

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

---

GOOGLE LLC,  
Petitioner,

v.

AGIS SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT, LLC,  
Patent Owner.

---

Case IPR2018-01079  
Patent 8,213,970 B2

---

Before TREVOR M. JEFFERSON, CHRISTA P. ZADO, and  
KEVIN C. TROCK, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

ZADO, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION  
Institution of *Inter Partes* Review  
35 U.S.C. § 314

## I. INTRODUCTION

Google LLC (“Petitioner”)<sup>1</sup> filed a request for *inter partes* review of claims 1 and 3–9 (the “challenged claims”) of U.S. Patent No. 8,213,970 B2 (Ex. 1001, “the ’970 patent”). Paper 2 (“Pet.”). AGIS Software Development, LLC (“Patent Owner”) filed a Preliminary Response. Paper 6 (“Prelim. Resp.”). Petitioner filed a Reply to the Preliminary Response. Paper 8.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 314, an *inter partes* review must not be instituted “unless . . . 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). Upon considering the evidence presented and the arguments made, we determine Petitioner has demonstrated a reasonable likelihood that it would prevail in showing the unpatentability of at least one of the challenged claims. Accordingly, we institute an *inter partes* review.

### A. *Related Proceedings*

The parties advise that the ’970 patent has been asserted in *AGIS Software Development LLC v. Huawei Device USA Inc. et al.*, No. 2:17-cv-00513 (E.D. Tex.); *AGIS Software Development LLC v. HTC Corporation*, No. 2:17-cv-00514 (E.D. Tex.); *AGIS Software Development LLC v. LG Electronics, Inc.*, No. 2:17-cv-00515 (E.D. Tex.); *AGIS Software Development LLC v. Apple Inc.*, No. 2:17-cv-00516-JRG (E.D. Tex.); *AGIS*

---

<sup>1</sup> The Petition identifies as real parties-in-interest Google LLC, Huawei Device USA Inc., Huawei Device Co., Ltd., Huawei Device (Dongguan) Co., Ltd., Huawei Technologies USA Inc., Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., and LG Electronics, Inc. Paper 2, 79.

IPR2018–01079

Patent 8,213,970 B2

*Software Development LLC v. ZTE Corporation et al.*, No. 2:17-cv-00517 (E.D. Tex.). Pet. 79–80; Paper 5, 3–4. Patent Owner further advises that the '970 patent and patents related to the '970 patent are the subject of various filings requesting *inter partes* review. Paper 5, 2–3 (*see* table identifying *inter partes* review case numbers).

### B. *The '970 Patent*

The '970 patent generally discloses a specialized software application program on a personal computer (“PC”) or PDA/cell phone for creating and processing forced message alerts. Ex. 1001, Abstract. The specification of the '970 patent (“Specification”) discloses it is desirable for a PDA/cell phone user to be able to simultaneously send Digital Smart Message Service (“SMS”) or TCP/IP messages to a large group of PCs or cell phones using cellular technology (such as GSM or CDMA) or WiFi. *Id.* at 1:51–57. The Specification further discloses that in some situations it is additionally desirable to know which PCs and PDA/cell phones received the message, which PCs and PDA/cell phones did not receive the message, and the response of each recipient of the message. *Id.* at 1:57–61. “As a result, what is needed is a method in which a sender of a text or voice message can force an automatic acknowledgement upon receipt from a recipient’s cell phone or PC and a manual response from the recipient via the recipient’s cell phone or PC.” *Id.* at 1:65–67. In addressing these issues, the Specification discloses “[t]he heart of the invention lies in [a] forced message alert software application program provided in each PC or PDA/cell phone.” *Id.* at 4:47–49. The software provides the ability to

- (a) allow an operator to create and transmit a forced message alert from a sender PDA/cell phone to one or more recipient PCs and PDA/cell phones within the communication network;
- (b) automatically

transmit an acknowledgement of receipt to the sender PDA cell phone upon the receipt of the forced message alert; (c) periodically resend the message to the recipient PCs and PDA/cell phones that have not sent an acknowledgement; (d) provide an indication of which recipient PCs and PDA/cell phones have acknowledged the forced message alert; (e) provide a manual response list on the display of the recipient PC and PDA/cell phone's display that can only be cleared by manually transmitting a response; and (f) provide an indication on the sender PDA/ cell phone of the status and content the manual responses.

*Id.*, Abstract. The Specification explains that a forced message alert is comprised of a text or voice message and a forced message alert software packet. *Id.* at 2:11–13, 8:23–25.

### C. Challenged Claims

Petitioner challenges claims 1 and 3–9 of the '970 patent. Claims 1 and 6 are independent. Claim 1 is illustrative.

1. A communication system for transmitting, receiving, confirming receipt, and responding to an electronic message, comprising:

[1.1] a predetermined network of participants, wherein each participant has a similarly equipped PDA/cell phone that includes a CPU and a touch screen display and a CPU memory;

[1.2] a data transmission means that facilitates the transmission of electronic files between said PDA/cell phones in different locations;

[1.3] a sender PDA/cell phone and at least one recipient PDA/cell phone for each electronic message;

[1.4] a forced message alert software application program including a list of required possible

responses to be selected by a participant recipient of a forced message response loaded on each participating PDA/cell phone;

[1.5] means for attaching a forced message alert software packet to a voice or text message creating a forced message alert that is transmitted by said sender PDA/cell phone to the recipient PDA/cell phone, said forced message alert software packet containing a list of possible required responses and requiring the forced message alert software on said recipient PDA/cell phone to transmit an automatic acknowledgement to the sender PDA/cell phone as soon as said forced message alert is received by the recipient PDA/cell phone;

[1.6] means for requiring a required manual response from the response list by the recipient in order to clear the recipient's response list from recipient's cell phone display;

[1.7] means for receiving and displaying a listing of which recipient PDA/cell phones have automatically acknowledged the forced message alert and which recipient PDA/cell phones have not automatically acknowledged the forced message alert;

[1.8] means for periodically resending said forced message alert to said recipient PDA/cell phones that have not automatically acknowledged the forced message alert; and

[1.9] means for receiving and displaying a listing of which recipient PDA/cell phones have transmitted a manual response to said forced message alert and details the responses from each recipient PDA/cell phone that responded.

Ex. 1001, 8:65-9:39 (brackets and numbering added).

# 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.