

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
WACO DIVISION**

Ocean Semiconductor LLC,

Plaintiff

v.

STMicroelectronics, Inc. (“STMicro”),

Defendant.

Civil Action No.: 6:20-cv-1215

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

PATENT CASE

COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff Ocean Semiconductor LLC (“Ocean Semiconductor” or “Plaintiff”) files this Complaint against STMicroelectronics, Inc. (“STMicro” or “Defendant”), seeking damages and other relief for patent infringement, and alleges with knowledge to its own acts, and on information and belief as to other matters, as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*

THE PARTIES

2. Plaintiff Ocean Semiconductor is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, and its registered agent for service of process in Delaware is Rita Carnevale, 717 N. Union Street, Wilmington, DE 19805.

3. On information and belief, STMicro is a Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 8501 North Mo-Pac Expy, Suite 420, Austin, TX 78759. On information and belief, Defendant may be served through its registered agent, CT Corporation, at 1999 Bryan St., Suite 900, Dallas, TX 75201.

4. On information and belief, Defendant STMicro sells, offers to sell, and/or uses products and services throughout the United States, including in this judicial District, and introduces infringing products and services into the stream of commerce knowing that they would be sold and/or used in this judicial District and elsewhere in the United States.

5. Plaintiff Ocean Semiconductor is the assignee and owner of the patents at issue in this action: U.S. Patents Nos. 6,660,651, 6,907,305, 6,725,402, 6,968,248, 6,420,097, 7,080,330, 6,836,691, and 8,676,538 (collectively, the “Asserted Patents”). Ocean Semiconductor holds all substantial rights, title, and interest in the Asserted Patents, including the exclusive right to sue STMicro for infringement and recover damages, including damages for past infringement.

6. Plaintiff Ocean Semiconductor seeks monetary damages and prejudgment interest for Defendant’s past and ongoing direct and indirect infringement of the Asserted Patents.

7. Defendant STMicro is a semiconductor company that designs, develops, sells, offers to sell, and imports into the United States semiconductor products in the communications, internet of things, automotive, computer, and consumer electronics industry (“Accused Products”).

8. Defendant STMicro, which has its own design centers in the United States (including a facility in Austin, Texas), produces or contracts with third-party semiconductor fabricators or foundries (“STMicro Foundry Partners”) that own, operate, or control semiconductor fabrication plants (“fabs”) within and/or outside of the United States

(“International Facilities”) to produce the Accused Products. One such STMicro Foundry Partner is Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company Ltd. (“TSMC”). TSMC has a contractual partnership with STMicro to design, develop, or manufacture semiconductor products including integrated circuits for STMicro. *See, e.g.*, “STMicro and TSMC Collaborate to Accelerate Gallium Nitride Adoption,” *available at* <https://eepower.com/news/stmicro-and-tsmc-collaborate-to-accelerate-gallium-nitride-adoption/#> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020); *see also* “Philips, STMicroelectronics and TSMC take lead in advanced 90-nanometer CMOS process technologies,” *available at* <https://investors.st.com/news-releases/news-release-details/philips-stmicroelectronics-and-tsmc-take-lead-advanced-90> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020).

9. On information and belief, Defendant STMicro (directly or through one or more of its Foundry Partners) also has a contractual relationship with United Microelectronics Corp. (“UMC”). *See, e.g.*, “STMicro, UMC forge technology alliance,” *available at* <https://www.design-reuse.com/news/3581/stmicro-umc-forge-technology-alliance.html> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020); *see also* “STMicro extends foundry deal with UMC,” <https://www.eetimes.com/stmicro-extends-foundry-deal-with-umc/> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020); “UMC to Develop 65nm BSI CMOS Image Sensor Process with STMicroelectronics,” *available at* <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/umc-to-develop-65nm-bsi-cmos-image-sensor-process-with-stmicroelectronics-168739446.html> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020). UMC has a contractual partnership with STMicro to design, develop, or manufacture semiconductor products including integrated circuits for STMicro.

10. On information and belief, Defendant STMicro (directly or through one or more of its Foundry Partners such as TSMC and/or UMC) has a contractual relationship with Applied Materials, Inc. (“Applied Materials”) (*see* Applied Materials’ job posting for “TSMC F15 E3

project,” *available at*

http://www.mse.ntu.edu.tw/attachments/article/154/AMT_Summer%20Student%20Program_Job

[%20Post_2013.pdf](#) (last accessed October 12, 2020) and PDF Solutions Inc. (“PDF Solutions”)

(e.g., “Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company adopts PDF Solutions yield

improvement technology,” *available at* <https://www.edn.com/taiwan-semiconductor->

[manufacturing-company-adopts-pdf-solutions-yield-improvement-technology/](#) (last accessed

Oct. 12, 2020); *see also* “Exensio: Big Data in the Fab,” *available at*

<https://semiwiki.com/eda/4351-exensio-big-data-in-the-fab/> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020)), and

one or more of the STMicro Foundry Partners (e.g., TSMC) employ Applied Materials’

semiconductor fabrication or manufacturing equipment, platforms, and/or framework, including

Applied Materials’ E3 system, including the E3 factory advanced/automation process control

(“APC”) hardware and/or software (collectively, “E3 system”), PDF Solutions’ Exensio

hardware and/or software (collectively, “Exensio system”), and/or other in-house or third-party

advanced/automation process control system and platform hardware and/or software (e.g., with

similar technical and functional features) to design, develop, and/or manufacture Defendant

STMicro’s semiconductor devices, including integrated circuits.

11. Upon information and belief, TSMC employs Applied Materials’ and/or PDF Solutions’ semiconductor fabrication or manufacturing equipment, platforms, and/or framework (e.g., Applied Materials’ E3 system and/or PDF Solutions’ Exensio system) at TSMC’s manufacturing facilities. Applied Materials has received supplier awards and recognition from TSMC. *See, e.g.*, “TSMC Recognizes Outstanding Suppliers at Supply Chain Management Forum,” *available at* <https://pr.tsmc.com/english/news/1873> (last accessed October 12, 2020).

12. TSMC also employs CamLine GmbH's ("camLine") semiconductor fabrication or manufacturing equipment, platforms, and/or framework. On information and belief, STMicro and TSMC employ camLine's semiconductor fabrication or manufacturing solutions, including camLine's LineWorks production automation solution (e.g., LineWorks eCap and LineWorks PULSE modules) (collectively, "LineWorks system") and/or other advanced/automation process control system and platform software (e.g., with similar technical and functional features) to design, develop, and/or manufacture Defendant STMicro's semiconductor devices, including integrated circuits (*see, e.g.*, "'camLine increased our process integrity and reduced tool set-up times,' Corporate IT Manufacturing manager, STMicroelectronics," *available at* <https://www.camline.com/> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020)); *see also* "How to improve more quality in a fully automated 300mm factory," at 1, *available at* <https://docplayer.net/56582619-How-to-improve-more-quality-in-a-fully-automated-300mm-factory.html> (last accessed Oct. 12, 2020) ("In one of its state-of-the-art fully automated 300mm factories, STMicroelectronics is driving successfully quality improvements with a long camLine partnership using several solutions on SPC, recipe integrity, and SQM making camLine key software supplier to STMicroelectronics").

13. On information and belief, Defendant STMicro (directly or through its Foundry Partners such as TSMC) employs Applied Materials' E3 system, PDF Solutions' Exensio system, and/or camLine's LineWorks system to design, develop or manufacture one or more systems, products, and/or devices for importation into the United States for use, sale, and/or offer for sale in this District and throughout the United States, including, but not limited to, semiconductor products and devices, such as semiconductor products and devices, including advanced driver assistance systems (e.g., STV0991, STV0991, VG5761, STRADA431, STRADA770M), MEMS and sensor products (e.g., AIS1120SX, AIS1200PS, AIS2120SX,

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