

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

META PLATFORMS, INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

ANGEL TECHNOLOGIES GROUP LLC,
Patent Owner.

IPR2023-00057 - Patent 8,954,432 B2
IPR2023-00058 - Patent 9,959,291 B2
IPR2023-00059 - Patent 10,417,275 B2
IPR2023-00060 - Patent 10,628,480 B2

Record Of Oral Hearing
Held: February 13, 2024

Before MIRIAM L. QUINN, SHARON FENICK, and
MICHAEL T. CYGAN, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

IPR2023-00057 - Patent 8,954,432 B2
IPR2023-00058 - Patent 9,959,291 B2
IPR2023-00059 - Patent 10,417,275 B2
IPR2023-00060 - Patent 10,628,480 B2

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The above-entitled matter came on for hearing on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, commencing at 10:00 a.m., at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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2 JUDGE FENICK: All right, thank you. Please be seated. It will take
3 one second to log on to our computers -- thank you.

4 Good morning. We are convened today for oral arguments in
5 IPR2023-00057, 00058, 00059, and 00060, in which are challenged,
6 respectively, claims of patents 8,954,432; 9,959,291; 10,417,275; and
7 10,628,480. I'm Judge Fenick and my colleagues are Judges Cygan and
8 Quinn. Judge Quinn is joining us remotely.

9 Judge Quinn, can you see and hear us?

10 JUDGE QUINN: Yes, I can see and hear you.

11 JUDGE FENICK: Thank you. The hearing order, which is paper 32
12 in IPR2023-00057, provided that each party has 90 minutes total time to
13 argue their case. Today we are welcoming a LEAP practitioner for
14 Petitioner, so Petitioner will have 15 extra minutes to provide for the LEAP
15 practitioner's meaningful and substantive opportunity to argue before the
16 Board. We are glad to have parties participate in this important program.

17 Petitioner has the ultimate burden of establishing unpatentability.
18 Therefore, Petitioner will open the hearing by presenting its case as
19 presented in its petition regarding the alleged unpatentability of the
20 challenged claims. Petitioner may reserve rebuttal time, but no more than
21 half of its total argument time. Thereafter, Patent Owner will respond to
22 Petitioner's arguments. Patent Owner may reserve surrebuttal time, no more
23 than half of its total argument time, to respond to Petitioner's rebuttal.

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1 Otherwise, the parties may use their allotted time to discuss the case as they
2 choose.

3 We ask that you make it clear which challenges and claims you are
4 addressing for the clarity of the record. Also following the hearings, please
5 wait and provide the court reporter a chance to ask for any spellings or other
6 clarifications. We ask the parties hold any objections regarding a party's
7 arguments until it is their time at the podium. We will not take objections
8 during a party's argument and you must wait until it is your time at the
9 podium to note any objections. I will maintain a clock which you'll see
10 behind me.

11 So now if we can get started with appearances for both sides, starting
12 with Petitioner, please.

13 MR. BILLHARZ: Good morning, Your Honor. Alan Billharz on
14 behalf of Petitioner, Meta Platforms, Incorporated. I'm joined by lead
15 counsel for Petitioner, Lisa Nguyen, and also by in-house counsel, Katie
16 Brockway.

17 JUDGE FENICK: Thank you. And for Patent Owner, please?

18 MR. HEJNY: Your Honor, may it please the Board, Lead Counsel
19 Scott Hejny on behalf of Angel Technologies. With me today in presenting
20 oral argument on behalf of Angel Technologies is Ms. Elizabeth Bernard
21 and Mr. Arvind Jairam. Present via the remote feed are Kaylee Hoffner of
22 McKool Smith and the inventor and owner of Angel Technologies, Mr.
23 Mark Frigon.

24 JUDGE FENICK: Thank you. And we'll start with the Petitioner.
25 Mr. Billharz, would you like to reserve rebuttal time?

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1 MR. BILLHARZ: Yes, Your Honor, we'd like to reserve 30 minutes
2 for rebuttal.

3 JUDGE FENICK: Okay. Please begin when you're ready.

4 MR. BILLHARZ: Yes, Your Honor. Good morning, Your Honors,
5 and may it please the Board, Alan Billharz on behalf of Petitioner Meta
6 Platforms. I'm joined by Lead Counsel Lisa Nguyen and by in-house
7 counsel for Meta, Katie Brockway. So I'm grateful to participate in today's
8 program via the LEAP program, and I do expect to address all of the issues
9 in today's proceeding. But I may need to confer with lead counsel from time
10 to time. And I'd ask for an opportunity to confer with lead counsel before
11 we begin a rebuttal.

12 Unless there are any questions from the Board, I intend to proceed
13 with the demonstratives that we prepared for today. I have paper copies of
14 those demonstratives, if the Board would like a copy.

15 JUDGE FENICK: We have them here.

16 MR. BILLHARZ: Okay. Well, Your Honor, with that then, I will
17 turn to slide 2 of our demonstratives. On slide 2, we have a roadmap for
18 today's proceeding. I intend to present a brief overview of the patents, of the
19 challenged patents, and the prior art, and then proceed with three modules of
20 disputed issues: the first being the *Sharpe* alone or in view of a POSA's
21 knowledge ground; the second being the combination of *Sharpe* and
22 *Eintracht*; and the third being *Robertson* and *Lloyd-Jones*, which is the
23 combination at issue for the '480 patent only.

24 Turning to slide 5, Your Honors, there are four challenged patents at
25 issue in these proceedings. They're all related patents with a common

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