

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

MEDTRONIC, INC., AND MEDTRONIC VASCULAR, INC.,

Petitioner,

v.

TELEFLEX INNOVATIONS S.À.R.L.,

Patent Owner.

Case IPR2020-00135

Patent RE45,776

**PETITIONER'S REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR REHEARING
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 42.71(d) AND *UNITED STATES V. ARTHREX***

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION1

II. LEGAL STANDARD.....2

III. THE BOARD’S FINDINGS RELATED TO CORROBORATION AND DILIGENCE SET DANGEROUS PRECEDENTS CONTRARY TO ESTABLISHED LAW, AND THE DIRECTOR SHOULD REVERSE.2

 A. The Director must correct the Board’s faulty corroboration analysis.3

 1. The Director needs to clarify whether the non-inventor testimony, alone, is sufficient to corroborate the inventor testimony.....5

 2. Patent Owner’s non-inventor declarations do not corroborate inventor testimony that VSI determined that the inventions would work for their intended purpose—the Board relied on only inventor testimony.7

 3. The Board overlooked evidence disproving reduction to practice.12

 B. The Director must correct the Board’s application of the “reasonably continuous” diligence standard.13

IV. CONCLUSION.....15

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases

<i>Arctic Cat Inc. v. GEP Power Prods., Inc.</i> , 919 F.3d 1320 (2019).....	13, 14
<i>ATI Techs. ULC v. Iancu</i> , 920 F.3d 1362 (Fed. Cir. 2019).....	3, 13
<i>Bos. Sci. Corp. v. Johnson & Johnson</i> , 481 F. Supp. 2d 1018 (N.D. Cal. 2007).....	8
<i>Cooper v. Goldfarb</i> , 154 F.3d 1321 (Fed. Cir. 1998).....	6
<i>Hahn v. Wong</i> , 892 F.2d 1028 (Fed. Cir. 1989).....	4
<i>In re Meyer Mfg. Corp.</i> , 411 F. App'x 316 (Fed. Cir. 2010).....	13
<i>Lacks Indus., Inc. v. McKechnie Vehicle Components USA, Inc.</i> , 322 F.3d 1335 (Fed. Cir. 2003).....	4, 6
<i>Mahurkar v. C.R. Bard, Inc.</i> , 79 F.3d 1572 (Fed. Cir. 1996).....	7, 8
<i>Medichem, S.A. v. Rolabo, S.L.</i> , 437 F.3d 1157 (Fed. Cir. 2006).....	3, 4, 7, 11
<i>Perfect Surgical Techniques, Inc. v. Olympus Am., Inc.</i> , 841 F.3d 1004 (Fed. Cir. 2016).....	3
<i>Singh v. Brake</i> , 222 F.3d 1362 (Fed. Cir. 2000).....	3
<i>Toshiba Memory Corp. v. Anza Tech., Inc.</i> , IPR2018-01597, 2020 WL 1229855 (PTAB Mar. 12, 2020)	13
<i>United States v Arthrex, Inc.</i> , 141 S. Ct. 1970 (2021).....	2

IPR2020-00135

Patent RE45,776

Xilinx, Inc. v. Intell. Ventures Mgmt.,

Appeal No. 2014-001131, 2014 WL 1679835 (PTAB Apr. 25, 2014).....13

Other Authorities

MPEP § 2138.0615

PTO Guidance, Arthrex Q&As | USPTO.....2

I. INTRODUCTION

Petitioner seeks Director review of the Final Written Decision (“FWD,” Paper 126) holding that the primary reference, Itou, is not prior art.¹ The Director should reverse and remand for consideration of the asserted grounds on the merits.

The Board erred in finding that Patent Owner’s predecessor, VSI, reduced the claimed coaxial guide catheter (or guide extension catheter) inventions to practice before Itou. The Board found that VSI assembled and tested prototypes embodying the inventions and determined that they would work for their intended purpose. The Board’s ruling on testing, however, cites only inventor testimony, in violation of established corroboration requirements. No document in the record relates to testing relevant prototypes or demonstrating that the prototypes would work for their intended purpose. The Board cited the declaration of a non-inventor, Erb, but not for any details regarding testing relevant prototypes (because he provides none).

The Board’s decision departs from binding authority establishing the contours of corroboration requirements. Neither the Board’s decision nor Patent Owner’s briefing cites a single case or Board decision finding that an invention was demonstrated to work for its intended purpose based on only after-the-fact, litigation-driven testimony, much less on only *inventor* testimony. Director review

¹ Petitioner requested a Precedential Opinion Panel by email.

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