# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

#### **EASTERN DIVISION**

VELOCITY PATENT LLC,	)
Plaintiff,	) Civil Action No. 1:13-cv-08413
V.	)
MERCEDES-BENZ USA, LLC MERCEDES-BENZ U.S. INTERNATIONAL INC.	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED )
Defendants.	) ) )

#### COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff Velocity Patent LLC ("Velocity") for its complaint against Defendants Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC and Mercedes-Benz U.S. International Inc. (collectively "Mercedes-Benz") hereby demands a jury trial and alleges as follows:

# NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is a civil action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq*.

# **THE PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff Velocity is a limited liability corporation organized and existing under the laws of Illinois and having a principal business address at 335 Lloyden Park Lane, Atherton, CA 94027.

- 3. On information and belief, Defendant Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC is a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Delaware with an office and principal place of business located at One Mercedes Dr., Montvale, NJ 07645.
- 4. On information and belief, Defendant Mercedes-Benz U.S. International Inc. is a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Alabama with an office and principal place of business located at One Mercedes Dr., Vance, AL 35490.
- 5. Mercedes-Benz advertises, markets, and distributes automobiles under the Mercedes-Benz brand throughout the United States.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 6. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
- 7. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Mercedes-Benz because Mercedes-Benz has committed, and continues to commit, acts of patent infringement in Illinois, including in this judicial district, and otherwise transacts business in the state of Illinois, including in this district.
- 8. Venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)-(d) and 1400(b) because Mercedes-Benz is subject to personal jurisdiction in this judicial district and has committed, and continues to commit, acts of patent infringement giving rise to the claims alleged herein within this judicial district.

#### THE PATENT-IN-SUIT

9. On September 21, 1999, U.S. Patent No. 5,954,781 ("the '781 Patent"), entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OPTIMIZING VEHICLE OPERATION" (Exhibit A), duly and legally issued.

10. Velocity owns all rights, title, and interest in and to the '781 patent and has the right to sue and recover for past, present, and future infringement.

#### **COUNT I - INFRINGEMENT OF THE '781 PATENT**

- 11. Paragraphs 1 through 10 are incorporated by reference as though fully stated herein.
- 12. Mercedes-Benz manufactures, uses, imports, exports, offers for sale, and sells automobiles that include radar equipment and radar-based safety features, including, for example, automobiles equipped with Collision Prevention Assist functionality or the Driver Assistance package.
- 13. Mercedes-Benz also manufactures, uses, imports, exports, offers for sale, and sells automobiles with information displays that provide drivers with information regarding, for example, fuel consumption, efficiency of operation, and safety.
- 14. Furthermore, Mercedes-Benz manufactures, uses, imports, exports, offers for sale, and sells automobiles that include manual gear shifting features, including, for example, automobiles equipped with automatic transmissions and manual shift programs.
- 15. By manufacturing, using, importing, exporting, offering for sale, and selling automobiles equipped with one or more of the features described above, Mercedes-Benz has directly infringed, and continues to infringe, either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, at least claim 17 of the '781 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271.
  - 16. Velocity has been damaged by Mercedes-Benz's infringement of the '781 Patent.

# PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Velocity prays that this Court:

- A. Enter a judgment that Mercedes-Benz has infringed the '781 Patent;
- B. Award Velocity damages in an amount sufficient to compensate Velocity for Mercedes-Benz's infringement of the '781 Patent, but not less than a reasonable royalty;
  - C. Award Velocity prejudgment interest pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284; and
- D. Grant Velocity such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

# **JURY DEMAND**

Velocity hereby demands a jury trial on all issues appropriately triable by a jury.

Dated: November 21, 2013 Respectfully submitted,

# /s/ James A. Shimota

James A. Shimota

James A. Shimota (IL Bar No. 6270603) Howard E. Levin (IL Bar No. 6286712) Adam R. Brausa (IL Bar No. 6292447) Aaron C. Taggart (IL Bar No. 6302068) BRIDGES & MAVRAKAKIS LLP 180 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2215 Chicago, Illinois 60601

Telephone: 312-216-1626 Facsimile: 312-216-1621 jshimota@bridgesmav.com hlevin@bridgesmav.com abrausa@bridgesmav.com ataggart@bridgesmav.com

Counsel for Plaintiff Velocity Patent LLC