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Paper No. 31
Date: October 19, 2021

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

GOOGLE LLC, SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.,
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS AMERICA, INC.,
LG ELECTRONICS INC. and
LG ELECTRONICS U.S.A., INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

PARUS HOLDINGS, INC.,
Patent Owner.

IPR2020-00847
Patent 9,451,084 B2

Before DAVID C. McKONE, STACEY G. WHITE,
and SHELDON M. McGEE, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

McGEE, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

JUDGMENT
Final Written Decision
Determining All Challenged Claims Unpatentable

35 U.S.C. § 318(a)

I. INTRODUCTION

Google LLC, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., Samsung Electronics America, Inc., LG Electronics Inc., and LG Electronics U.S.A., Inc. (collectively "Petitioner") filed a Petition requesting an *inter partes* review of claims 1, 2, 4–7, 10, and 14 of U.S. Patent No. 9,451,084 B2 (Ex. 1001, "the '084 patent"). Paper 2 ("Pet."). Parus Holdings, Inc., ("Patent Owner") filed a Preliminary Response to the Petition. Paper 6 ("Prelim. Resp."). We authorized Petitioner to file a Reply to Patent Owner's Preliminary Response (Paper 7, "Reply to POPR"), and Patent Owner filed a Sur-reply (Paper 8, "Sur-reply to POPR"). After considering these filings by both parties, we instituted an *inter partes* review of claims 1, 2, 4–7, 10, and 14 of the '084 patent on all grounds of unpatentability alleged in the Petition. Paper 9 ("Institution Decision" or "Dec.").

After institution of trial, Patent Owner filed a Patent Owner Response. Paper 14 ("PO Resp."). Petitioner filed a Reply. Paper 22 ("Reply"). Patent Owner filed a Sur-reply. Paper 24 ("Sur-reply").

An oral hearing was held on July 27, 2021, and a transcript of the hearing is included in the record. Paper 30 ("Tr.").

We have jurisdiction under 35 U.S.C. § 6. This Final Written Decision is issued pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 318(a). For the reasons that follow, we determine Petitioner has established by a preponderance of the evidence that claims 1, 2, 4–7, 10, and 14 of the '084 patent are unpatentable.

A. Related Proceedings

The parties identify the following district court proceedings as related to the '084 patent: *Parus Holdings Inc. v. Apple, Inc.*, No. 6:19-cv-00432

(W.D. Tex.); *Parus Holdings Inc. v. Amazon.com, Inc.*, No. 6:19-cv-00454 (W.D. Tex.); *Parus Holdings Inc. v. Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., et al.*, No. 6:19-cv-00438 (W.D. Tex.); *Parus Holdings Inc. v. Google LLC*, No. 6:19-cv-00433 (W.D. Tex.); and *Parus Holdings Inc. v. LG Electronics, Inc., et al.*, No. 6:19-cv-00437 (W.D. Tex.). Pet. –x–[1]; Paper 5, 1.

The parties also identify the following PTAB proceedings that may affect or be affected by a decision in this proceeding: IPR2020-00686; IPR2020-00687; and IPR2020-00846.[2] Pet. –xi–; Paper 5, 1–2.

B. The '084 Patent (Ex. 1001)

The '084 patent, titled "Robust Voice Browser System and Voice Activated Device Controller," issued September 20, 2016. Ex. 1001, codes (54), (45). The '084 patent relates to a "robust and highly reliable system that allows users to browse web sites and retrieve information by using conversational voice commands." *Id.* at 1:35–38. Systems disclosed by the '084 patent allow devices connected to a network to be controlled by conversational voice commands spoken into any voice enabled device interconnected with the network. *Id.* at 3:37–41. Systems disclosed by the '084 patent also allow users to access and browse web sites when the users do not have access to computers with Internet access, by providing users with a voice browsing system to browse web sites using conversational voice commands spoken into voice enabled devices, such as wireline or

[1] Petitioner includes its mandatory notices in the preamble section of its Petition, where the preamble section is paginated using lower case Roman numerals (*i.e.*, 'i', 'ii', . . . 'xii').
[2] Petitioner references a concurrently filed IPR challenging U.S. Patent No. 7,076,431, which is IPR2020-00846.

wireless telephones. *Id.* at 3:29–32, 3:52–59. The users' spoken commands are converted into data messages by a speech recognition software engine, and are transmitted to the user's desired web site over the Internet. *Id.* at 3:60–65. Responses sent from the web site are received and converted into audio messages via a speech synthesis engine or a pre-recorded audio concatenation application, and finally transmitted to the user's voice enabled device. *Id.* at 3:65–4:3. The disclosed voice browsing system maintains a database containing a list of information sources (e.g., Internet web sites), with rank numbers assigned to the information sources. *Id.* at 3:17–20, 4:5–20. The '084 patent explains that:

> the voice browser system and method uses a web site polling and ranking methodology that allows the system to detect changes in web sites and adapt to those changes in real-time. This enables the voice browser system of a preferred embodiment to deliver highly reliable information to users over any voice enabled device. This ranking system also enables the present invention to provide rapid responses to user requests. Long delays before receiving responses to requests are not tolerated by users of voice-based systems, such as telephones. When a user speaks into a telephone, an almost immediate response is expected. This expectation does not exist for non-voice communications, such as email transmissions or accessing a web site using a personal computer. In such situations, a reasonable amount of transmission delay is acceptable. The ranking system . . . implemented by a preferred embodiment of the present invention ensures users will always receive the fastest possible response to their request.

Id. at 4:4–21. Figure 1 of the '084 patent, reproduced below, illustrates a voice browsing system. *Id.* at 4:29–30.

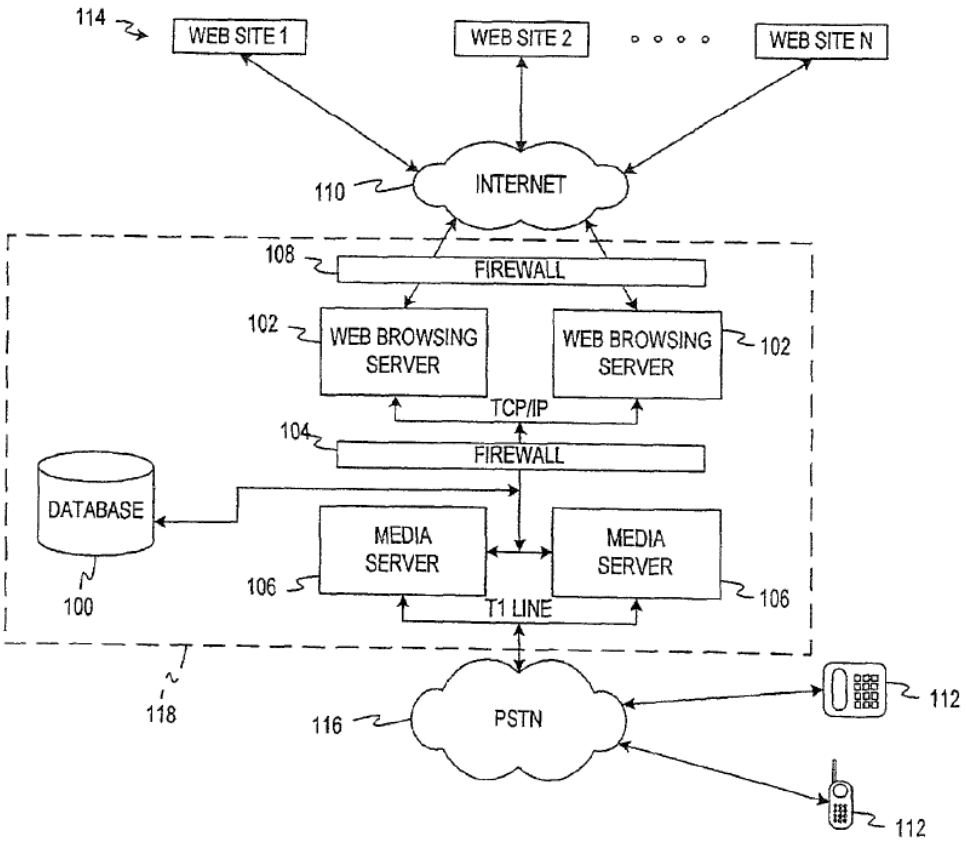

FIG. 1

Figure 1 illustrates a voice browsing system. *Id.* at 4:29–30.

Voice browsing system 118 illustrated in Figure 1 includes media servers 106 (which may contain a speech recognition engine), database 100, web browsing servers 102, and firewalls 104 and 108. *Id.* at 5:10–18, 6:10–12, 6:20–23, 20:26–34. Voice browsing system 118 connects on one side to voice-enabled device 112 (e.g., a telephone) through public switched telephone network 106, and to individual websites 114 through internet 110 on the other side. *Id.* at 19:56–20:38.

Specifically, a user of the voice browsing system establishes a connection between voice enabled device 112 and media server 106 by, e.g., calling a telephone number associated with the voice browsing system. *Id.* at 19:59–62. Once the connection is established, media server 106 initiates

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