

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
WACO DIVISION**

AMERICAN PATENTS LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

SIERRA WIRELESS INC.,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 6:21-cv-637

ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR
PATENT INFRINGEMENT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff American Patents LLC (“American Patents” or “Plaintiff”) files this original complaint against Defendant Sierra Wireless Inc. (“Sierra”), alleging, based on its own knowledge as to itself and its own actions and based on information and belief as to all other matters, as follows:

PARTIES

1. American Patents is a limited liability company formed under the laws of the State of Texas, with its principal place of business at 2325 Oak Alley, Tyler, Texas, 75703.
2. Sierra Wireless Inc. is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of Canada having a place of business at 13811 Wireless Way, Richmond, BC, Canada.
3. Sierra and its affiliates are part of the same corporate structure and distribution chain for the making, importing, offering to sell, selling, and/or using of the accused devices in the United States, including in the State of Texas generally and this judicial district in particular.
4. Sierra and its affiliates share the same management, common ownership, advertising platforms, facilities, distribution chains and platforms, and accused product lines and products involving related technologies.

5. Thus, Sierra and its affiliates operate as a unitary business venture and are jointly and severally liable for the acts of patent infringement alleged herein.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

6. This is an action for infringement of United States patents arising under 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, 281, and 284–85, among others. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction of the action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and § 1338(a).

7. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Sierra pursuant to due process and/or the Texas Long Arm Statute because, *inter alia*, (i) Sierra has done and continues to do business in Texas; and (ii) Sierra has committed and continues to commit acts of patent infringement in the State of Texas, including making, using, offering to sell, and/or selling accused products in Texas, and/or importing accused products into Texas, including by Internet sales and sales via retail and wholesale stores, inducing others to commit acts of patent infringement in Texas, and/or committing a least a portion of any other infringements alleged herein. In the alternative, Sierra Wireless Inc. is subject to this Court’s specific personal jurisdiction consistent with the principles of due process and the Federal Long-Arm Statute of Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(k)(2) because: (1) it has substantial contacts with the United States and committed and/or induced acts of patent infringement in the United States; and (2) it is not subject to jurisdiction in any state’s courts of general jurisdiction.

8. Venue is proper as to Sierra Wireless Inc., which is organized under the laws of Canada. 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c)(3) provides that “a defendant not resident in the United States may be sued in any judicial district, and the joinder of such a defendant shall be disregarded in determining where the action may be brought with respect to other defendants.”

BACKGROUND

9. The patents-in-suit generally pertain to communications networks and other technology used in “smart” devices such as smartphones, smart TVs, and smart appliances. The technology disclosed by the patents was developed by personnel at Georgia Institute of Technology (“Georgia Tech”), and Nokia Corporation (“Nokia”).

10. Georgia Tech is a leading public research university located in Atlanta, Georgia. Founded in 1885, Georgia Tech is often ranked as one of the top ten public universities in the United States. The patents from Georgia Tech (“the Mody patents”) were developed by a professor and a graduate student in Georgia Tech’s Electrical and Computer Engineering department. The undergraduate and graduate programs of this department are often ranked in the top five of their respective categories.

11. The Mody patents are related to Multi-Input, Multi-Output (MIMO) technology. The inventors of the Mody patents were at the forefront of MIMO, developing, disclosing, and patenting a solution for achieving both time and frequency synchronization in MIMO systems. The Mody patents (or the applications leading to them) have been cited during patent prosecution hundreds of times, by numerous leading companies in the computing and communications industries, including AMD, Alcatel Lucent, Altair, AT&T, Atheros, Blackberry, Broadcom, Comcast, Ericsson, Facebook, HP, Hitachi, Huawei, Infineon, Intel, Interdigital, IBM, Kyocera, Marvell, Matsushita, Mediatek, Motorola, NEC, Nokia, Nortel Networks, NXP, Panasonic, Philips, Qualcomm, Realtek, Samsung, Sanyo, Sharp, Sony, STMicroelectronics, Texas Instruments, and Toshiba.

12. Nokia is a Finnish multinational telecommunications, IT, and consumer electronics company. Listed on both the Helsinki Stock Exchange and the New York Stock Exchange, Nokia regularly makes the Fortune Global 500. Nokia has been the largest worldwide

vendor of mobile phones and smartphones and has been a major contributor to the mobile phone industry.

13. The patent developed at Nokia (“the Rauhala patent”) is related to reduction of interference in receivers with multiple antennas. The inventors of the Rauhala patent have a combined fifty plus years of experience at Nokia and were prolific inventors for Nokia. Inventor Jyri Rauhala spent over 25 years at Nokia. Mr. Rauhala obtained a Master of Science in Applied Electronics, Digital Electronics from Tampere University of Technology in Finland and is named as an inventor on 15 U.S. patents. Inventor Olli-Pekka Lunden spent over 8 years at Nokia. Dr. Lunden obtained a Doctor of Science in Technology, Radio Engineering from Aalto University and is named as an inventor on 5 U.S. patents. Currently, Dr. Lunden works as a university lecturer at Tampere University of Technology in Finland. Inventor Marko Erkkila spent over twenty years at Nokia. Mr. Erkkila obtained a Master of Science in Digital Signal Processing, Electronics, Computer Science from Tampere University of Technology in Finland and is named as an inventor on 6 U.S. patents.


COUNT I

INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,088,782

14. On August 8, 2006, United States Patent No. 7,088,782 (“the ‘782 Patent”) was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office for an invention entitled “Time And Frequency Synchronization In Multi-Input, Multi-Output (MIMO) Systems.”

15. American Patents is the owner of the ‘782 Patent, with all substantive rights in and to that patent, including the sole and exclusive right to prosecute this action and enforce the ‘782 Patent against infringers, and to collect damages for all relevant times.

16. Sierra used products and/or systems including, for example, its Sierra AirLink MG90, Sierra Airlink MP70, and EM LTE transceiver families of products, that include LTE and/or 802.11n and above capabilities (“accused products”):




/ Products and Solutions / Networking Solutions / MG90


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How to Buy

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