Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_ Filed: April 27, 2015

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (USPS) AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AS REPRESENTED BY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,

Petitioner,

v.

RETURN MAIL, INC.,

Patent Owner.

Case: CBM2014-00116 Patent: 6,826,548

Petitioner's Reply to RMI's Opposition to Petitioner's Motion to Exclude

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#### I. USPS's Motion to Exclude Should Be Granted

At each turn, RMI has failed to effectively show why its Exhibits should not be excluded. As explained herein, these Exhibits should be excluded as failing to comport with the rules of evidence.

### A. Exhibits 2013 – 21st Century Dictionary of Computer Terms (1994)

In its Opposition (Paper 33 "Opp."), RMI provides no arguments how the term "decoder" is relevant to this proceeding. *Id.* at 2. The term "decoder" is not found in any of the claims nor the specification. RMI does not explain how the term would assist the Board in this proceeding. Therefore, the Board should exclude Ex. 2013 because it is not relevant.

#### B. Exhibit 2015 – Declaration of Scott M. Nettles

Dr. Nettles opines not based on his scientific or technical knowledge, but rather on issues that are ultimately determinations of law including issues of patent law and/or patent examination practice in contravention of 37 C.F.R. § 42.65 (FRE 403 and 704). RMI arguments rest on decisions where the Board considered expert testimony related to what technology was available at the time, field of use, concepts recited in the claims, and whether the claims-at-issue were mere routine, conventional steps or meaningful limitations<sup>1</sup>. Opp. at 5 (citing *SAP America, Inc. v. Versata Development Group, Inc.*, CBM2012-00001; *Interthinx, Inc. v. Corelogic Solutions, LLC*, CBM2012-00007; *Fidelity National Information Services, Inc. v. Checkfree Corp.*, CBM2013-

# C. Exhibits 2016 - 2020 and Exhibit 2031 – Improper Reliance on USPS's Systems

RMI argues that Exs. 2016-2020 and 2031 were used to "described the state of the technology for return mail processing before the '548 patent. However, the earliest issue date of the patents cited by RMI in Exhibits 2016–2020 and 2031 is March 8, 2011, which is after the relevant time frame of 2001 (or 2002, the appropriate date if priority date not accorded). RMI provides no support that Ex. 2016, nor Exs. 2017-2020 and 2031, "describe[s] the state of the technology for return mail processing before the '548 patent." Id. In the Patent Owner Response, RMI incorrectly offers Ex. 2021 to prove the truth of a matter asserted, and does not have a non-hearsay purpose. POR at 61. Ex. 2021, for example, does not make "certain facts more or less probable than they would be without this evidence." Fed. R. Evid. 401. Nothing in Ex. 2021 contradicts that the CFS units in 1997 had scanners for scanning the mail piece. Therefore, because the probative value of Exhibits 2021-2029 and 2031 is substantially outweighed by a danger of confusing the issue and wasting time addressing systems not relevant to the current proceeding, these exhibits should be excluded.

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