

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
MARSHALL DIVISION**

**BLITZSAFE TEXAS, LLC,**

**Plaintiff,**

v.

**HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.;  
AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO.,  
INC.; HONDA OF AMERICA  
MANUFACTURING, INC.; HONDA  
MANUFACTURING OF ALABAMA,  
LLC; and HONDA MANUFACTURING  
OF INDIANA, LLC,**

**Defendants.**

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**Case No.**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

**PLAINTIFF’S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

Plaintiff, Blitzsafe Texas, LLC, files this Original Complaint against Defendants, Honda Motor Co., Ltd., American Honda Motor Co., Inc., Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc., Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, LLC, and Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, LLC (“Defendants”), for patent infringement under 35 U.S.C. § 271 and alleges as follows:

**THE PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff, Blitzsafe Texas, LLC (“Blitzsafe”), is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, and maintains its principal place of business at 100 W. Houston Street, Marshall, Texas 75670. Blitzsafe sells automotive interface products that allow the end user to connect a third-party external audio device or multimedia device to a car stereo in order to play the content on the device through the car stereo system and speakers. Blitzsafe sells its products throughout the United States including in this judicial



district. Blitzsafe is the owner of all right title and interest in and to U.S. Patent No. 7,489,786 and U.S. Patent No. 8,155,342.

2. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda Motor Co., Ltd. is a Japanese corporation with its principal place of business at 1-1, Minami-Aoyama 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107-8556, Japan.

3. Upon information and belief, Defendant American Honda Motor Co., Inc. is a California corporation with a place of business at 1919 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, California 90501.

4. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc. is an Ohio corporation with a place of business at 24000 Honda Pkwy, Marysville, Ohio 43040.

5. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, LLC is an Alabama limited liability company with a place of business at 1800 Honda Drive, Lincoln, Alabama 35096.

6. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, LLC is an Indiana limited liability company with a place of business at 2755 N. Michigan Ave., Greensburg, Indiana 47240.

### **JURISDICTION**

7. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. §§ 1, *et seq.* This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

8. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants. Defendants conduct business and have committed acts of patent infringement and/or have induced acts of patent

infringement by others in this district and/or have contributed to patent infringement by others in this judicial district, the State of Texas, and elsewhere in the United States.

9. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b), 1391(c) and 1400(b) because, among other things, Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this district, Defendants have regularly conducted business in this judicial district, and certain of the acts complained of herein occurred in this judicial district.

### **PATENTS-IN-SUIT**

10. On February 10, 2009, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally issued U.S. Patent No. 7,489,786 (the “’786 Patent”) entitled “Audio Device Integration System.” A true and correct copy of the ’786 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

11. On April 10, 2012, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and legally issued U.S. Patent No. 8,155,342 (the “’342 Patent”) entitled “Multimedia Device Integration System.” A true and correct copy of the ’342 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

12. The patents-in-suit generally cover systems for integrating third-party audio devices and multimedia devices with a car stereo.

13. Defendants manufacture, import and/or sell an audio and multimedia integration system, called HondaLink™, that has been installed in Honda-branded vehicles made in or imported into the United States since at least approximately 2013.

14. Defendant manufacture, import and/or sell an audio and multimedia integration system, called AcuraLink™, that has been installed in Acura-branded vehicles made in or imported into the United States since at least approximately 2013.

15. HondaLink and AcuraLink support the integration of third-party external audio devices, such as MP3 players, with the car radio. HondaLink and AcuraLink permit an end user to connect a third-party external audio or multimedia device to the car radio by wire, such as through a USB port or auxiliary port, or wirelessly, such as through Bluetooth. Once connected, the end user may control the third-party external audio device using the car radio's controls, and the audio from the external audio device may be played through the car radio and speakers.

**COUNT I**  
**(Infringement of the '786 Patent)**

16. Paragraphs 1 through 15 are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

17. Blitzsafe has not licensed or otherwise authorized Defendants to make, use, offer for sale, sell, or import any products that embody the inventions of the '786 Patent.

18. Defendants have and continue to directly infringe one or more claims of the '786 patent, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by making, using, offering to sell, selling and/or importing into the United States infringing products, including the HondaLink and AcuraLink audio and media integration systems, without authority and in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271.

19. Defendants have and continue to indirectly infringe one or more claims of the '786 Patent by knowingly and intentionally inducing others to directly infringe, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by making, using, offering to sell, selling and/or importing into the United States infringing products, including the HondaLink and AcuraLink audio and media integration systems. For example, Defendants, with knowledge that HondaLink and AcuraLink infringe the '786 Patent at least as of the date of this Complaint, knowingly and intentionally induced, and continue to knowingly and intentionally induce, direct infringement of the '786 patent by providing HondaLink and AcuraLink product manuals that instruct end users how to

use HondaLink and AcuraLink, including specifically how to connect their external third-party audio and multimedia devices to the car stereo. Defendants induced infringement by others, including end users, with the intent to cause infringing acts by others or, in the alternative, with the belief that there was a high probability that others, including end users, infringe the '786 Patent, but while remaining willfully blind to the infringement.

20. Defendants have and continue to indirectly infringe one or more claims of the '786 Patent by contributing to the direct infringement, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by others, including end users, by offering to sell, selling and/or importing into the United States the HondaLink and AcuraLink audio and media integration systems, with the knowledge, at least as of the date of this Complaint, that HondaLink and AcuraLink contain components that constitute a material part of the inventions claimed in the '786 Patent. Such components include, for example, interfaces that permit an end user to use a car radio's controls to control an external third party audio device. Defendants know that these components are especially made or especially adapted for use in an infringement of the '786 Patent and that these components are not a staple article or commodity of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use. Alternatively, Defendants believed there was a high probability that others would infringe the '786 Patent but remained willfully blind to the infringing nature of others' actions.

21. Blitzsafe has suffered damages as a result of Defendants' direct and indirect infringement of the '786 patent in an amount to be proved at trial.

22. Blitzsafe has suffered, and will continue to suffer, irreparable harm as a result of Defendants' infringement of the '786 patent, for which there is no adequate remedy at law, unless Defendants' infringement is enjoined by this Court.

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