

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION,
Petitioner

v.

BLITZSAFE TEXAS, LLC,
Patent Owner

Case IPR2016-00418
Patent 8,155,342 B2

Before JAMESON LEE, THOMAS L. GIANNETTI, and HUNG H. BUI,
Administrative Patent Judges.

BUI, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

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

I. INTRODUCTION

On December 30, 2015, Petitioner, Toyota Motor Corporation, filed a Petition requesting an *inter partes* review of claims 49–57, 62–64, 66, 68, 70, 71, 73–80, 94, 95, 97, 99–103, 106, 109–111, 113, 115, and 120 of U.S. Patent No. 8,155,342 B2 (Ex. 1001, “the ’342 patent”). Paper 1 (“Pet.”). Patent Owner, Blitzsafe Texas, LLC, filed a Preliminary Response on April 11, 2016. Paper 10 (“Prelim. Resp.”).

To institute an *inter partes* review, we must determine that “the information presented in the petition . . . shows that there is a reasonable likelihood that the petitioner would prevail with respect to at least 1 of the claims challenged in the petition.” 35 U.S.C. § 314(a). Having considered both the Petition and the Preliminary Response, we determine that Petitioner has demonstrated a reasonable likelihood that it would prevail in establishing the unpatentability of claims 49–57, 62–64, 66, 68, 70, 71, 73–80, 94, 95, 97, 99–103, 106, 109–111, 113, 115, and 120 of the ’342 patent. Accordingly, we institute an *inter partes* review of those claims.

A. Related Matters

The ’342 patent is involved in the following litigations: (1) *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.*, 2-15-cv-01276 (E.D. Tex. July 16, 2015), (2) *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Toyota Motor Corp.*, 2-15-cv-01277 (E.D. Tex. July 16, 2015), (3) *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Volkswagen Group of Am., Inc.*, 2-15-cv-01278 (E.D. Tex. July 16, 2015), (4) *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Hyundai Motor Co.*, 2-15-cv-01275 (E.D. Tex. July 16, 2015), (5) *Blitzsafe Texas, LLC v. Honda Motor Co., Ltd.*, 2-15-cv-01274 (E.D. Tex. July 16,

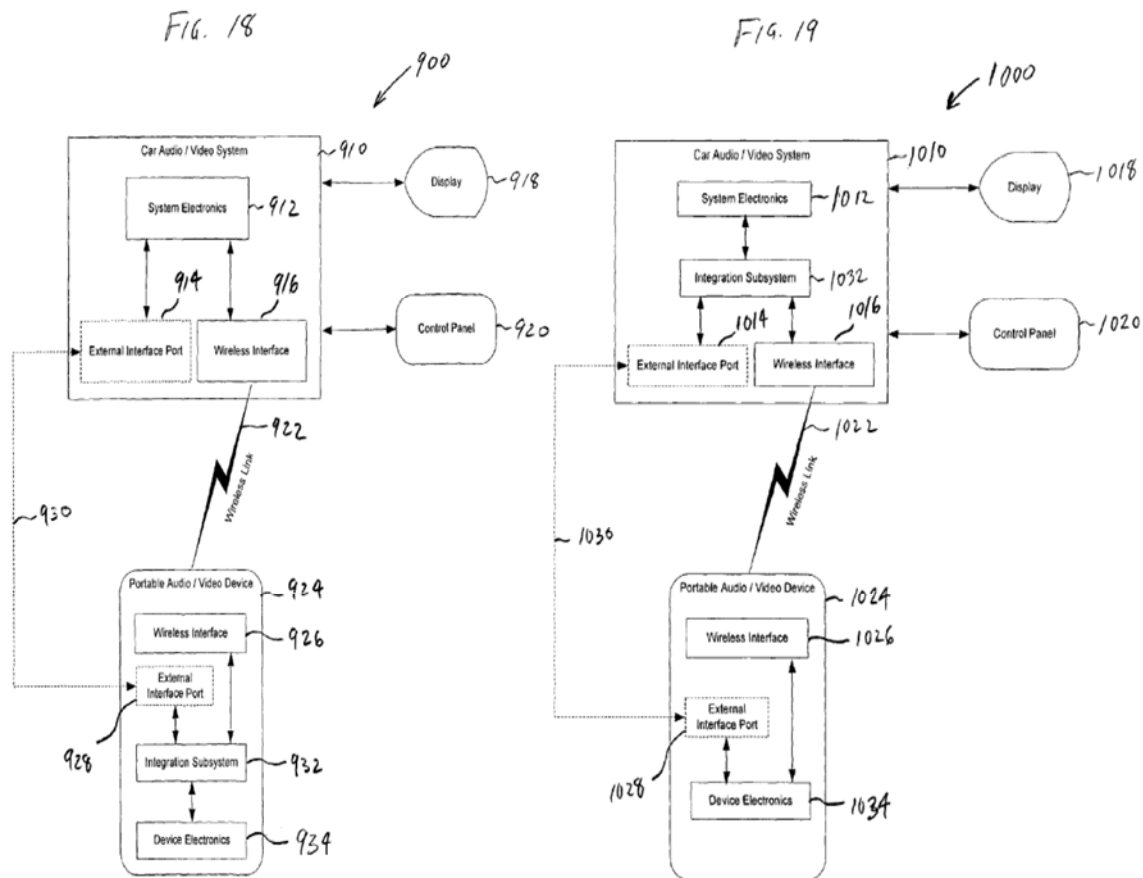
IPR2016-00418
Patent 8,155,342 B2

2015), (6) *Marlowe Patent Holdings LLC v. Dice Elects., LLC*, 3-10-cv-01199 (D.N.J.), and (7) *Marlowe Patent Holdings LLC v. Ford Motor Co.*, 3-10-cv-07044 (D.N.J.). Pet. 1–2. The '342 patent is also involved in IPR2016-00118 and IPR2016-00418. Related Patent 7,489,786 B2 is involved in IPR2016-00421 and IPR2016-00422.

B. The '342 Patent

The '342 patent relates to a multimedia device integration system that allows a plurality of “after-market” portable devices to be integrated into an existing car audio/video (stereo) system, via an “integration subsystem,” while allowing information to be displayed on, and control to be provided from, the car audio/video system. *See* Ex. 1001, 2:44–54; Abstract. Examples of these portable devices include CD players, CD changers, digital media devices (e.g., MP3 players, Apple iPod, WMV players, portable media centers, and other devices), satellite receivers, DAB receivers, auxiliary input sources, video devices (e.g., DVD players), cellular telephones, or any combination thereof. *Id.*

The '342 patent claims are directed to several embodiments where wireless integration is provided between a car audio/video system and a portable device, via an integration subsystem. Ex. 1001, 33:43–46. For example, Figure 18 shows an integration subsystem positioned within a portable device, and Figure 19 shows an integration subsystem positioned within a car audio/video system. Figures 18–19 are reproduced below.



Figures 18 and 19 of the '342 patent show integration subsystems 932 and 1032 positioned, respectively, within portable device 924 or within car audio/video system 1010.

As shown in Figure 18, integration subsystem 932 positioned within portable device 924 allows information (data and control signals) to be exchanged between portable device 924 and car audio/video system 910, and processes and formats data accordingly so that instructions and data from car audio/video system 910 are processed by portable device 924, and vice versa. *See id.* at 33:43–35:62, Fig. 18. Similarly, 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.

C. Illustrative Claim

Of the challenged claims, claims 49, 73, 97, and 120 are independent. Claims 50–57, 62–64, 66, 68, 70, and 71 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 49.

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.

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.