# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

T-REX PROPERTY AB,

Plaintiff,

v.

OUTFRONT MEDIA, INC., OUTFRONT MEDIA CITYLITES, LLC, OUTFRONT MEDIA GROUP, LLC, OUTFRONT MEDIA, LLC AND OUTFRONT MEDIA MINNESOTA, LLC

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 0:15-cv-01572-ADM-TNL

## **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

## PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff T-Rex Property AB, by and through its undersigned counsel, files its First Amended Complaint against Defendants Outfront Media, Inc., Outfront Media CityLites, LLC, Outfront Media Group, LLC, Outfront Media, LLC and Outfront Media Minnesota, LLC as follows:

## **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, including 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, 281, 283 and 284.

#### **PARTIES**

- 2. Plaintiff T-Rex Property AB is a company organized and existing under the laws of Sweden with its principal place of business at Vårvägen 6, 18274 Stocksund, Sweden.
- 3. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media, Inc. is a publically traded company, incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland. On information and belief,

Outfront Media, Inc. has continuously maintained a place of business at 815 Hwy 169 North, Minneapolis, MN 55441.

- 4. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media CityLites, LLC is a New York company with its principal executive office located at 800 Third Ave 28th floor, New York, NY 10022. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media CityLites, LLC is a subsidiary of Outfront Media, Inc.
- 5. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media Group, LLC is a Delaware company with its home office located at 2711 Centerville Rd #400 Wilmington, DE 19808. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media Group, LLC is a subsidiary of Outfront Media, Inc.
- 6. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media, LLC is a Delaware company with its principal executive office located at 405 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10174. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media, LLC is a subsidiary of Outfront Media, Inc.
- 7. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media Minnesota, LLC is a New York company with its principal executive office located at 800 Third Ave 28th floor, New York, NY 10022. On information and belief, Defendant Outfront Media Minnesota, LLC is a subsidiary of Outfront Media, Inc.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 8. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this patent infringement action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
- 9. Defendants Outfront Media, Inc., Outfront Media CityLites, LLC, Outfront Media Group, LLC, Outfront Media, LLC and Outfront Media Minnesota, LLC are subject to this Court's specific and general personal jurisdiction pursuant to due process and the Minnesota

Long-Arm Statute, due to their substantial business in this forum. On information and belief, Outfront Media, Inc. regularly transacts business in this State—directed by a regional vice president of the company who is responsible for business operations in Minnesota and two other states. In addition, Outfront Media, Inc. conducts substantial business in this forum through its place of business at 815 Hwy 169 North, Minneapolis, MN 55441, which is located within this Judicial District, and through the activities of four of its subsidiaries: Outfront Media CityLites, LLC, Outfront Media Group, LLC, Outfront Media, LLC and Outfront Media Minnesota, LLC. Furthermore, this Court has personal jurisdiction over Outfront Media, Inc., Outfront Media CityLites, LLC, Outfront Media Group, LLC, Outfront Media, LLC and Outfront Media Minnesota, LLC because, as described further below, the Defendants have committed acts of patent infringement giving rise to this action within the State of Minnesota and have established minimum contacts such that the exercise of personal jurisdiction over Outfront Media, Inc., Outfront Media CityLites, LLC, Outfront Media Group, LLC, Outfront Media, LLC and Outfront Media Minnesota, LLC does not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

10. Venue is proper in this Judicial District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400(b).

# THE PATENTS-IN-SUIT

- 11. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 10 are hereby realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 12. On January 16, 2007, U.S. Patent Number RE39,470, entitled "Digital Information System," was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A true and correct copy of the '470 Patent is attached as Exhibit A to this First Amended Complaint.

- 13. The innovations described by the '470 Patent "relate[] to a method and apparatus for controlling and coordinating" electronic displays "in a digital information system for displaying information on at least one display device . . . said information being displayed in places that are accessible to and frequented by a general public." ('470 Patent at 1:15-21; 6:25-29) "An object of the present invention is to provide a flexible system in which external information mediators are able to dynamically control in real time the transmission of display instructions to a larger public in different places" "and to enable similar or specific information to be displayed in places that are mutually far apart." (*Id.* at 2:39-42; 2:52-54)
- 14. A system operating according to an embodiment of the '470 Patent can include a control center with a communication interface that connects devices to create and update a display list in real time using control instruction fields sent from external mediators and to transmit and display the desired images to one or more electronic displays that can be controlled independently of other electronic displays. (*Id.* at 3:4-19; 4:42-45) In embodiments, the control center can include one or more servers, workstations, and databases stored on one or more physical storage devices, and can include redundancy, of both computer hardware and the information stored, where the devices can be connected using a network, such as a LAN (Local Area Network) or by using a cable-carried ISDN solution (Integrated Services Digital Network) or other fixed lines that have a similar capacity. (*Id.* at 4:57-5:16; 5:59-67; 6:41-59; 12:55-13:7)
- 15. In one embodiment of the invention, personnel operating a work station can enter information to be displayed from an external mediator via projector control instructions in the exposure list created by the server. (*Id.* at 8:10-26) Operators are able to interrupt a queue in the server in order to update the exposure list with information generated centrally from the control center or with information from an external information mediator. (*Id.*)

- 16. Information mediators can use an exposure program to deliver complete images (e.g. an image, a series of images or a video clip) for display which would not require processing by the control center, these can be dynamically added to the exposure list by the exposure handler. (*Id.* at 11:19-28) External information mediators can thus deliver a complete image for display (an image, a series of images or a video clip) which can be processed automatically and inserted into the exposure list, or an administer can select information from an external mediator and process the information so that it can be inserted into the exposure list via the exposure handler. (*Id.* at 8:27-41)
- 17. On June 3, 2008, U.S. Patent Number 7,382,334, entitled "Digital Information System," was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A true and correct copy of the '334 Patent is attached as Exhibit B to this First Amended Complaint.
- 18. The innovations described by the '334 Patent relate to methods and arrangements "for controlling and coordinating" digital display devices "in a digital information system for displaying information on at least one display device" "wherein the information is displayed in places that are accessible to and frequented by a general public." ('334 Patent at Abstract; 1:13-24; 5:20-32) The present invention is able "to provide a flexible system in which external information mediators are able to dynamically control in real time the transmission of display instructions to a larger public in different places" "and to enable similar or specific information to be displayed in places that are mutually far apart." (*Id.* at 2:56-60; 3:5-11)
- 19. A system operating according to an embodiment of the '334 Patent can include a control center with a communication interface that connects devices to create and update a display list in real time using control instruction fields sent from external mediators and to transmit and display the desired images to one or more electronic displays that can be controlled

independently of other electronic displays. (*Id.* at 3:38-60; 5:29-30) In embodiments, the control center can include one or more servers, workstations, and databases stored on one or more physical storage devices, and can include redundancy, of both computer hardware and the information stored, where the devices can be connected using a network, such as a LAN (Local Area Network) or by using a cable-carried ISDN solution (Integrated Services Digital Network) or other fixed lines that have a similar capacity. (*Id.* at 6:17-45; 7:17-29; 11:60-67) In some embodiments, a relational database can be used to store image and video data and each electronic display can be assigned a unique TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) address such that each display can be individually addressed and sent content for display. (*Id.* at 14:50-15:8)

- 20. In one embodiment of the invention, personnel operating a work station can enter information to be displayed from an external mediator via projector control instructions in the exposure list created by the server. (*Id.* at 9:45-61) Operators are able to interrupt a queue in the server in order to update the exposure list with information generated centrally from the control center or with information from an external information mediator. (*Id.*)
- 21. Information mediators can use an exposure program to deliver complete images (e.g. an image, a series of images or a video clip) for display which would not require processing by the control center, these can be dynamically added to the exposure list by the exposure handler. (*Id.* at 12:12-22) External information mediators can thus deliver a complete image for display (an image, a series of images or a video clip) which can be processed automatically and inserted into the exposure list, or an administer can select information from an external mediator and process the information so that it can be inserted into the exposure list via the exposure handler. (*Id.* at 9:62-10:9)

22. T-Rex is the assignee and owner of the right, title and interest in and to the '470 and '334 Patents (henceforth collectively the "patents-in-suit"), including the right to assert all causes of action arising under the patents-in-suit and the right to any remedies for infringement.

# COUNT I – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. RE39,470

- 23. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 22 are hereby realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 24. Upon information and belief, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), Defendants have directly infringed and continue to directly infringe, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, one or more claims of the '470 Patent by making, using, offering for sale, selling, or importing devices or systems, in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States (directly or through intermediaries), that perform the steps of receiving control instructions from at least one external information mediator, using the control instructions to generate an exposure list that specifies three or more of the following items: i) what information content is to be displayed; ii) at which of a plurality of locations the information content is to be displayed; and iv) how long the information content is to be displayed for each location at which content is to be displayed, displaying images at one or more of the locations in accordance with the exposure list, and permitting the exposure list to be dynamically updated as claimed in at least claim 25 of the '470 Patent, without the authority of T-Rex.
- 25. Upon information and belief, Defendants have directly infringed and continue to directly infringe one or more claims of the '470 Patent by operating digital billboards in Minnesota.

- 26. Upon information and belief, Defendants have directly infringed and continue to directly infringe one or more claims of the '470 Patent by operating more than 1,800 digital billboards and other out-of-home digital signage display units throughout the United States.
- 27. T-Rex provided actual notice to Defendants of the '470 Patent, and specifically referred to claim 25 of the '470 Patent, in a June 10, 2010 letter sent by Federal Express to the predecessor company of Defendant Outfront Media, Inc.
- 28. T-Rex provided actual notice to Defendants of their infringement of the '470 Patent in a complaint filed in United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas on June 14, 2012 against the predecessor company of Defendant Outfront Media, Inc. This complaint was voluntarily dismissed by T-Rex without prejudice on November 19, 2012 due to improper venue.
- 29. Defendants have had actual knowledge of the '470 Patent since at least the date that Defendants received the June 10, 2010 letter. Defendants have had constructive knowledge of the infringing nature of their activities, or at least a willful blindness regarding the infringing nature of their activities, with respect to the '470 Patent since at least the date that Defendants received the June 10, 2010 letter.
- 30. Despite Defendants knowledge of the '470 Patent and their constructive knowledge of their infringing actions, on information and belief, Defendants thereafter continued to infringe the '470 Patent. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful since at least June 10, 2010.
- 31. Defendants have had actual knowledge of the '470 Patent and actual knowledge of their infringement of the '470 Patent since at least June 14, 2012, the date that T-Rex filed its

complaint for patent infringement in United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas.

- 32. Despite Defendants knowledge of the '470 Patent and knowledge of their infringing actions, on information and belief, Defendants thereafter continued to infringe '470 Patent. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful since at least June 14, 2012.
- 33. Because of Defendants' infringing activities, T-Rex has suffered damages and will continue to suffer damages in the future. T-Rex is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by T-Rex as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial, which, by law, cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

# COUNT II – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,382,334

- 34. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 33 are hereby realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 35. Upon information and belief, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), Defendants have directly infringed and continue to directly infringe, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, one or more claims of the '334 Patent by making, using, offering for sale, selling, or importing devices or systems, in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States (directly or through intermediaries), that perform the steps of generating an exposure list comprising control instructions for coordinating and controlling electronic displays with regard to what shall be exposed, when it shall be exposed, where it shall be exposed and for how long it shall be exposed, using a control center for coordinating and controlling electronic displays, where the control center is able to create and update the exposure list in real time, with control instruction fields via dynamic booking of information, in time for exposure, from mediators, and where the

exposure list enables each electronic display to be controlled, independently of other electronic displays, to receive the same or different information in accordance with the exposure list for the exposure of respective electronic display as claimed in at least claim 22 of the '334 Patent, without the authority of T-Rex.

- 36. Upon information and belief, Defendants have directly infringed and continue to directly infringe one or more claims of the '334 Patent by operating digital billboards in Minnesota.
- 37. Upon information and belief, Defendants have directly infringed and continue to directly infringe one or more claims of the '334 Patent by operating more than 1,800 digital billboards and other out-of-home digital signage display units throughout the United States.
- 38. T-Rex provided constructive notice to Defendants of the '334 Patent in a June 10, 2010 letter sent by Federal Express to the predecessor company of Defendant Outfront Media, Inc. In the June 10, 2010 letter, T-Rex identified the '470 Patent, which shares the same parent application as the '334 Patent.
- 39. T-Rex provided constructive notice to Defendants of their infringement of the '334 Patent in a complaint filed in United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas on June 14, 2012 against the predecessor company of Defendant Outfront Media, Inc. The June 14, 2012 complaint alleged infringement of the '470 Patent, which shares the same parent application as the '334 Patent. This complaint was voluntarily dismissed by T-Rex without prejudice on November 19, 2012 due to improper venue.
- 40. Defendants have had constructive knowledge of the '334 Patent and of the infringing nature of their activities, or at least a willful blindness regarding the infringing nature

of their activities, with respect to the '334 Patent since at least the date that Defendants received the June 10, 2010 letter.

- 41. Despite Defendants constructive knowledge of the '334 Patent and of their infringing actions, on information and belief, Defendants thereafter continued to infringe the '334 Patent. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful since at least June 10, 2010.
- 42. Defendants have had constructive knowledge of the '334 Patent and of the infringing nature of their activities, or at least a willful blindness regarding the infringing nature of their activities, with respect to the '334 Patent since at least June 14, 2012, the date that T-Rex filed its complaint for patent infringement in United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas.
- 43. Despite Defendants constructive knowledge of the '334 Patent and of their infringing actions, on information and belief, Defendants thereafter continued to infringe the '334 Patent. On information and belief, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful since at least June 14, 2012.
- 44. Because of Defendants' infringing activities, T-Rex has suffered damages and will continue to suffer damages in the future. T-Rex is entitled to recover from Defendants the damages sustained by T-Rex as a result of Defendants' wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial, which, by law, cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court find in its favor and against Defendants, and

that the Court grant Plaintiff the following relief:

A. an adjudication that Defendants have infringed the '470 and '334 Patents;

B. an award of damages to be paid by Defendants adequate to compensate T-Rex for

Defendants' past infringement of the '470 and '334 Patents and any continuing or future

infringement through the date such judgment is entered, including prejudgment and post-

judgment interest, costs, expenses and an accounting of all infringing acts including, but not

limited to, those acts not presented at trial;

C. an injunction ordering Defendants to pay an ongoing royalty in an amount to be

determined for any continued infringement after the date judgment is entered;

D. an award of treble damages under 35 U.S.C. § 284; and,

E. an award to T-Rex of such further relief at law or in equity as the Court deems

just and proper.

Dated: April 7, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David P. Swenson

David P. Swenson

Bar No. 0265214

Peter Thomas

Bar No. 389013

FARNEY DANIELS PC

100 North Sixth Street, Suite 445A

Minneapolis, MN 55403

Tel: (612) 424-9220

Fax: (612) 424-9230

Email: dswenson@farneydaniels.com

Email: pthomas@farneydaniels.com

**Attorneys for Plaintiff** 

**T-Rex Property AB** 

12