## 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

Case IPR2017-00216 Patent 8,013,732

DECLARATION OF DR. KEVIN C ALMEROTH Exhibit 2014



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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 declarations of Mr. Stephen Heppe with respect to U.S. Patent No. 8,013,732 ("the '732 Patent") and included as Exhibit 1004 to Emerson's IPR2017-00216 Petition.
- 2. As discussed in further detail in this declaration, 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 Emerson's Petition for IPR and Patent Owner's Response ("Response").
- 4. My opinions are based on information including (i) documents and other evidence that I have reviewed, including Emerson's Petition for IPR and all associated exhibits, (ii) Patent Owner's Preliminary Response and Response and all associated exhibits, (iii) other materials noted in this declaration and the Heppe declaration, and (iii) my own education, training, experience, and knowledge. I



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