

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MARSHALL DIVISION**

VILOX TECHNOLOGIES, LLC)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	Civil Action No. ____
v.)	
)	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
LOWES COMPANIES, INC.)	
)	
Defendant.)	
)	
)	

COMPLAINT

For its Complaint, Plaintiff Vilox Technologies, LLC (“Vilox”), by and through the undersigned counsel, alleges as follows:

THE PARTIES

1. Vilox is a Texas limited liability company having a principal place of business at 101 E. Park Boulevard, Suite 600, Plano, Texas 75704.

2. Defendant Lowes Companies, Inc. (“Lowes”) is a North Carolina corporation, having a principal place of business at 1000 Lowes Blvd., Mooresville, North Carolina 28117.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35 of the United States Code, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.* The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271, and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338.

4. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Lowes because, upon information and belief, Lowes conducts substantial business in the forum, directly or through intermediaries,

including: (i) at least a portion of the infringing activity alleged herein; and (ii) regularly doing or soliciting business, engaging in other persistent courses of conduct and/or deriving substantial revenue from goods and services provided to persons in this district.

5. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b), (c) and (d), as well as 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b). Furthermore, venue is proper based on Defendant's conducting of business within this District and/or soliciting and establishing online relationships with persons and entities within this District, including the infringing products or services alleged herein.

THE PATENTS-IN-SUIT

6. On March 6, 2007, United States Patent 7,188,100 (the "'100 patent"), entitled "Search-on-the-Fly Report Generator," was duly and lawfully issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO"). A true and correct copy of the '100 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

7. On August 11, 2009, United States Patent 7,574,432 (the "'432 patent"), entitled "Search-on-the-Fly/Sort-on-the-Fly Search Engine," was duly and lawfully issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO"). A true and correct copy of the '432 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

8. The '100 and '432 patents are each valid and subsisting, and Vilox is the assignee and owner of all right, title and interest in and to the '100 and '432 patents, including the right to assert all causes of action arising under said patents and to any remedies for infringement of them.

9. Dr. Joseph DeBellis is a named inventor on each of the Patents-in-Suit, and is the sole inventor on the '432 patent. Over 15 years ago, Dr. DeBellis recognized a significant limitation on the ability to search, retrieve and sort results of queries across a single database or

across multiple databases. At that time, search queries tended to return very large amounts of data that could not easily be sorted and reviewed by the user. Additionally, no iterative application of search functions or filters was available to search and/or sort a single or multiple databases. Furthermore, a query for a given piece of information might, in the case of multiple databases, retrieve the information from one database, but not another, even if the information is the same in each database, because of the different ways in which the data in the databases was organized.

10. To solve these long-standing problems, Dr. DeBellis conceived a method and apparatus for conducting on-the-fly searches that provide the user with an intuitive mechanism for searching databases without having to know anything about the database structure. This conception formed the basis for several inventions, including those claimed in the '100 and '432 patents.

COUNT I – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT 7,188,100

11. Vilox repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 10 as if fully set forth herein.

12. Lowes has infringed and continues to infringe one or more claims of the '100 patent, including at least claim 1, by making, using, selling and/or offering for sale within this District and elsewhere in the United States and/or importing into this District and elsewhere in the United States, products or services that, among other features, receive a database search query, search a database on-the-fly based on the query, tweak the received query to generate a defined query of the database, access a database using the defined query, generate a search result that includes descriptors of data categories, and create a template that includes links to the data

categories, including but not limited to search features of the Lowes online store located at www.lowes.com (the “Lowes Online Store”).

13. Lowes’s infringing actions are without license and authorization.

14. Lowes’s unauthorized actions therefore constitute violation of Vilox’s exclusive rights pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), and Vilox is entitled to recover from Lowes the damages sustained by Vilox as a result of Lowes’s infringement of the ‘100 patent in an amount to be determined at trial, which amount shall be no less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284.

COUNT II – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT 7,574,432

15. Vilox repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 14 as if fully set forth herein.

16. Lowes has infringed and continues to infringe one or more claims of the ‘432 patent, including at least claim 1, by making, using, selling and/or offering for sale within this District and elsewhere in the United States and/or importing into this District and elsewhere in the United States, products or services that, among other features, receive a selection of one or more databases, present a menu with a list of data fields from the selected database(s), receive a selection of a data field from the menu and storing the selection as a first constraint parameter, search the database(s) based on the first constraint parameter, generate a search result based on the first constraint parameter that includes entries presented in a second menu, receive a selection of a data field from the second menu and storing the selection as a second constraint parameter, combine the first constraint parameter with the second constraint parameter and search the database(s) based on the combined first and second constraint parameters, and generate a search result based on the first and second constraint parameters that includes entries presented in a

third menu on the same screen as the first and second menus,, including but not limited to search features of the Lowes Online Store.

17. Lowes's infringing actions are without license and authorization.

18. Lowes's unauthorized actions therefore constitute violation of Vilox's exclusive rights pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), and Vilox is entitled to recover from Lowes the damages sustained by Vilox as a result of Lowes's infringement of the '432 patent in an amount to be determined at trial, which amount shall be no less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284.

JURY DEMAND

Vilox hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Vilox requests that the Court enter judgment against Lowes as follows:

A. An adjudication that Defendant Lowes Companies, Inc. has infringed the '100 and '432 patents.

B. An award of damages to be paid by Defendant adequate to compensate Vilox for Defendant's past infringement of the '100 and '432 patents and any continuing or future infringement through the date such judgment is entered, including interest, costs, expenses and an accounting of all infringing acts including, but not limited to, those acts not presented at trial;

C. A declaration that this case is exceptional under 35 U.S.C. § 285, and an award of Vilox's reasonable attorneys' fees; and

D. An award to Vilox of such further relief at law or in equity as the Court deems just and proper.

Date: November 30, 2015

/s/Andrew W. Spangler

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