

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

SNAP INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

UNILOC LUXEMBOURG S.A.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2017-01611 (Patent 8,995,433 B2)
Case IPR2017-01612 (Patent 7,535,890 B2)

FACEBOOK, INC., and WHATSAPP INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

UNILOC LUXEMBOURG S.A.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2017-01634 (Patent 8,995,433 B2)
Case IPR2017-01635 (Patent 8,243,723 B2)
Case IPR2017-01636 (Patent 7,535,890 B2)

Before MIRIAM L. QUINN, KERRY BEGLEY, and
CHARLES J. BOUDREAU, *Administrative Patent Judges.*

QUINN, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

ORDER
Conduct of the Proceedings
37 C.F.R. § 42.5(c)(1)

Case IPR2017-01611 (Patent 8,995,433 B2)
Case IPR2017-01612 (Patent 7,535,890 B2)
Case IPR2017-01634 (Patent 8,995,433 B2)
Case IPR2017-01635 (Patent 8,243,723 B2)
Case IPR2017-01636 (Patent 7,535,890 B2)

The Board is authorized to set or modify times by order. 37 C.F.R. § 42.5(c)(1). When exercising this authority here, we do so to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive resolution of these proceedings. 37 C.F.R. § 42.1(b). We determine for the reasons set forth below that the deadline for the Patent Owner Preliminary Response in each of the captioned proceedings is **September 20, 2017**.

The patents involved in these proceedings are subject to trial in Cases IPR2017-00221, IPR2017-00222, and IPR2017-00225. The Petitions in the above-captioned proceedings are each accompanied by a Motion for Joinder requesting joinder with one of the three instituted trials, as follows:

Case No.	Patent-at-Issue	Requested Joinder
IPR2017-01611	8,995,433	IPR2017-00225
IPR2017-01612	7,535,890	IPR2017-00221
IPR2017-01634	8,995,433	IPR2017-00225
IPR2017-01635	8,243,723	IPR2017-00222
IPR2017-01636	7,535,890	IPR2017-00221

The deadline for Patent Owner to respond to the Motions for Joinder in the instant cases (August 13, at the latest; *see* 37 C.F.R. § 42.25(a)(1)) passed without opposition. On August 16, Patent Owner requested a change in the deadlines for the Patent Owner Preliminary Responses in the captioned cases. Upon assignment to this panel, we asked all parties to

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attend a conference call to discuss the requested deadline change. The panel held the conference call on September 6. Counsel for Petitioner and Patent Owner were present, as well as Judges Quinn, Begley, and Boudreau.

During the call, Patent Owner argued that consolidating the dates to respond, to a later date, would promote efficiency. Petitioner did not object to the request. The panel explained the need, not to delay the responses, but instead to expedite the resolution of the petitions and motions for joinder in the captioned proceedings, which seek joinder with ongoing trials scheduled for hearing on February 8, 2018. There are many pending proceedings concerning the patents-at-issue, and the deadlines to resolve the joinder in the above-captioned cases currently have overlapping deadlines with other pending proceedings. In order to manage more effectively these cases given that the same panel is assigned to all of these proceedings, and considering that the Petitions are identical (or “me too” petitions) to the ongoing trials, which were instituted on May 25, 2017 based on petitions filed in mid-November 2016, and that Patent Owner did not oppose the motions for joinder, the panel proposed an expedited schedule for the Patent Owner Preliminary Responses. Specifically, the panel proposed accelerating the deadline for the Preliminary Responses in the above-captioned cases to September 20. The panel requested that Patent Owner consider the proposal and respond to the Board by Friday, September 8.

The Board received an email communication from Patent Owner as follows:

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With the understanding that the Joinder Petitioners have stipulated that the Joinder Petitions filed in IPR2017-01634, -01635, and -01636 are identical to their respective original Petition submissions (except where they seek review as to only a subset of the claims upon which *inter partes* review has been instituted), and that the Joinder Petitioners have stipulated to a circumscribed “understudy” role without a separate opportunity to actively participate while the original petitioner remains active, Patent Owner agrees to an accelerated schedule for the preliminary response due date in these three matters. We understand the Board will be providing instructions and a new deadline for the expected notices that will be filed in place of a preliminary response.

Exhibit 3001.

Patent Owner later clarified its understanding that the “Joinder Petitions” identified in its email include the Petitions in IPR2017-01611 and IPR2017-01612. *See id.*

As explained on the call, in order to reduce the burden of an expedited filing deadline for Patent Owner, the Board is allowing Patent Owner the option to file a Notice of Patent Owner Preliminary Response stating that Patent Owner, by authorization of the Board, submits a Patent Owner Preliminary Response previously filed in the corresponding ongoing trial. For example, the Notice for IPR2017-01611 should state that the Patent Owner Preliminary Response filed in IPR2017-00225 is submitted as the Patent Owner Preliminary Response for IPR2017-01611. The Notice *and* the previously filed Patent Owner Preliminary Response may be filed as

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papers in the appropriate captioned proceeding. Patent Owner also has the option to waive the preliminary response in accordance with Board's Rules. 37 C.F.R. § 42.107(b).

ORDER

In consideration of the foregoing, it is hereby:

ORDERED that the deadline for filing the Patent Owner Preliminary Response in each of the above-captioned proceedings is set for **September 20, 2017**;

FURTHER ORDERED that Patent Owner is authorized to file a Notice and a previously filed Patent Owner Preliminary Response, in each of the above-captioned proceedings, consistent with our instructions above; and

FURTHER ORDERED that no other deadlines are modified and no other filings are authorized.

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