

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

GLOBAL TEL*LINK CORPORATION,
Petitioner,

v.

SECURUS TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2014-00493
Patent 7,899,167 B1

Before KEVIN F. TURNER, BARBARA A. BENOIT, and
GEORGIANNA W. BRADEN, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

BENOIT, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION
Institution of *Inter Partes* Review
37 C.F.R. § 42.108

INTRODUCTION

Global Tel*Link Corporation (“Petitioner”) filed a Corrected Petition (Paper 4, “Pet.”) requesting an *inter partes* review of claims 1-21 (the “challenged claims”) of U.S. Patent No. 7,899,167 B1 (Ex. 1001, “the ’167 patent”). Patent Owner, Securus Technologies, Inc., filed a Preliminary Response. Paper 7 (“Prelim. Resp.”). We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 314(a), which provides that an *inter partes* review may not be instituted “unless . . . there is a reasonable likelihood that the petitioner would prevail with respect to at least 1 of the claims challenged in the petition.”

After considering the Petition and the Preliminary Response, we determine that Petitioner has established a reasonable likelihood of prevailing on the claims challenged in the Petition. Accordingly, we institute an *inter partes* review of claims 1-21 of the ’167 patent.

A. Related Matters

Petitioner represents that the ’167 patent is involved in *Securus Technologies, Inc. v. Global Tel*Link Corp.*, No. 3:13-cv-03009 (N.D. Tex.). Pet. 2; *see also* Paper 5 (Patent Owner’s Mandatory Notice). Petitioner also has requested *inter partes* review of related patents—U.S. Patent No. 8,577,003 B2 (IPR2014-00749), U.S. Patent No. 8,340,260 B1 (IPR2014-00824), and U.S. Patent No. 7,529,357 B1 (IPR2014-00825).

B. The ’167 Patent

The ’167 patent, titled “Centralized Call Processing,” issued March 1, 2011 from an application filed August 15, 2003. The ’167 patent describes a centralized architecture for call processing that uses Voice over

Internet Protocol (“VoIP”) to carry calls from a location at which calling services are provided to a centralized call processing platform. Ex. 1001, Abstract, 1:38-40, 3:15-17. The call processing platform serves multiple facilities and provides, for example, calling party identification, call validation, call routing, and connection to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) or a digital network. *Id.* at Abstract. The call processing platform may be used to provide calling services to prison facilities. *Id.* at 5:53-56.

Figure 1 of the '167 patent is set forth below:

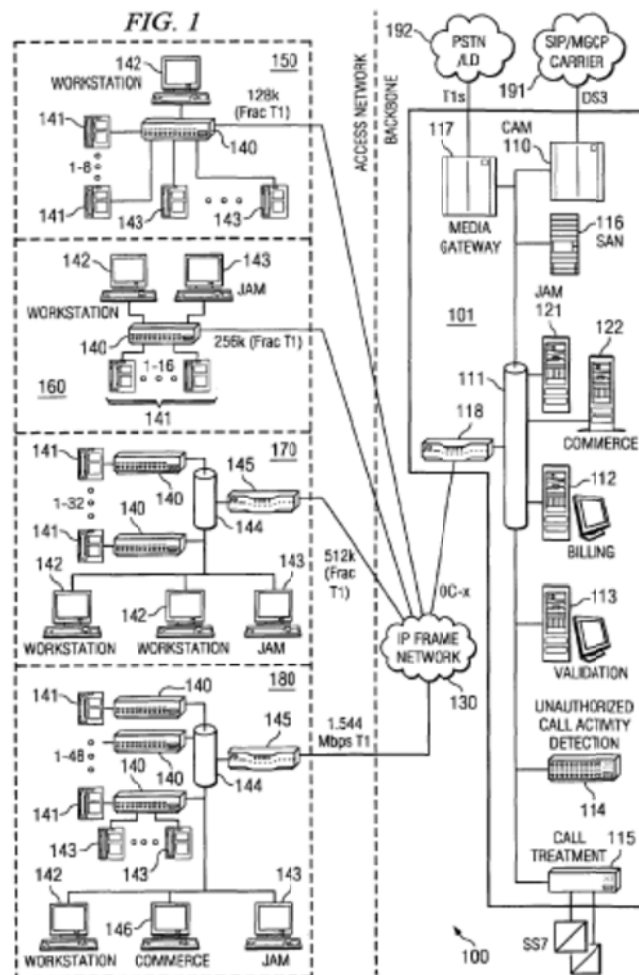


Figure 1 illustrates call processing system 100.

Call processing system 100 includes call processing platform 101, which communicates with facilities 150, 160, 170, 180 through network 130. *Id.* at 5:41-44. Call processing gateways 140, at or near each facility 150, 160, 170, 180, convert analog signals associated with telephone terminals 141 (or visitation telephones 143) to digital data packets sent over network 130. *Id.* at 6:10-15.

Call processing platform 101 includes, among other components, call application management system 110, which controls completing a call between a party using one of telephone terminals 141 (or visitation telephones 143) and another party using telephone terminal (not shown), over PSTN 192 or digital network 191. *Id.* at 8:9-65. Call processing system 101 also includes unauthorized call activity detection system 114 to detect establishment of an unauthorized three-way call. *Id.* at 9:31-48. Billing system 112 collects billing information and deducts fees from prepaid accounts. *Id.* at 11:56-67.

C. Challenged Claims

Of the challenged claims in the '167 patent, claims 1 and 17 are independent. Claim 1, reproduced below, is illustrative of the claimed subject matter:

1. A centralized call processing system for providing call processing services to a plurality of prison facilities, comprising:

a networking device connected via digital data links to call processing gateways at the plurality of prison facilities to collect outgoing Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) data packets associated with calls from the plurality of prison facilities and to distribute incoming VoIP data packets associated with the calls to the plurality of prison facilities, the

plurality of prison facilities located remotely from the call processing system, each of the plurality of prison facilities including at least one telephone terminal;

an unauthorized call activity detection system co-located with the networking device and connected to the networking device for detecting three-way call activity associated with the calls placed from one or more of the plurality of telephone terminals, the three-way call activity detection not performed at the plurality of the prison facilities;

a call application management system co-located with the networking device and connected to the networking device and the unauthorized call activity detection system for at least processing the outgoing VoIP data packets from the plurality of prison facilities into outgoing call signals and transmitting the outgoing call signals to a first telephone carrier network, the call application management system receiving incoming call signals from the first telephone carrier network and processing the incoming call signals into the incoming VoIP data packets for distribution to the plurality of prison facilities by the networking device; and

a billing system co-located with said call application management system and located remotely from the call processing gateways, the billing system connected to the call application management system for providing accounting of the calls.

Ex. 1001, 18:58-19:27.

D. Asserted Grounds of Unpatentability

Petitioner contends the challenged claims are unpatentable based on the following grounds:

Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.