

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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PARROT S.A. and PARROT, INC.,  
Petitioner,

v.

DRONE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,  
Patent Owner.

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Case IPR2014-00732  
Patent 8,106,748 B2

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Before HOWARD B. BLANKENSHIP, MATTHEW R. CLEMENTS, and  
CHRISTOPHER M. KAISER, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

BLANKENSHIP, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

FINAL WRITTEN DECISION  
35 U.S.C. § 318(a) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.73

I. BACKGROUND

Parrot S.A. and Parrot, Inc. (collectively, “Petitioner”) filed a petition requesting an *inter partes* review of claims 1–12 of U.S. Patent No. 8,106,748 B2 (Ex. 1001, “the ’748 patent”) under 35 U.S.C. §§ 311–319. Paper 1 (“Petition” or “Pet.”). The Board instituted an *inter partes* review of

claims 1–12 on asserted grounds of unpatentability for obviousness. Paper 8 (“Dec. on Inst.”).

Subsequent to institution, Patent Owner Drone Technologies, Inc. filed a patent owner response (Paper 15, “PO Resp.”). Petitioner filed a reply to the Patent Owner Response (Paper 18, “Pet. Reply”).

Oral hearing was held on July 1, 2015.<sup>1</sup>

The Board has jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 6(c). This Final Written Decision is issued pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 318(a) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.73. For the reasons that follow, we determine that Petitioner has *not* shown by a preponderance of the evidence that claims 1–12 of the ’748 patent are unpatentable.

#### *A. Related Proceedings*

According to Petitioner, the ’748 patent is involved in the following lawsuit: *Drone Technologies, Inc. v. Parrot S.A.*, No. 2:05-mc-02025 (W.D. Pa.). Pet. 4.

#### *B. The ’748 Patent*

The ’748 patent relates to a remote control system in which a remote control apparatus transmits a target motion signal to a remote-controlled motion apparatus. Ex. 1001, Abstract.

Figure 5 of the ’748 patent is reproduced below.

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<sup>1</sup> The record includes a transcript of the oral hearing. Paper 26 (“Tr.”).

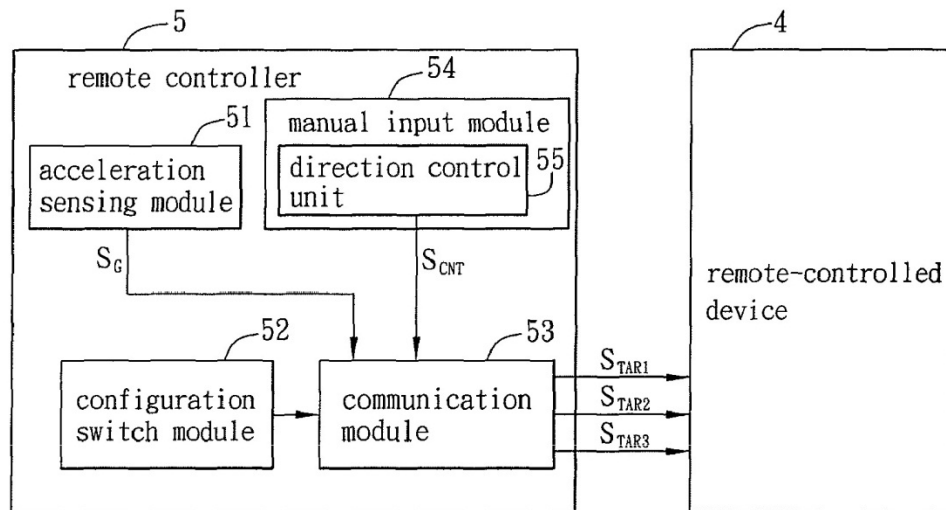


FIG. 5

Figure 5 is a system diagram of a remote control system. Ex. 1001, col. 3, ll. 7–9. Remote controller 5 comprises acceleration sensing module 51, communication module 53, and manual input module 54. In the first operation mode, acceleration sensing module 51 detects the acceleration of remote controller 5 and outputs acceleration sensing signal  $S_G$ . Communication module 53 connects to acceleration sensing module 51 and transmits first target motion signal  $S_{TAR1}$  according to the acceleration sensing signal. First target motion signal  $S_{TAR1}$  controls the motion of remote-controlled device 4 to align with the acceleration sensing signal. *Id.* at col. 5, ll. 54–67.

In the second operation mode, manual input module 54, which includes direction control unit 55, outputs direction control signal  $S_{CNT}$ . Communication module 53 connects to manual input module 54 and transmits second target motion signal  $S_{TAR2}$  according to the direction control

signal to control the motion of remote-controlled device 4. *Id.* at col. 6, ll. 8–15.

In the third operation mode, communication module 53 transmits third target motion signal  $S_{TAR3}$  according to the acceleration sensing signal and the direction control signal to control the motion of remote-controlled device 4. *Id.* at col. 6, ll. 19–25.

Remote controller 5 includes configuration switch module 52. The configuration switch module selects the mode of operation by selecting acceleration sensing module 51 and/or manual input module 54 as the input for communication module 53. *Id.* at col. 6, ll. 32–36.

### *C. Illustrative Claim*

Claim 1, the sole independent claim, is illustrative and reproduced below.

1. A remote control system, comprising:
  - a remote controller, comprising:
    - a first acceleration sensing module, which detects the remote controller's motion and outputs a motion detecting signal;
    - a manual input module, which has at least one direction control unit to generate a direction control signal;
    - a first communication module, which connects to the first acceleration sensing module and the manual input module, the first communication module receives the motion detecting signal and the direction control signal, and transmits a target motion signal; and

a configuration switch module to select between the first acceleration sensing module, the manual input module and the combination of the first acceleration sensing module and the manual input module as the input of the first communication module; and

a remote-controlled device, which is controlled by the remote controller, comprising:

a second communication module, which receives the target motion signal from the remote controller;

a second acceleration sensing module, which detects the remote-controlled device's acceleration and outputs an acceleration sensing signal;

a processing module, which has a first input connected to the second acceleration sensing module and receives the acceleration sensing signal, and a second input connected to the second communication module and receives the target motion signal, and processes the acceleration sensing signal and the target motion signal to output a driving control signal; and

a driving module, which connects to the processing module and receives the driving control signal, and adjusts the remote-controlled device's motion according to the driving control signal.

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