

# Transcript of Carl G. Degen

Date: January 8, 2020

Case: American National Manufacturing Inc. -v- Sleep Number Corporation, et al. (PTAB)

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WORLDWIDE COURT REPORTING & LITIGATION TECHNOLOGY



### Transcript of Carl G. Degen Conducted on January 8, 2020

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
                                                                                  APPEARANCES:
                                                                                      On Behalf of Petitioner:
                                                                                     SPENCER FANE LLP
500 Granite Parkway
Suite 650
Plano, TX 75024
By: Mark Thornhill, Esq.
           BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD
            AMERICAN NATIONAL MANUFACTURING, INC.,
                                                                                      On Behalf of Patent Owner:
                          Petitioner
                                                                                      FOX ROTHSCHILD, LLP
222 South Ninth Street
Suite 2000
Minneapolis, MN 55402
By: Elizabeth Patton, Esq.
                   SLEEP NUMBER CORPORATION
               f/k/a SELECT COMFORT CORPORATION,
                                                                              10
                                                                              11
                                                                                      ALSO PRESENT: Jacob Arvold, Videographer Matthew Lynde (via telephone)
                         Patent Owner
                                                                              12
11
                                                                              13
          Case IPR2019-00497, Patent No. 8,769,747
Case IPR2019-00500, Patent No. 9,737,154
Case IPR2019-00514, Patent No. 5,904,172
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                     VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION
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                         CARL G. DEGEN
                                                                              19
18
                        January 8, 2020
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    Job No. 275013
22 Reported by: Amy L. Larson, RPR
                                                                              1 INDEX:
                                                                             2 EXAMINATION BY:
   VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF CARL G. DEGEN, taken on
                                                                                 Mr. Thornhill......6, 186
   this 8th day of January, 2020, commencing at
   approximately 9:01 a.m., at the law offices of
                                                                                 EXHIBITS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION:
   Fox Rothschild, LLP, 222 South Ninth Street,
                                                                                 Exhibit 2027......
Declaration of Dr. John Abraham
No Bates
   Suite 2000, Minneapolis, Minnesota,
                                                                                 10 Exhibit 2030......8
Declaration of Carl G. Degen
11 No Bates
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## Transcript of Carl G. Degen Conducted on January 8, 2020

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1	PROCEEDINGS	1 Q. I'm Mark Thornhill representing
2		2 American National Manufacturing. It's a
3	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Here begins	3 pleasure to meet you.
4	Disk Number 1 in the videotaped deposition	4 Sir, during the course of this
5	of Carl G. Degen in the matter of	5 deposition you understand that you're sworn
6	American National Manufacturing, Inc. vs.	6 to tell the truth, and you do understand
7	Sleep Number Corporation, before the	7 that, don't you?
8	Patent Trial and Appeal Board, United States	8 A. Yes.
9	Patent and Trademark Office, Case Numbers	9 Q. Okay. You've given many depositions in the
10	IPR2019-00497, dash 00500 and dash 00514.	
11	Today's date is January 8th, 2020. The time	10 course of your career, haven't you, sir?
12	on the video monitor is 9:02 a.m.	11 A. Yes.
13	The videographer today is	12 Q. Okay. So I'm assuming that you're familiar
14	Jacob Arvold representing Planet Depos.	with the process. The only thing that I ask
15	This video deposition is taking place at	14 of you is that if I ask a question that you
16	222 South Ninth Street, Suite 2000,	don't understand, please ask me to restate it
17	Minneapolis, Minnesota.	or to clarify it, because otherwise I'm going
18	Would counsel please voice identify	17 to just accept that you do understand the
	themselves and state whom they represent.	18 question.
20	MR. THORNHILL: For	19 Is that fair?
21	American National Manufacturing,	20 A. Yes.
22	Mark Thornhill of the Spencer Fane law firm.	21 Q. Good.
		22 MR. THORNHILL: So let's just mark
1	MS. PATTON: Elizabeth Patton from	Mr. Degen's declaration as Exhibit 2030.
2	Fox Rothschild representing the patent owner,	2 (Exhibit 2030 marked.)
3	Sleep Number Corporation.	3 BY MR. THORNHILL:
4	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: And also	
5	appearing by phone?	4 Q. Mr. Degen, the court reporter has placed in
6	MR. THORNHILL: Is Matthew Lynde,	front of you Exhibit 2030. Can you identify
7	L-Y-N-D-E, of Cornerstone Consulting.	6 that as the declaration that you submitted in
8	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The court	7 this case dated October 23, 2019?
9	reporter today is Amy Larson representing	8 A. Yes, it appears to be a copy of that.
10	Planet Depos.	9 Q. Right. And that represents your sworn
11	Would the reporter please swear in	10 testimony as of that date; isn't that
12	the witness.	11 correct?
13		12 A. Yes.
14	CARL G. DEGEN,	13 Q. In fact, the document has your signature at
15	a witness in the above-entitled action,	14 the last page of the text, isn't that so?
16	after having been first duly sworn, was	15 A. That's correct, on page 19.
17	deposed and says as follows:	
18		16 Q. Right. And just above it says that you made
19	EXAMINATION	17 those statements under penalty of perjury?
	BY MR. THORNHILL:	18 A. Correct.
21	Q. Good morning, Mr. Degen.	19 Q. Okay. And, sir, is it you understand that
	A. Good morning.	20 there actually are three proceedings with the
		21 same controversy in this matter?
		22 A. Yes.

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Conducted on	
1 Q. And this sworn testimony was submitted for	1 experience?
2 all three all three proceedings, you did	2 A. Correct.
3 not make a separate declaration for or a	3 Q. You've been a professional economist for how
4 different declaration for any of the three	4 many years approximately, 30, 40?
5 proceedings?	5 A. Forty-two.
6 A. I believe for one of the proceedings some of	6 Q. So is it okay with you then if we discuss
7 the exhibit number references were changed,	7 this generally in terms using the word
8 but the exhibits are exactly the same, and	8 "commercial success" rather than going
9 the text and opinions are exactly the same.	9 through the words about secondary indicia,
10 Q. Okay. The declaration, sir, Exhibit 2030,	10 et cetera?
includes a copy of your resume at Appendix A.	11 A. Yes.
Do you see that?	12 Q. Commercial success is a fair way to describe
13 A. Yes.	the basic analysis that you were conducting?
14 Q. And then immediately following the resume	14 A. It's – it's broader than the analysis I've
15 there's a page titled, Deposition and Trial	15 conducted. I've looked at two specific
16 Testimony.	16 analyses that fall under the rubric of
Do you see that?	17 commercial success.
18 A. Yes.	18 Q. Fine. And one of those is whether there is
19 Q. Is the resume still accurate as of today?	19 demand for the patented technologies; is that
20 A. Yes.	20 correct?
21 Q. Is the statement of deposition and trial	21 A. Yes.
22 testimony accurate as of today?	22 Q. And another and the second of those
10	12
1 A. Yes.	analyses that you've prepared that you've
2 Q. Sir, in this case and through your sworn	2 conducted, is the adoption rate of the
3 testimony presented in Exhibit 2030, you talk	3 patented technologies; is that correct?
4 about secondary indicia of nonobviousness, is	4 A. Yes.
5 that so?	5 Q. Now, sir, in cases previous to the case that
6 A. I think – yes, secondary indicia or	6 we're on here today, have you provided sworn
7 sometimes called secondary consideration,	7 testimony in other patent cases on the
8 yes.	8 general topic of commercial success?
9 Q. Okay. And in particular, you're talking here	9 A. Commercial success comes under several of the
about the concept of commercial success?	10 factors in Georgia-Pacific, so I would say in
11 A. Specifically, yes.	11 a – in a large number of cases where I've
12 Q. And just for reference purposes, I was	given royalty opinions, commercial success,
looking at paragraph 8 of your declaration.	including demand and adoption, would have
14 That may be where you were looking.	14 been included in my analyses, or at least
15 A. Yes, it is.	15 considerations within my analyses.
16 Q. Okay. And you explain in paragraph 8,	16 Q. In any other patent cases have you opined
17 "Commercial success relates to economic	about demand for patented technology?
18 considerations regarding the products at	18 A. Yes, I've looked at the sales of products
19 issue"; is that correct?	19 embodying the patented technology relative to
20 A. I explain that that's my understanding, yes.	20 those that don't and how those have changed

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over time.

22 Q. How would you compare and contrast those

21



21 Q. Okay. All right. And that's your

understanding developed during your years of

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previous testimonies about demand for	been testimony that it's widespread or that
2 patented patented technologies from the	2 it's a hundred percent, so there was no need
undertaking that you have made in this case?	3 to do calculations.
4 A. I would say they're very similar.	4 Q. I see. And is that also so now I want to
5 Q. Have you opined in patent cases before about	5 move to the adoption rate issue.
adoption rate of patented technologies?	6 A. Yes.
7 A. Yes.	7 Q. And, again, I'm just asking because you used
8 Q. And were those also in the context of royalty	8 the word "considered," I'm trying to
cases?	9 understand what you really mean here.
10 A. Yes, I believe one of the Georgia-Pacific	10 So to be clear, what I'm asking is
11 factors directs me to consider the extent of	11 whether in any previous patent cases you have
12 use. And in a number of those cases I've	12 given sworn testimony regarding your
13 looked at how the accused technology was	13 calculations of adoption rates of patented
4 adopted throughout the product line.	14 technologies?
15 Q. And in those other cases, have you did	15 A. Yes. So I'm – I'm a little confused. In
your sworn testimony include calculations of	16 terms of previous patent cases, I have
demand on units sold caused by the patented	17 testified in a previous IPR case involving
18 technologies?	18 patents that included explicit calculations
19 A. Yes.	19 of demand and adoption —
20 Q. And did they include opinions and	20 Q. Okay.
21 calculations about the adoption rate of	21 A. — and other things.
patented technologies?	22 Beyond that, in cases involving a
14	16
1 A. I'm sure many of them have looked at the rate	1 reasonable royalty calculation, I have also
of adoption. I don't know whether I've	2 calculated demand and adoption rates and
3 always calculated the calculated the	3 considered them in many more.
4 adoption rate in explicit percentage terms,	4 Q. Okay. Well, let's talk about the IPR case,
5 but the – how widespread it was over time,	5 okay?
6 how it changed over time was certainly	6 A. Okay.
7 considered in many of the cases I've	7 Q. That would be a case then before the PTAB?
s testified in.	8 A. Yes.
Q. You are you used the word	9 Q. Okay. And can you tell me the the parties
10 "considered," and I just want to	10 to that case?
11 A. Yeah.	11 A. Yes, it's the fourth case listed on the
12 Q make sure that we're using the same	page 24 of Exhibit 2030, Polygroup Limited.
13 vernacular here.	13 Q. Oh, Polygroup Limited, okay.
I'm asking whether you have given	14 A. Versus Willis Electric Company.
15 sworn testimony which specifically relates to	15 Q. Is that the only PTAB case in which you have
16 calculations of demand for patented	16 given sworn testimony?
technology in a patent case and	17 A. As far as I can remember, yes.
	18 Q. In the Polygroup case, were you providing
•	
19 A. I believe it's yes. I've testified in a lot	19 expert opinions on behalf of
20 of cases, and I'm hard-pressed to identify a	20 Willis Electric?

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particular one. But certainly in some cases

I've calculated it. In other cases there's

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21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And was this a challenge -- who was the



21

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