

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

HTC CORPORATION, HTC AMERICA, INC., and LG ELECTRONICS, INC.,
Petitioners

v.

UNILOC 2017 LLC,
Patent Owner

INTER PARTES REVIEW OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,881,902
Case IPR No.: IPR2018-01631

MOTION FOR JOINDER TO *INTER PARTES* REVIEW
(35 U.S.C. § 315(c) AND 37 C.F.R. § 42.122(b))

I. STATEMENT OF THE PRECISE RELIEF REQUESTED

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 315(c) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.122(b), Petitioners HTC Corporation and HTC America, Inc. (together “HTC”) and LG Electronics, Inc. (“LG”) (collectively “Petitioners”) move for joinder with the *Inter Partes* Review of U.S. Patent No. 7,881,902 (“the ’902 patent”), *Apple Inc. v. Uniloc USA, Inc.*, IPR2018-00424 (“the Apple IPR”), for which trial was recently instituted on August 2, 2018. IPR2018-00424, Paper 7. This motion is timely because it is filed within one month of institution of the Apple IPR. 37 C.F.R. § 42.122(b). Petitioners understand that the petitioner in the Apple IPR (“the Apple Petitioner”) does not oppose Petitioners’ requests for joinder.

Petitioners request institution of the concurrently filed Petition for *Inter Partes* Review. The Petition is a carbon copy of the original Apple IPR petition in all material respects. The only substantive changes are in the introduction to identify the correct Petitioners and the mandatory notices under 37 C.F.R. § 42.8(b). The concurrently filed Petition and the Apple IPR petition challenge the same claims of the ’902 patent on the same grounds relying on the same prior art and evidence, including a declaration identical in substance from the same expert.¹

¹ The declaration has been updated only to reflect retention by Petitioners and is otherwise identical to the declaration submitted in the Apple IPR.

Petitioners agree to proceed solely on the grounds, evidence, and arguments advanced, or that will be advanced, in the Apple IPR as instituted. Thus, the Petition warrants institution under 35 U.S.C. § 314, and 35 U.S.C. § 315(c) permits Petitioners' joinder to the Apple IPR.

Further, if joined, Petitioners agree to adhere to all applicable deadlines in the Apple IPR and coordinate all filings with Apple Petitioner in the Apple IPR. The Apple Petitioner will maintain the lead role in the proceedings so long as it is a party to the proceedings and is not estopped under § 315(e)(1). Petitioners will only assume the lead role in the proceedings if the Apple Petitioner is no longer a party to the proceedings or unable to advance arguments for one or more claims, or grounds, for example, because of § 315(e)(1). Petitioners agree to consolidated filings for all substantive papers in the proceeding. The Apple Petitioner and Petitioners will be jointly responsible for the consolidated filings. Absent a Board order precluding the Apple Petitioner from making arguments that would otherwise be available to Petitioners, Petitioners will not advance any arguments separate from those advanced by the Apple Petitioner in the consolidated filings. These limitations will avoid lengthy and duplicative briefing. Also, Petitioners will not seek additional depositions or deposition time, and will coordinate deposition questioning and hearing presentations with the Apple Petitioner.

Petitioners agree to the foregoing conditions even in the event that other IPRs filed by other, third-party petitioners are joined with the Apple IPR.

Joinder will help efficiently resolve the disputes among the parties. By joinder, a single Board decision may dispose of the issues raised in the Apple IPR for all interested parties. Further, the Uniloc has asserted the '902 patent in district court against LG Electronics U.S.A., Inc., LG Electronics, Inc., and LG Electronics Mobilecomm U.S.A., Inc., as well as HTC America, Inc. Joinder will estop LG and HTC from asserting in district court those issues resolved in a final decision from the Apple IPR, thus narrowing the issues in the district court actions. *See* 35 U.S.C. § 315(e)(2). Finally, joinder would not complicate or delay the Apple IPR, and would not adversely affect any schedule set in that proceeding. In sum, joinder would promote efficient adjudication in multiple forums. On the other hand, if instituted, maintaining the Petitioners' IPR proceeding separate from that of the Apple IPR would entail needless duplication of effort.

Joinder will not unduly prejudice any party. Because joinder will not add any new substantive issues, delay the schedule, burden deponents, or increase needless filings, any additional costs on the Patent Owner would be minimal. On the other hand, denial of joinder would prejudice LG and HTC. Their interests may not be adequately protected in the Apple IPR proceedings, particularly if the

Apple Petitioner settles with the Patent Owner. Petitioners should be allowed to join in a proceeding affecting a patent asserted against them.

II. BACKGROUND AND RELATED PROCEEDINGS

Uniloc 2017 LLC (the “Patent Owner”) is the owner of the ’902 patent. Uniloc² asserted the ’902 patent against LG in *Uniloc USA, Inc. v. LG Electronics U.S.A., Inc.*, Case No. 4:17-cv-00832-O (N.D. Tex. filed on Oct. 13, 2017) (transferred and is now *Uniloc USA, Inc. v. LG Electronics U.S.A., Inc.*, Case No. 4:18-cv-02918-PJH (N.D. Cal. filed on May 17, 2018)); and against HTC in *Uniloc USA, Inc. v. HTC America, Inc.*, Case No. 2:17-cv-01629 (W.D. Wash. filed on Nov. 1, 2017) (consolidated with *Uniloc USA, Inc. v. HTC America, Inc.*, Case No. 2:17-cv-01558 (W.D. Wash.) (Lead case) on May 3, 2018). In addition, Uniloc asserted the ’902 patent against Samsung Electronics America, Inc. et al.; Huawei Device USA, Inc. et al.; and Apple Inc. (“Apple”). See *Uniloc USA, Inc. v. Samsung Electronics America, Inc.*, Case No. 2:17-cv-00650 (E.D. Tex. filed on

² According to the USPTO’s assignment database, Uniloc Luxembourg S.A. assigned the ’902 patent to Uniloc 2017 LLC on May 3, 2018. See Assignment abstract of title for Application 12694135, Reel/frame 046532/0088 (recorded July 12, 2018). This motion will refer to Uniloc 2017 LLC and Uniloc Luxembourg S.A. collectively as “Uniloc.”

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