

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA, INC.,
Petitioner

v.

STRATOSAUDIO, INC.,
Patent Owner

IPR2021-00716
U.S. Patent No. 8,688,028

DECLARATION OF DR. JOHN C. HART, Ph.D.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. I, John C. Hart, Ph.D., have been retained by Patent Owner StratosAudio, Inc. (“Patent Owner”) as an independent expert witness in the above referenced *inter partes* review (“IPR”) of United States Patent No. 8,688,028 (“the ’028 patent”) (EX1001). I understand that Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (“Petitioner”) has petitioned for *inter partes* review of the ’028 patent and requests that the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“PTO”) cancel as unpatentable certain claims of the ’028 patent.

2. This declaration sets forth my analyses and opinions based on the materials I have considered thus far and the bases for my opinions. I understand that this declaration will be used in the above mentioned IPR2021-00716.

A. Background and Qualifications

3. My qualifications are set forth in my curriculum vitae, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A hereto. As set forth in my curriculum vitae, I have a B.S. degree in Computer Science, as well as both an M.S. and Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences. I am a tenured Professor of Computer Science in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, one of the top five CS departments in the nation according to US News and World Report. As an educator for the past three decades, I have taught courses

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