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February Sees Assignments to a Crop of New NPEs

February 23, 2018

Media Content and Distribution, Networking, Patent Market, Patent Watch, Semiconductors

A number of notable patent assignments have been recorded with the USPTO this month, including three involving former **Nero AG** patents, all transferred to recently formed NPEs. Also of note was an assignment to a new NPE with possible ties to IP Investments Group, LLC (https://search.rpxcorp.com/ent/379738-ip-investments-group-llc).

IQ Holdings, LLC to Accelerated Memory Tech, LLC

On February 19, IQ Holdings LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/944909-iq-holdings-llc) assigned two patents (6,513,062 (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/pat/US6513062B1); RE42,169 (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/pat/USRE42169E1)) to Accelerated Memory Tech, LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/1371751-accelerated-memory-tech-llc); the transfer was recorded on the same day. The transacted assets generally concern server performance improvements and issued in January 2003 and February 2011, respectively. Both passed through Intellectual Ventures LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/89413-intellectual-ventures-llc) (IV) before being assigned to IQ Holdings in September 2017.

Accelerated Memory Tech was formed in Georgia on February 5. Incorporation documents identify Jonathan Sparks, an attorney whose practice appears to focus on corporate law, as its organizer and agent. In state filings, two addresses are provided for Accelerated Memory: that of Sparks's law firm, and that of a residence in Gainesville, Georgia.

Public records also identify Sparks as the agent and organizer for litigating NPE Universal Transdata, LLC (https://search.rpxcorp.com/ent/1243532-universal-transdata-llc), an affiliate of Atlanta-based monetization firm IP Investments Group, LLC (https://search.rpxcorp.com/ent/379738-ip-investments-group-llc) (d/b/a IPinvestments Group). IQ Holdings and IPinvestments Group are controlled by Michael W. McLaughlin. For information about Universal Transdata's ongoing campaign, focused on flash drives, see the Litigation Campaign Assessment available for download here (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/campaigns/68909).

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2017 saw a rash of cases asserting patents passed from IV to IQ Holdings, including in campaigns run by Monument Patent



Holdings, LLC (https://search.rpxcorp.com/ent/968190-monument-patent-holdings-llc) and IP Valuation Partners LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/950263-ip-valuation-partners-llc)—two of the year's most active NPEs in litigation (http://www.rpxcorp.com/2018/01/02/2017-in-review-a-year-of-transition/).

JLP United States Patent Solutions, LLC to Polyglot Enterprises LLC

On February 6, JLP United States Patent Solutions, LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/1368036-jlp-united-states-patent-solutions-llc) assigned (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/patent_assignments/48115108) a single stream processing patent (9,324,365 (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/pat/US9324365B2)) to Polyglot Enterprises LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/1367982-polyglot-enterprises-llc); the transfer was recorded on February 14. The '365 patent issued to **Nero AG** in in April 2016 and has an estimated priority date in August 2010.

JLP and Polyglot were formed in Delaware in December 2017 and January 2018, respectively. While public records do not currently provide information about Polyglot's personnel, documents filed with the USPTO identify Richard A. Baker Jr. as JLP's authorized agent. On social media, Baker (who also served as the correspondent on the JLP-Polyglot transfer) holds himself out as the president of New England Intellectual Property, LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/381916-new-england-intellectual-property-llc); the former president of Twin Harbor Labs, LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/1097954-twin-harbor-labs-llc) (an NPE affiliated with Bradley D. Liddle (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/1102001-bradley-d-liddle)); and a former trustee of the Licensing Executives Society. He also reports having held various licensing positions at 3Com (acquired by HP in 2010) and Schneider Electric.

Currently available USPTO records do not show any inbound patent assignments to JLP; however, in January of this year, JLP transferred two former Nero AG patents to two NPEs, both formed in Delaware during the month: Checksum Ventures LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/1372528-checksum-ventures-llc) and DVD Conversion LLC (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/1370938-dvd-conversion-llc). See here

(https://insight.rpxcorp.com/patent_assignments/48130683) and here (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/patent_assignments/48118141) for details about those assignments, which were recorded in mid-February. (Baker was the correspondent on both assignments.)

Polyglot Enterprises, Checksum Ventures, and DVD Conversion have not filed any patent litigation as of the publication date of this report.

Cypress Semiconductor to Vector Capital Corporation (Monterey Research, LLC)

Two assignments, from **Cypress Semiconductor** to Monterey Research, LLC (https://search.rpxcorp.com/ent/1112498-monterey-research-llc), executed in September 2016 (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/patent_assignments/48118125) and December 2017 (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/patent_assignments/48118080), were recorded on February 20 and 17, respectively. The transactions involved roughly 95 US assets, including patents developed by Cypress as well as patents originating with **Advanced Micro Devices**, **Fujitsu**, and **IBM**.

IPVALUE Management, Inc. (https://insight.rpxcorp.com/ent/381199-ipvalue-management-inc), an IP licensing firm acquired by private equity firm **Vector Capital** in July 2014, describes Monterey Research as one of its "partners for corporate research". Since August 2016, Monterey Research has received over 2,500 assets from Cypress Semiconductor. According to USPTO records, the NPE's portfolio

(https://search.rpxcorp.com/advanced_search/search_patents#searchq=related_parent_ent_id_lms%3A1112498&grouped=false) includes patents originating with **Hitachi**, **Micron**, and **Mitsubishi**, among others. It does not appear to have a history of involvement in any patent litigation to date.

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