

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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MUNCHKIN, INC.,  
Petitioner,

v.

SKIP HOP, INC.,  
Patent Owner.

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Case IPR2016-00536  
Patent 9,060,653 B2

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Before MICHAEL R. ZECHER, BRIAN J. McNAMARA, and  
DANIEL J. GALLIGAN, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

GALLIGAN, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

SCHEDULING ORDER

## 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 filed promptly. 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). Patent Owner is reminded that it must confer with the Board before filing a Motion to Amend. 37 C.F.R. § 42.121(a). Patent

Owner should contact the Board to request such a conference, if necessary, at least two weeks before DUE DATE 1.

2. DUE DATE 1

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).

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

3. DUE DATE 2

Petitioner must file any reply to Patent Owner's response and opposition to the motion to amend by DUE DATE 2.

4. DUE DATE 3

Patent Owner must file any reply to Petitioner's opposition to Patent Owner's motion to amend by DUE DATE 3.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. DUE DATE 6

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

8. 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 ..... Optional

DUE DATE 1 ..... October 12, 2016

Patent Owner's response to the petition

Patent Owner's motion to amend the patent

DUE DATE 2 ..... January 3, 2017

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

Petitioner's opposition to motion to amend

DUE DATE 3 ..... February 2, 2017

Patent Owner's reply to Petitioner's opposition to motion to amend

DUE DATE 4 ..... February 23, 2017

Motion for observation regarding cross-examination of reply witness

Motion to exclude evidence

Request for oral argument

DUE DATE 5 ..... March 9, 2017

Response to observation

Opposition to motion to exclude

DUE DATE 6 ..... March 16, 2017

Reply to opposition to motion to exclude

DUE DATE 7 ..... March 29, 2017

Oral argument (if requested)

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