IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

CATALENT PHARMA SOLUTIONS, INC.
Petitioner

V.

PATHEON SOFTGELS INC.
Patent Owner

Case IPR2018-00421 Patent 9,693,978

PATENT OWNER'S PRELIMINARY RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 42.107(a)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



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Patent Owner Patheon Softgels Inc. ("Patheon") provides this Preliminary Response to the Petition for *inter partes* review ("IPR") of claims 1-38 of U.S. Patent No. 9,693,978 ("the '978 Patent"; EX1003) filed by Petitioner Catalent Pharma Solutions, Inc. ("Catalent").

I. Introduction

Catalent is attempting to knock out Patheon's claims protecting novel and commercially successful naproxen formulations. But to even be instituted, a petition for *inter partes* review must meet its burden to establish a reasonable likelihood that it could prevail against at least one challenged claim—a requirement that Catalent's petition fails to meet because it neither complies with the Board's filing requirements under 37 C.F.R. § 42.104 nor addresses key elements of anticipation and obviousness necessary to prevail on the merits.

Catalent's Petition fails to comply with the Board's filing requirements on several levels. *First*, the Petition does not identify the challenged claims with particularity, but instead presents a vague and conclusory series of attorney arguments. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 42.104(b). *Second*, the grounds in the Petition each include an alternative argument, essentially doubling the number of asserted grounds, and the Petition fails to explain Catalent's reasoning behind the multiple



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