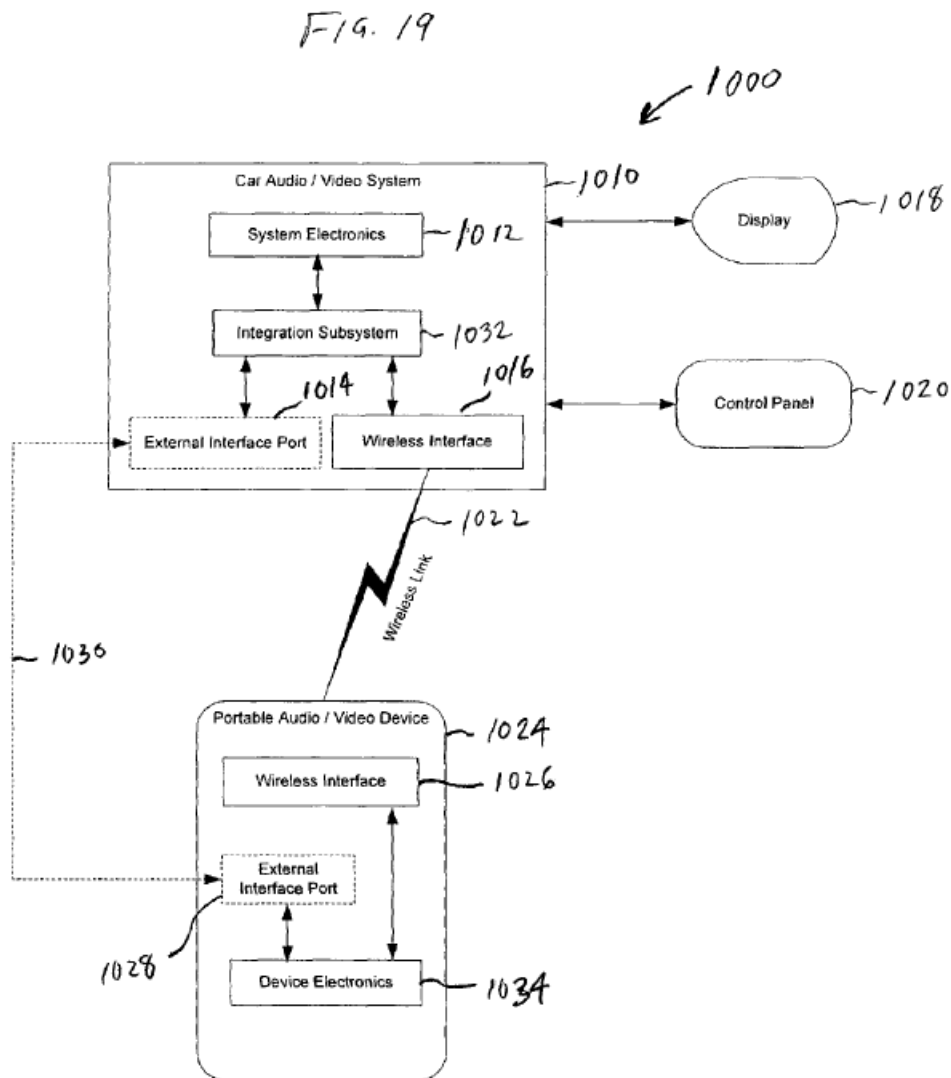
IPR2016-00418. Pet. 53. The '342 patent is also involved in IPR2016-00118 (denied), IPR2016-00419 (denied), IPR2016-01445, IPR20916-01449, IPR2016-01473, IPR2016-01476, IPR2016-01533, and IPR2016-01557. Paper 5, 2. Related U.S. Patent No. 7,489,786 B2 is involved in IPR2016-00421, IPR2016-00422, IPR2016-01472, and IPR2016-01477. *Id.*

B. The '342 Patent (Ex. 1001)

The '342 patent is titled “Multimedia Device Integration System.” Ex. 1001, [54]. The '342 patent describes that a “particular problem with integrating after-market audio and video system with existing car stereo and video systems is that signals generated by both systems are in proprietary formats, and are not capable of being processed by the after-market system.” *Id.* at 1:54–58. “Thus, in order to integrate after-market systems with existing car stereo and video systems, it is necessary to convert signals between such systems.” *Id.* at 1:60–63.

Certain embodiments of the '342 patent provide a multimedia device integration system that allows “for the wireless integration of a portable audio and/or video device with a car audio and/or video system.” *Id.* at 5:7–10. “The portable device could comprise a CD changer, CD player, satellite receiver (e.g., XM or Sirius), digital media device (e.g., MP3, MP4, WMV, or Apple iPod device), video device (e.g., DVD player), or a cellular telephone.” *Id.* at 5:9–13. In particular, an integration module, which could be positioned within the car system, receives data from the portable device (including track information, song information, artist information, time information, and other related information) and processes the data into a

format compatible with the car system. *Id.* at 5:23–30. One embodiment illustrated in Figure 19, reproduced below, for example, shows an integration subsystem. *Id.* at 8:3–8.



As shown in Figure 19, integration subsystem 1032 positioned within car audio/video system 1010 allows information (data and control signals) to be exchanged between portable device 1024 and car audio/video system 1010,

and processes and formats data accordingly so that instructions and data from car audio/video system 1010 are processed by portable device 1024, and vice versa. *See id.* at 33:43–35:62, Fig. 19. Wireless interface 1016 in the car system and wireless interface 1026 in the portable device form wireless link 1022. *Id.* at 34:15–18; *see id.* at 35:21–23.

C. Illustrative Claim

Of the challenged claims, claims 49 and 73 are independent.

Claim 49, reproduced below, is illustrative.

49. A multimedia device integration system, comprising:

an integration subsystem in communication with a car audio/video system; and

a first wireless interface in communication with said integration subsystem, said first wireless interface establishing a wireless communication link with a second wireless interface in communication with a portable device external to the car audio/video system,

wherein said integration subsystem obtains, using said wireless communication link, information about an audio file stored on the portable device, transmits the information to the car audio/video system for subsequent display of the information on a display of the car audio/video system, instructs the portable device to play the audio file in response to a user selecting the audio file using controls of the car audio/video system, and receives audio generated by the portable device over said wireless communication link for playing on the car audio/video system.

Ex. 1001, 42:29–47.

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