

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

CODING TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	Case No:
	§	
vs.	§	PATENT CASE
	§	
THE HOME DEPOT U.S.A., INC.	§	
	§	
Defendant.	§	
	§	

**ORIGINAL COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff Coding Technologies, LLC (“Plaintiff” or “CT”) files this Original Complaint against The Home Depot U.S.A., Inc. (“Defendant” or “Home Depot”) for infringement of United States Patents No. 8,540,159 (the “ ‘159 Patent”).

**PARTIES AND JURISDICTION**

1. This is an action for patent infringement under Title 35 of the United States Code. Plaintiff is seeking injunctive relief as well as damages.

2. Jurisdiction is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 (Federal Question) and 1338(a) (Patents) because this is a civil action for patent infringement arising under the United States patent statutes.

3. Plaintiff is a Texas limited liability company with a place of business at 1400 Preston Road, Suite 400, Plano, Texas 75093.

4. On information and belief, Defendant is a Delaware corporation with its principal office at 2455 Paces Ferry Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30339-4024.

5. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because Defendant has

committed, and continues to commit, acts of infringement in this District, has conducted business in this District, and/or has engaged in continuous and systematic activities in this District.

6. Upon information and belief, Defendant's instrumentalities that are alleged herein to infringe were and continue to be used, imported, offered for sale, and/or sold in the Eastern District of Texas.

### VENUE

7. On information and belief, venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b) because Defendant is deemed to reside in this District. Alternatively, or in addition, acts of infringement are occurring in this District and Defendant has a regular and established place of business in this District. For example, on information and belief, Defendant has a regular and established place of business located at 3901 Old Jacksonville Hw, Tyler, TX 75701.

### COUNT I (INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 8,540,159)

8. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1 through 7 herein by reference.

9. This cause of action arises under the patent laws of the United States and, in particular, under 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, *et seq.*

10. Plaintiff is the owner by assignment of the '159 Patent with sole rights to enforce the '159 Patent and sue infringers.

11. A copy of the '159 Patent, titled "Method for Providing Mobile Service Using Code-pattern," is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

12. The '159 Patent is valid, enforceable, and was duly issued in full compliance with Title 35 of the United States Code.

13. On September 24, 2013, the United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) duly and legally issued the '159 Patent.

14. The '159 Patent teaches a method and apparatus for providing a mobile service with the use of code pattern. The mobile service reads the code pattern and converts the information recorded in the code pattern to produce content that may then be read by the human eye. In one aspect of the invention, a user simply takes a photograph of a code pattern, the invention decodes the photograph and recognizes URL information that is contained in the code pattern that is not recognizable by the human eye, the invention compares the content on the entire URL associated with the code pattern, transmits information to the associated URL, and then retrieves all content associated with that URL that corresponds with the code pattern.

15. In short, the present invention, through use of technology, eliminates the need for hand typing certain information into a URL, which, inter alia, eliminates the risk of transcription error. The present invention is an improvement in the use of traditional barcodes; rather, the present invention includes the additional step of converting analog information to digital information, which is an improvement in the prior art.

16. The '159 Patent is directed to computerized decoding technologies to provide users with access to and use of various content more conveniently. Traditionally, companies simply provided their URL information to the consuming public, but this is effective only if a consumer memorized the name and spelling of the URL. Thus, there was a need in the art to provide an effective product or method to assist consumers with recalling website or URL information.

17. The '159 Patent claims, among other things, a method of providing content with the use of code pattern by a user terminal; a user terminal for providing content with the use of code pattern; a non-transitory machine-readable storage medium having encoded thereon program code; and, a method of providing content with the use of an image captured by a user

terminal.

18. Collectively, the claimed embodiments in the '159 Patent provides new solutions to problems related to transmitting information from a mobile service provider to a mobile device. For example, the inventive concept can be used in a variety of circumstances, including but not limited to transmitting and converting code patterns directed to taxi call services, transmitting and converting code patterns directed to personal connection information, and transmitting and converting code patterns directed to paying bills.

19. The '159 Patent solves a problem with the art that is rooted in computer technology that uses mobile service providers. The '159 Patent does not merely recite the performance of some business practice known from the pre-Internet world along with the requirement to perform it on the Internet.

20. The invention claimed by the '159 Patent consists of a system of units that correspond to produce an inventive concept. The system of units includes a code distribution unit, barcode image analyzing unit, code information analyzing unit, transmitting/receiving unit, code information database managing unit, control unit, photographing unit, and user interface unit. In laymen's terms, each unit, which collectively interact as a whole to produce a result, functions as follows:

a. Code distribution unit – unit that analyzes the service identifier recognizes that a service type is the content providing service, and transmits a received barcode image or code information to the barcode image transmitting unit or the code information analyzing unit according to embodiments;

b. Barcode image analyzing unit – unit that receives a barcode image photographed by a photographing unit to extract code information from the barcode image and transmit the

code information to the code information analyzing unit in a case where a decoder for decoding the barcode is not provided in the user terminal;

c. Code information analyzing unit – unit that functions to analyze code information received from the code distribution unit or the barcode image analyzing unit and extract the information of a Web page, including content information, from the analyzed code information corresponding to the code information with reference to the code information database storing therein user contact information corresponding to the code information;

d. Transmitting/receiving unit – unit that functions to receive the content information request message from the user terminal and transmit extracted content information or Web page information to the user terminal;

e. Code information database managing unit – unit that functions to manage the code information database storing therein the Web page information of a Web server corresponding to the code information;

f. Control unit – unit that controls the respective components, generates control signals required to control the barcode image analyzing unit and the code information analyzing unit, extracts content corresponding to the received content request message, and transmits the content to the transmitting/receiving unit;

g. Photographing unit – unit that is a means for recognizing or photographing an image that functions to recognize (or photograph) the barcode, convert recognized (photographed) analog image data into digital image data, and transmit the digital image data to the decoder;

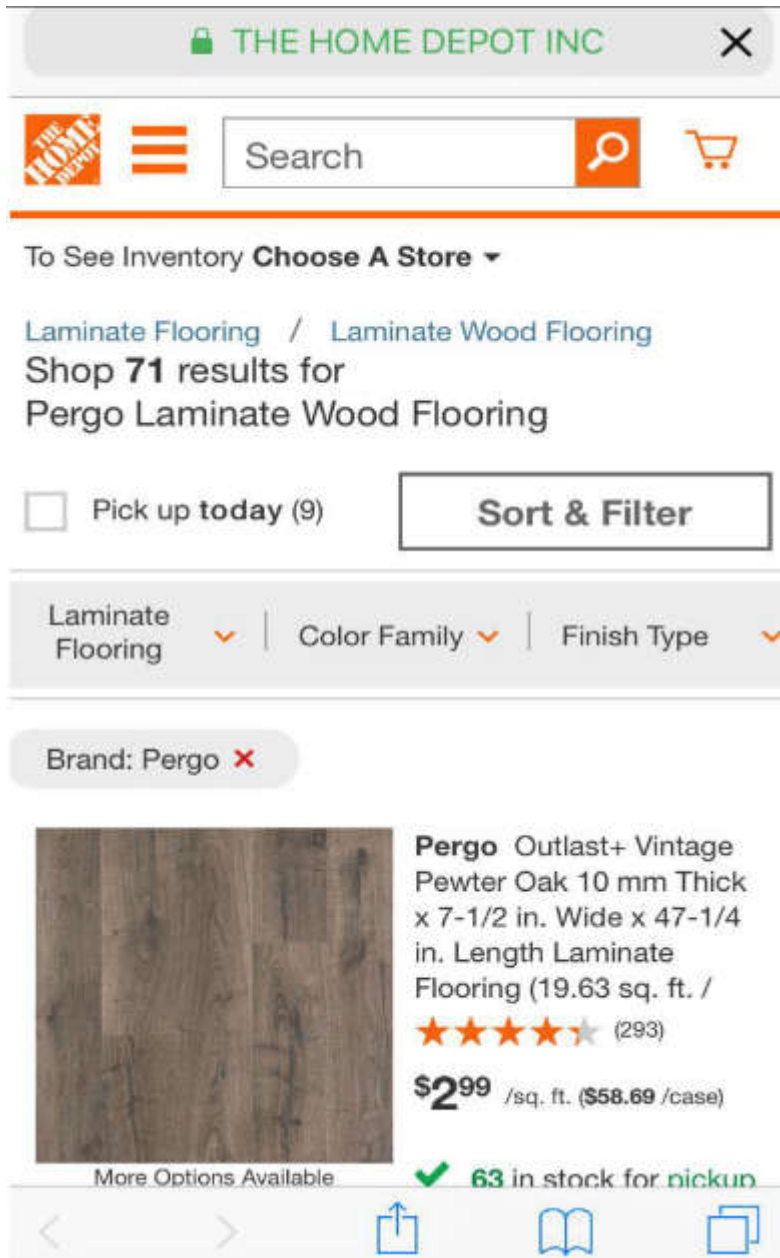
h. User interface unit – unit that functions to provide a user interface so that the user can access the service provider server to be provided with Internet content and provides user

interface so that the user can access a corresponding Web server when Web page information is received from the service provider server.

21. On information and belief, at least through internal testing, Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe one or more claims, including at least Claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15 and 16 of the '159 Patent by using and/or incorporating code patterns in connection with online and/or paper media distributed by and/or controlled by Defendant in a manner covered by one or more claims of the '159 Patent. Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe the '159 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271.

22. Regarding Claim 1, as shown below, Defendant provides a code pattern (e.g., a QR code) in connection with online media (e.g., a website at [https://www.homedepot.com/b/Flooring-Laminate-Flooring-Laminate-Wood-Flooring/Pergo/N-5yc1vZbejkZ150?cm\\_sp=vanity-\\_-Pergo-\\_-MAR16](https://www.homedepot.com/b/Flooring-Laminate-Flooring-Laminate-Wood-Flooring/Pergo/N-5yc1vZbejkZ150?cm_sp=vanity-_-Pergo-_-MAR16)). At least through internal use and testing, Defendant provides content (e.g., the website) through the use of the code pattern by a user terminal (e.g., a smartphone). On information, the code pattern is provided on a flyer, mailer, packaging, or other media accessible by a user. Certain aspects of this element are illustrated in the screen shots below.

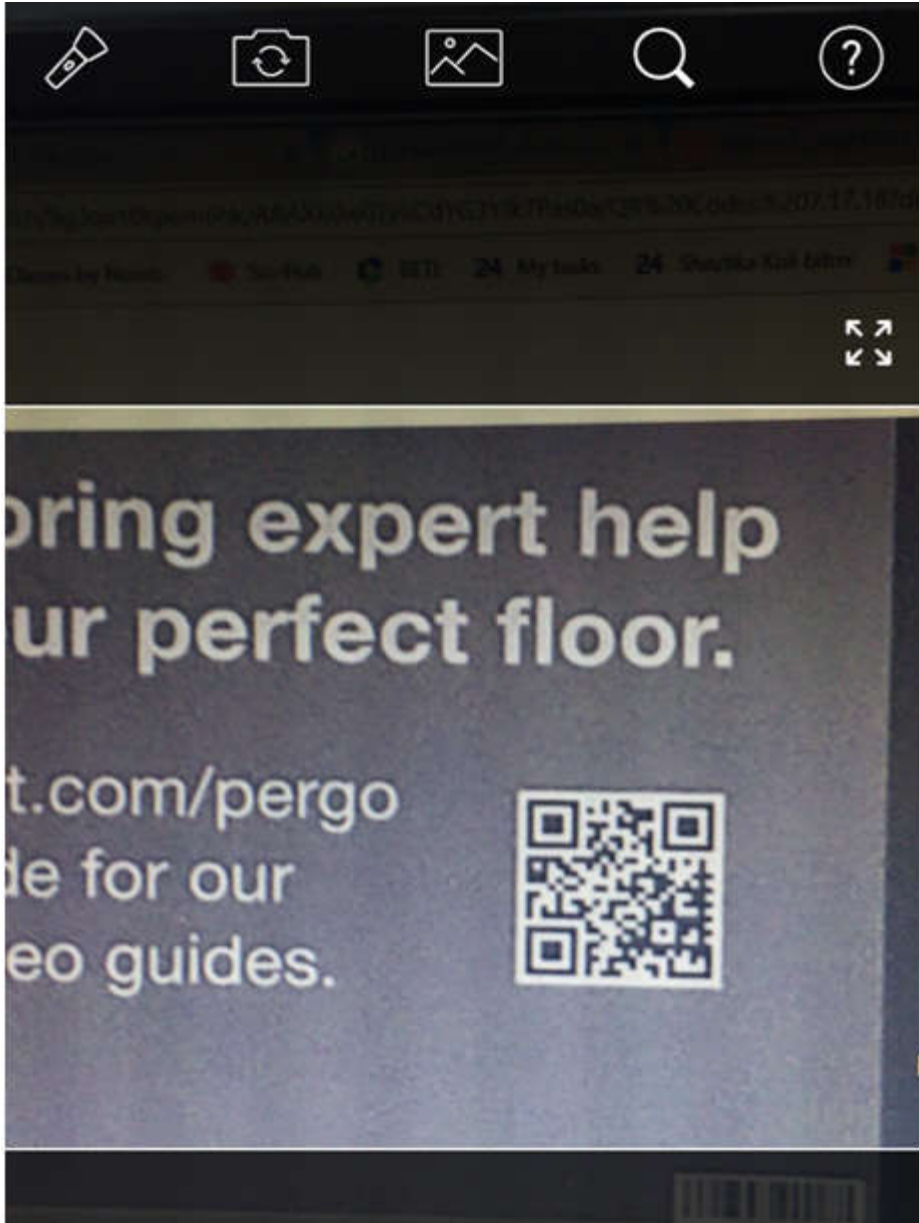




23. As illustrated below, a photographic image of the code pattern is obtained using a camera of the user terminal (e.g., the camera of the smartphone).



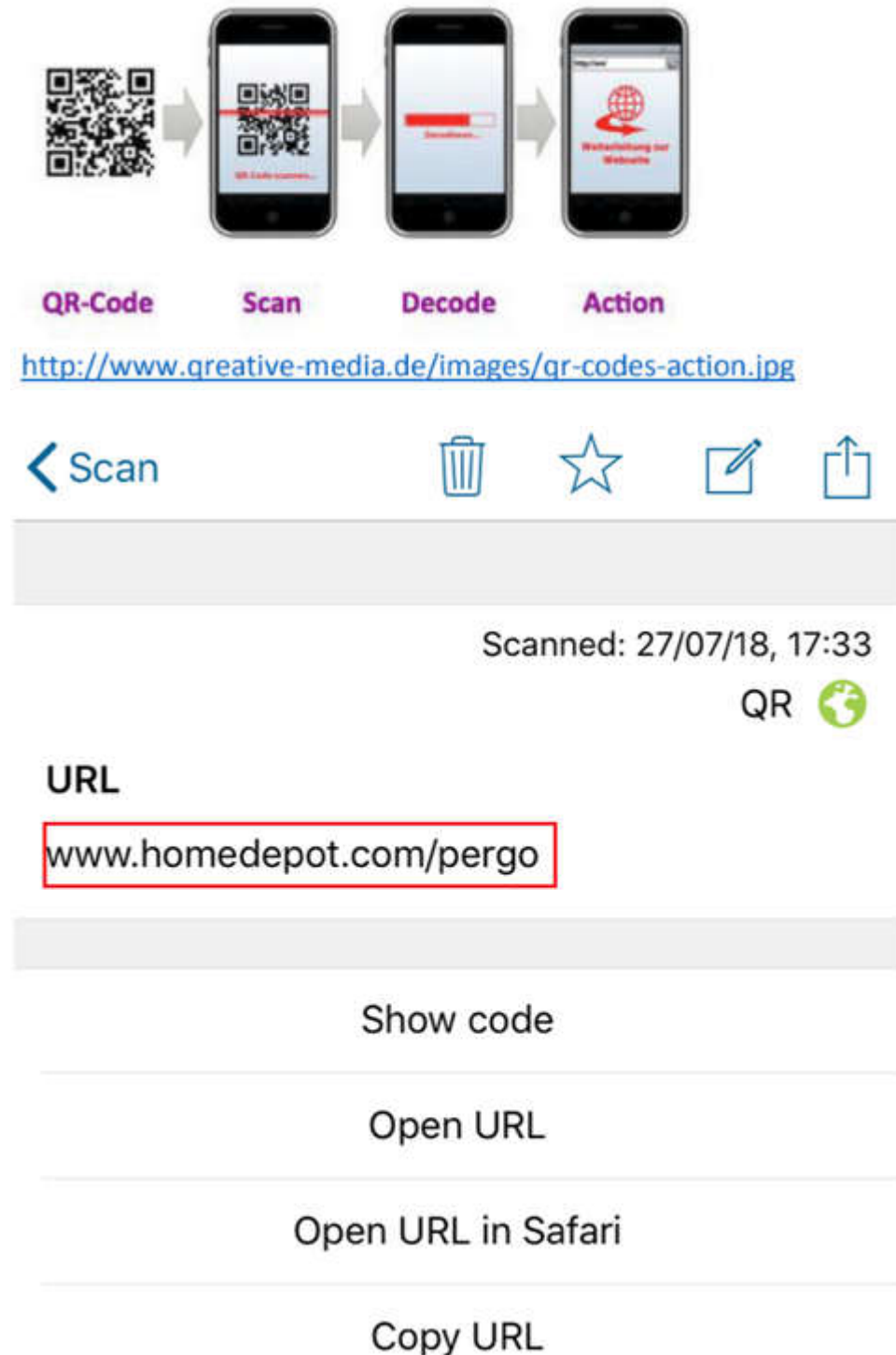




24. A processor of the user terminal processes the photographic image of the code pattern to extract the code pattern from the photographic image. The extracted code pattern can be viewed by the user. Certain aspects of this element are illustrated in the screen shots referenced in other paragraphs herein.

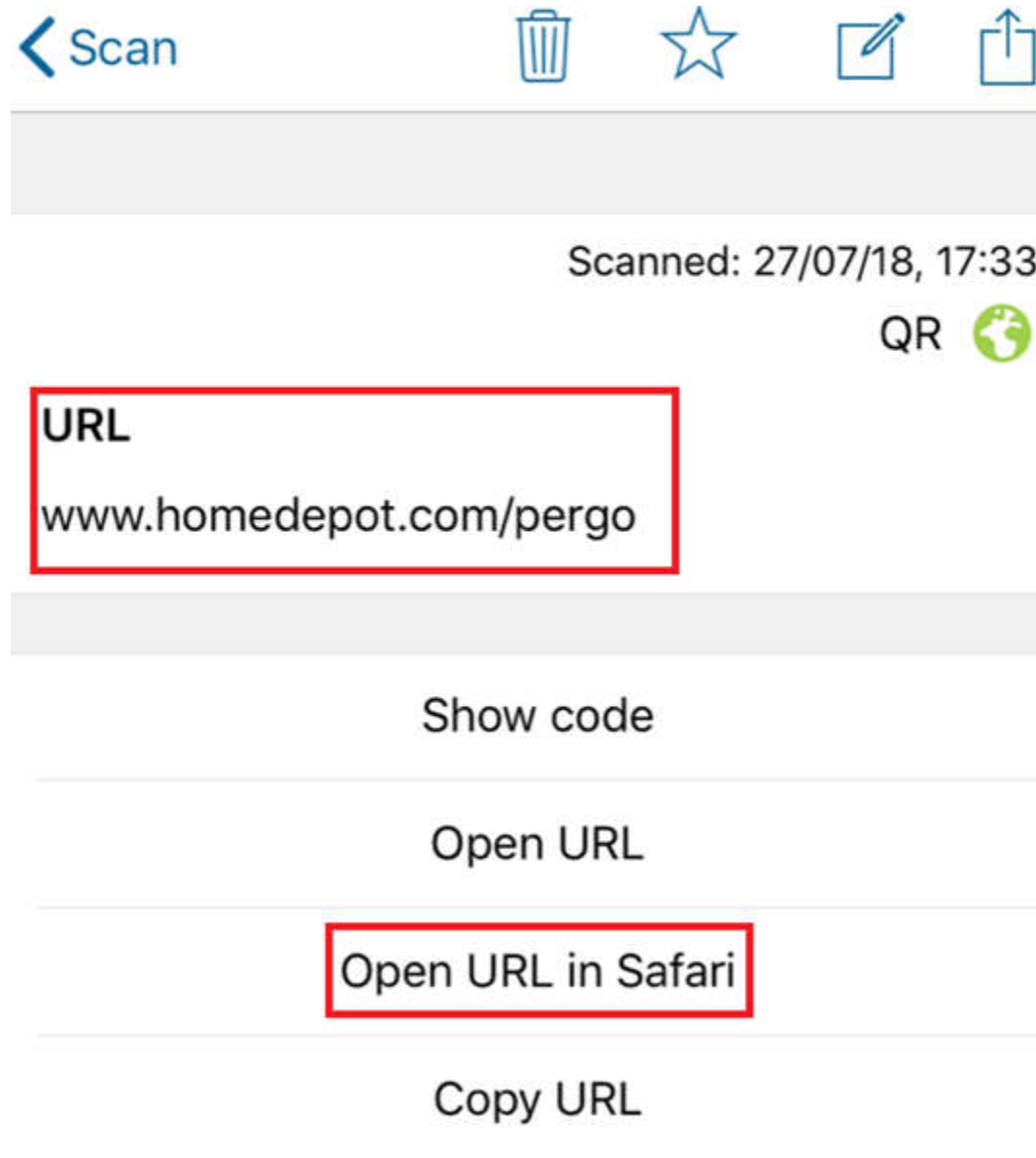
25. The extracted code pattern is decoded by the processor into code information (e.g., the URL of the web page associated with Defendant). Certain aspects of this element are

illustrated in the screen shots below and/or screen shots referenced in other paragraphs herein.



26. A content information request message is sent to a server based on the code information. For example, an http request message requesting access of the web page is sent to

Defendant's server based on the code information (e.g., the URL of the associated web page). Content information (e.g., the associated web page) is received from the server in response to the content information request message. Certain aspects of this element are illustrated in the screen shots below and/or screen shots referenced in other paragraphs herein.



27. Defendant, at least in internal use and testing, practices receiving content information (e.g., a web page associated with Defendant) from the server (e.g., server hosting Defendant's app) in response to the content information request message. As shown below, the

terminal (e.g., smartphone) receives Defendant's webpage.



<http://www.qreative-media.de/images/qr-codes-action.jpg>

The screenshot shows a mobile browser interface for The Home Depot. At the top, the browser address bar shows 'THE HOME DEPOT INC'. Below the address bar is the Home Depot logo, a search bar with the text 'Search', and a shopping cart icon. A navigation bar indicates 'To See Inventory Choose A Store'. The main content area shows search results for 'Pergo Laminate Wood Flooring', with '71 results' shown. There are filters for 'Pick up today (9)' and a 'Sort & Filter' button. Below the filters, there are dropdown menus for 'Laminate Flooring', 'Color Family', and 'Finish Type'. A filter for 'Brand: Pergo' is active. A product listing for 'Pergo Outlast+ Vintage Pewter Oak 10 mm Thick x 7-1/2 in. Wide x 47-1/4 in. Length Laminate Flooring (19.63 sq. ft. / )' is shown with a 4.5-star rating (293 reviews) and a price of '\$2.99 /sq. ft. (\$58.69 /case)'. A green checkmark indicates '63 in stock for pickup'. At the bottom, there are navigation icons for back, forward, share, and tabs.

28. Regarding Claim 2, and as shown in the screen shots above, the content information comprises at least one of: image, sound, moving picture, and text data.

29. Regarding Claim 3, the step of transmitting a content information request message includes extracting a uniform resource locator (URL) of the server from the code information and transmitting the content information request message to the server based on the extracted URL. For example, the content information request message is an http request message for accessing the web page associated with Defendant. The URL of the server is extracted from the code pattern and the content information request message is transmitted based on the extracted URL. This is illustrated in the screen shots above.

30. Regarding Claim 8, Defendant, at least in internal use and testing, utilizes a user terminal (e.g., smartphone) for providing content (e.g., a web page associated with Defendant) with the use of a code pattern (e.g., a QR code). Defendant provides a code pattern (e.g., a QR code) in connection with online media (e.g., website at [https://www.homedepot.com/b/Flooring-Laminate-Flooring-Laminate-Wood-Flooring/Pergo/N-5yc1vZbejkZ150?cm\\_sp=vanity\\_-\\_Pergo\\_-\\_MAR16](https://www.homedepot.com/b/Flooring-Laminate-Flooring-Laminate-Wood-Flooring/Pergo/N-5yc1vZbejkZ150?cm_sp=vanity_-_Pergo_-_MAR16)). At least through internal use and testing, Defendant provides content (e.g., the website) through the use of the code pattern by a user terminal (e.g., a smartphone). On information, the code pattern is provided on a flyer or mailer, or other media accessible by a user. A camera is used to obtain a photographic image of the code pattern. A processor of the user terminal processes the photographic image of the code pattern to extract the code pattern from the photographic image. A decoder decodes the extracted code pattern into code information (e.g., the URL of the web page associated with Defendant). The user terminal includes a transceiver which transmits a content information request message to a server based on the code information. For example, an http request message requesting access of the web

page is sent to Defendant's server based on the code information (e.g., the URL of the associated web page). The transceiver receives content information (e.g., the associated web page) from the server in response to the content information request message. These claim elements correspond to the steps in Claim 1 and are further described in connection with paragraphs 21-27 above. These claim elements are also illustrated in the screen shots provided above.

31. Regarding Claim 9, and as shown in the screen shots above, the content information comprises at least one of: image, sound, moving picture, and text data.

32. Regarding Claim 10, the processor is configured to extract a uniform resource locator (URL) of the server from the code information and the transceiver is configured to transmit the content information request message to the server based on the extracted URL. For example, the content information request message is an http request message for accessing the web page associated with Defendant. The URL of the server is extracted from the code pattern and the content information request message is transmitted based on the extracted URL. This is illustrated in the screen shots above.

33. Regarding Claim 15, on information and belief, Defendant provides and/or uses a non-transitory machine-readable storage medium having encoded thereon program code, wherein the program code is executed by a machine, and wherein the machine implements the method described above in connection with at least Claim 1 (as described in connection with paragraphs 21-27 and the screen shots provided above). Those method steps are the same as recited in connection with Claim 15.

34. Regarding Claim 16, Defendant provides a code pattern (e.g., a QR code) in connection with online media (e.g., website at [https://www.homedepot.com/b/Flooring-Laminate-Flooring-Laminate-Wood-Flooring/Pergo/N-5yc1vZbejkZ150?cm\\_sp=vanity\\_-\\_](https://www.homedepot.com/b/Flooring-Laminate-Flooring-Laminate-Wood-Flooring/Pergo/N-5yc1vZbejkZ150?cm_sp=vanity_-_)

Pergo-\_-MAR16). At least through internal use and testing, Defendant provides content (e.g., the website) through the use of the code pattern by a user terminal (e.g., a smartphone). On information, the code pattern is provided on a flyer or mailer, or other media accessible by a user. A photographic image of the code pattern is obtained using a camera of the user terminal (e.g., the camera of the smartphone). A processor of the user terminal processes the photographic image of the code pattern to extract characteristic information (e.g., a code pattern) from the photographic image. A content information request message with the characteristic information is sent to a server. For example, an http request message requesting access of the web page is sent to Defendant's server based on the code information (e.g., the URL of the associated web page). Content information (e.g., the associated web page) is received from the server in response to the content information request message.

35. Defendant's actions complained of herein will continue unless Defendant is enjoined by this court.

36. Defendant's actions complained of herein are causing irreparable harm and monetary damage to Plaintiff and will continue to do so unless and until Defendant is enjoined and restrained by this Court.

37. Plaintiff is in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 287.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff asks the Court to:

(a) Enter judgment for Plaintiff on this Complaint on all causes of action asserted herein;

(b) Enter an Order enjoining Defendant, its agents, officers, servants, employees, attorneys, and all persons in active concert or participation with Defendant who receive notice



of the order from further infringement of United States Patent No. 8,540,159 (or, in the alternative, awarding Plaintiff running royalties from the time of judgment going forward);

(c) Award Plaintiff damages resulting from Defendant's infringement in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 284;

(d) Award Plaintiff pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and costs; and

(e) Award Plaintiff such further relief to which the Court finds Plaintiff entitled under law or equity.

Dated: August 29, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Jay Johnson*

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**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF**

**EXHIBIT A**