# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

# BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

DTN, LLC, Petitioner,

v.

FARMS TECHNOLOGY, LLC, Patent Owner.

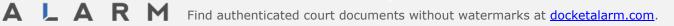
Case IPR2018-01412 Patent 7,991,685 B2

Before SCOTT C. WEIDENFELLER, *Vice ChiefAdministrative Patent Judge*, GEORGE R. HOSKINS, and FRANCES L. IPPOLITO, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

HOSKINS, Administrative Patent Judge.

DOCKET

SCHEDULING ORDER 37 C.F.R. § 42.5



# A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Requests for an Initial Conference Call

Unless at least one of the parties requests otherwise, we will not conduct an initial conference call as described in the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. 48,756, 48,765–66 (Aug. 14, 2012). In lieu of such a call, we instruct the parties as follows:

- a. If a party wishes to request an initial conference call, that party shall request the call within one month from this Order;
- b. A request for a conference call shall include: (a) a list of proposed motions, if any, to be discussed during the call and (b) a list of dates and times when the parties are available for the call; and
- c. The parties shall be prepared to discuss during the initial conference call their concerns, if any, relating to the schedule in this proceeding as set forth below.

Absent good cause shown, we will not conduct an initial conference call later than one month after the institution of a trial.

2. Protective Order

No protective order shall apply to this proceeding until the Board enters one. If either party files a motion to seal before entry of a protective order, a jointly proposed protective order shall be filed as an exhibit with the motion. The Board encourages the parties to adopt the Board's default protective order if they conclude that a protective order is necessary. *See* Default Protective Order, Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. at 48,769–71 (App. B). If the parties choose to propose a protective order deviating from the default protective order, they must submit the proposed protective order jointly along with a marked-up comparison of the proposed

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and default protective orders showing the differences between the two and explain why good cause exists to deviate from the default protective order.

The Board has a strong interest in the public availability of trial proceedings. Redactions to documents filed in this proceeding should be limited to the minimum amount necessary to protect confidential information, and the thrust of the underlying argument or evidence must be clearly discernible from the redacted versions. We also advise the parties that information subject to a protective order will become public if identified in a final written decision in this proceeding, and that a motion to expunge the information will not necessarily prevail over the public interest in maintaining a complete and understandable file history. *See* Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. at 48,761.

### 3. Discovery Disputes

The Board encourages parties to resolve disputes relating to discovery on their own. To the extent that a dispute arises between the parties relating to discovery, the parties shall meet and confer to resolve such a dispute before contacting the Board. If attempts to resolve the dispute fail, a party may request a conference call with the Board and the other party in order to seek authorization to move for relief.

In any request for a conference call with the Board to resolve a discovery dispute, the requesting party shall: (a) certify that it has conferred with the other party in an effort to resolve the dispute; (b) identify with specificity the issues for which agreement has not been reached; (c) identify the precise relief to be sought; and (d) propose specific dates and times at which both parties are available for the conference call.

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# 4. Testimony

The parties are advised that the Testimony Guidelines appended to the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. at 48,772–73 (App. D), apply to this proceeding. The Board may impose an appropriate sanction for failure to adhere to the Testimony Guidelines. 37 C.F.R. § 42.12. For example, reasonable expenses and attorneys' fees incurred by any party may be levied on a person who impedes, delays, or frustrates the fair examination of a witness.

Whenever a party submits a deposition transcript as an exhibit in this proceeding, the submitting party shall file the full transcript of the deposition rather than excerpts of only those portions being cited. After a deposition transcript has been submitted as an exhibit, all parties who subsequently cite to portions of the transcript shall cite to the first-filed exhibit rather than submitting another copy of the same transcript.

5. Cross-Examination

Except as the parties might otherwise agree, for each due date—

- a. Cross-examination ordinarily takes place after any supplemental evidence is due. 37 C.F.R. § 42.53(d)(2).
- b. Cross-examination ordinarily ends no later than a week before the filing date for any paper in which the cross-examination testimony is expected to be used. *Id*.
- 6. Oral Argument

Requests for oral argument must comply with 37 C.F.R. § 42.70(a). To permit the Board sufficient time to schedule the oral argument, the parties may not stipulate to an extension of the request for oral argument beyond the date set forth in the Due Date Appendix.

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Unless the Board notifies the parties otherwise, oral argument, if requested, will be held at the USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia.

Seating in the Board's hearing rooms may be limited, and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. If either party anticipates that more than five (5) individuals will attend the argument on its behalf, the party should notify the Board as soon as possible, and no later than the request for oral argument. Parties should note that the earlier a request for accommodation is made, the more likely the Board will be able to accommodate additional individuals.

### B. DUE DATES

This order sets due dates for the parties to take action after institution of the proceeding. The parties may stipulate to different dates for DUE DATES 1 through 5 (earlier or later, but no later than DUE DATE 6). A notice of the stipulation, specifically identifying the changed due dates, must be filed promptly. The parties may not stipulate to an extension of DUE DATES 6 and 7, or to the requests for oral argument.

In stipulating different times, the parties should consider the effect of the stipulation on times to object to evidence (37 C.F.R. 42.64(b)(1)), to supplement evidence (42.64(b)(2)), to conduct cross-examination (42.53(d)(2)), and to draft papers depending on the evidence and cross-examination testimony.

1. DUE DATE 1

Patent Owner may file—

a. A response to the petition (37 C.F.R. §42.120). If Patent Owner elects not to file a response, Patent Owner must arrange a conference call with the parties and the Board. Patent Owner is cautioned that any

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