

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

ACCO BRANDS CORPORATION AND
ACCO BRANDS USA LLC,
Petitioner,

v.

THINK PRODUCTS, INC.,
Patent Owner.

IPR2015-01167 (8,717,758 B2)¹
IPR2015-01168 (8,837,144 B1)

Before RICHARD E. RICE, SCOTT A. DANIELS, and ROBERT A. POLLOCK,
Administrative Patent Judges.

POLLOCK, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

CASE MANAGEMENT
AND SCHEDULING ORDER
37 C.F.R. § 42.5

¹ This order addresses a similar issue in both cases and we exercise discretion to issue one order to be filed in each case. The parties, however, are not authorized to use this style of heading in subsequent papers.

A. 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 promptly filed. The parties may not stipulate to an extension of DUE DATES 6 and 7.

In stipulating to 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 (37 C.F.R. § 42.64(b)(2)), to conduct cross-examination (37 C.F.R. § 42.53(d)(2)), and to draft papers depending on the evidence and cross-examination testimony (*see* section B, below).

The parties are reminded that the Testimony Guidelines appended to the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. 48,756, 48,772 (Aug. 14, 2012) (Appendix 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.

1. INITIAL CONFERENCE CALL

The parties are directed to contact the Board within a month of this decision if there is a need to discuss proposed changes to this Scheduling Order or proposed motions. *See* Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. 48,756, 48,765–66 (Aug. 14, 2012) (guidance in preparing for the initial conference call). If Patent Owner intends to file a motion to amend, Patent Owner shall schedule a conference call with the Board at least two weeks before filing. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 42.121.

3. DUE DATE 1

The patent owner may file—

- a. A response to the petition (37 C.F.R. § 42.120), and
- b. A motion to amend the patent (37 C.F.R. § 42.121).

The patent owner must file any such response or motion to amend by DUE DATE 1. If the patent owner elects not to file anything, the patent owner must arrange a conference call with the parties and the Board. The patent owner is cautioned that any arguments for patentability not raised in the response will be deemed waived.

4. DUE DATE 2

The petitioner must file any reply to the patent owner's response and opposition to the motion to amend by DUE DATE 2.

5. DUE DATE 3

The patent owner must file any reply to the petitioner's opposition to patent owner's motion to amend by DUE DATE 3.

6. DUE DATE 4

- a. Each party must file any motion for an observation on the cross-examination testimony of a reply witness (*see* section C, below) by DUE DATE 4.
- b. Each party must file any motion to exclude evidence (37 C.F.R. § 42.64(c)) and any request for oral argument (37 C.F.R. § 42.70(a)) by DUE DATE 4.

7. DUE DATE 5

- a. Each party must file any response to an observation on cross-examination testimony by DUE DATE 5.

b. Each party must file any opposition to a motion to exclude evidence by DUE DATE 5.

8. DUE DATE 6

Each party must file any reply for a motion to exclude evidence by DUE DATE 6.

9. DUE DATE 7

The oral argument (if requested by either party) is set for DUE DATE 7.

B. CROSS-EXAMINATION

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

1. Cross-examination begins after any supplemental evidence is due. 37 C.F.R. § 42.53(d)(2).

2. Cross-examination 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.*

C. MOTION FOR OBSERVATION ON CROSS-EXAMINATION

A motion for observation on cross-examination provides the parties with a mechanism to draw the Board's attention to relevant cross-examination testimony of a reply witness because no further substantive paper is permitted after the reply. *See* Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. 48,756, 48,768 (Aug. 14, 2012). The observation must be a concise statement of the relevance of precisely identified testimony to a precisely identified argument or portion of an exhibit. Each observation should not exceed a single, short paragraph. The opposing party may respond to the observation. Any response must be equally concise and specific.

DUE DATE APPENDIX

INITIAL CONFERENCE CALL Parties may request by
November 27, 2015

DUE DATE 1January 15, 2016

Patent owner's response to the petition

Patent owner's motion to amend the patent

DUE DATE 2April 1, 2016

Petitioner's reply to patent owner's response to petition

Petitioner's opposition to motion to amend

DUE DATE 3May 2, 2016

Patent owner's reply to petitioner's opposition to motion to amend

DUE DATE 4May 23, 2016

Motion for observation regarding cross-examination of reply witness

Motion to exclude evidence

Request for oral argument

DUE DATE 5June 6, 2016

Response to observation

Opposition to motion to exclude

DUE DATE 6June 13, 2016

Reply to opposition to motion to exclude

DUE DATE 7June 29, 2016

Oral argument (if requested)

IPR2015-01119 (7,148,041 B2)

IPR2015-01168 (8,837,144 B1)

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