Filed on behalf of:
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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APPLE INC.

Petitioner,

v.

VOIP-PAL.COM, INC.,

Patent Owner

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Case No. IPR2016-01198
U.S. Patent 9,179,005

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PATENT OWNER RESPONSE TO PETITION

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Patent Owner Voip-Pal.com, Inc. ("Voip-Pal") respectfully submits this Response to the Petition for *Inter Partes* Review of U.S. 9,179,005 (the '005 Patent) (Paper 1) by Apple Inc. ("Apple").

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Digifonica, a real party-in-interest to this proceeding and wholly owned subsidiary of Patent Owner Voip-Pal, starting in 2004 employed top professionals including three Ph.D.'s with various engineering backgrounds, to develop innovative software solutions for communications, which, by the mid-2000s it had implemented in four nodes across three geographic regions. Digifonica's R&D efforts led to several patents, including the '005 Patent.

Prior to the '005 Patent, private branch exchange (PBX) systems typically enabled users to call destinations internal to the PBX by dialing an extension (i.e., "private number") and destinations external to the PBX on the public switched telephone network (PSTN) by dialing a "public number." Such PBX systems relied on a *user-specified classification* of the dialed number to interpret the number and route the call. For example, a user placing a call to the public network dialed a predefined prefix such as "9" to indicate that subsequent digits were to be interpreted as a public PSTN number. If no prefix was dialed, the dialed digits were to be interpreted as a private PBX extension. The number alone, as dialed,

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