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Recent Developments in Claim Construction

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Kenneth R. Adamo*
Law Office of KRadamo
360 W. Illinois, Apt 620
Chicago, IL 60654

kradamo23@gmail.com

*Member, Illinois, New York, Ohio and Texas Bars. This presentation reflects only the present considerations and views of the author, which should not be attributed to Law Office of KR Adamo or any of his or its former or present clients.
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To Start: Does This Make Sense To You?

K. Fee System GmbH v. Nespresso USA, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 2-21-CV-03402 (C.D. Cal.), Motion for Summary Judgment – Non-infringement (June 17, 2022) (Following claim construction the court granted defendant’s motion for summary judgment that it did not infringe plaintiff’s beverage capsule patents: “Considering the entire record at this stage, including [plaintiff’s] statements to the EPO and before this Court, based on the undisputed facts, the Court concludes that the accused products do not contain a ‘barcode’ as claimed in the Asserted Patents because the code employed by the accused products contains only ‘0s’ and ‘1s’ like the Jarisch bit code . . . **[B]efore the EPO, [plaintiff] averred that a binary code containing only ‘0s’ and ‘1s’ is not a barcode, but before this Court [plaintiff] and its expert are saying the opposite. This contradiction provides and insufficient basis on which to find a genuine dispute of material fact.”** (page 12).

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What's New . . . And (Possibly) Different

- ▶ Contrary to previous outings, this time am going to avoid soup-to-nuts approach:
 - ▶ Not going to talk about: preambles; transitional terms; construing claims narrowly to preserve validity; reading embodiments into/out of claim term meanings; excluding preferred embodiments; design patents; reference numerals in claims.
 - ▶ Will, however, address “And” . . . for the sake of historical continuity
 - ▶ Old standbys will be addressed but with a light touch: means-plus-function limitations; prosecution disclaimer; capability language; *Markush* limitations.

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Timing Claim Construction

1. § 101 Claim Construction required before § 101 inquiry made.

Pay Range Inc. v. KioSoft Technologies, LLC et al. Civil Action No. 1-20-CV-24342 (S.D. Fla. 2020), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Nov. 18, 2021).

Daedalus Blue, LLC v. MicroStrategy Inc., Civil Action No. 2-20-CV-00551 (E.D. Va. 2020), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Jan. 21, 2022).

Verna IP Holdings, LLC v. Alert Media, Inc., Civil Action No. 6-21-CV-00422 (W.D. Tex. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)) (Feb. 2, 2022).

mComIP.LLC v. Nautilus Hyosung Americas Inc., Civil Action No. 3-21-CV-02215 (N.D. Tex. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Mar. 2, 2022).

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Timing Claim Construction (cont)

1. § 101 Claim Construction required before § 101 inquiry made, cont.

Maxell, Ltd. Et al. v. VIZIO, Inc., Civil Action No. 2-21-CV-06758 (C.D. Cal. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Mar. 9, 2022).

AML IP, LLC. v. Bed Bath & Beyond, Inc., Civil Action No. 6-21-CV-00600 (W.D. Tex. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Apr. 11, 2022).

Island Intellectual Prop. LLC v. TD Ameritrade, Inc., Civil Action No. 2-21-CV-00273 (E.D. Tex. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Apr. 12, 2022).

Cathx Research Ltd. v. 2G Robotics, Inc., Civil Action No. 5-21-CV-00077 (E.D. Tex. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (May 17, 2022).

Timing Claim Construction (cont)

1. § 101 Claim Construction required before § 101 inquiry made cont.

Lyft, Inc. v. Quartz Auto Technologies, LLC, Civil Action No. 4-21-CV-01871 (N.D. Cal. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(c)) (Jun. 27, 2022).

Great Gigz Solutions LLC v. East Texas Border Health Clinic d/b/a/ Genesis Prime Care, Civil Action No. 2-21-CV-00370 (E.D. Tex. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Jun. 28, 2022).

Enovsys LLC v. T-Mobile USA, Inc., Civil Action No. 2-21-CV-00368 (E.D. Tex. 2021), Motion to Dismiss – Failure to State a Claim (F.R.C.P. 12(b)(6)) (Jul. 28, 2022).

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