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7 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
8 KARAMELION LLC, a Texas limited liability company

9 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
10 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

11 **KARAMELION LLC,**

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 **MONOPRICE, INC.,**

15 Defendant.

PATENT

Case No. 5:19-cv-1833

**ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR  
PATENT INFRINGEMENT  
AGAINST MONOPRICE, INC.**

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

16 **ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

17  
18 Plaintiff Karamelion LLC, files this Original Complaint for Patent  
19 Infringement against Monoprice, Inc., and would respectfully show the Court as  
20 follows:  
21

22 **I. THE PARTIES**

23  
24 1. Plaintiff Karamelion LLC (“Karamelion” or “Plaintiff”) is a Texas  
25 limited liability company with its principal place of business at 5570 FM 423,  
26 Suite 250 #2022, Frisco, TX 75034.  
27  
28

1           2.     On information and belief, Defendant Monoprice, Inc. (“Defendant”)  
2 is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of California, with a place of  
3 business at 11701 6th Street, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730.  
4

## 5   **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6           3.     This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35  
7 of the United States Code. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction of such  
8 action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).  
9

10           4.     On information and belief, Defendant is subject to this Court’s  
11 specific and general personal jurisdiction, pursuant to due process and the  
12 California Long-Arm Statute, due at least to its business in this forum, including at  
13 least a portion of the infringements alleged herein. Furthermore, Defendant is  
14 subject to this Court’s specific and general personal jurisdiction because Defendant  
15 is a California corporation.  
16

17           5.     Without limitation, on information and belief, within this state,  
18 Defendant has used the patented inventions thereby committing, and continuing to  
19 commit, acts of patent infringement alleged herein. In addition, on information  
20 and belief, Defendant has derived revenues from its infringing acts occurring  
21 within California. Further, on information and belief, Defendant is subject to the  
22 Court’s general jurisdiction, including from regularly doing or soliciting business,  
23 engaging in other persistent courses of conduct, and deriving substantial revenue  
24 from goods and services provided to persons or entities in California. Further, on  
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1 information and belief, Defendant is subject to the Court’s personal jurisdiction at  
2 least due to its sale of products and/or services within California. Defendant has  
3 committed such purposeful acts and/or transactions in California such that it  
4 reasonably should know and expect that it could be haled into this Court as a  
5 consequence of such activity.  
6

7  
8 6. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b). On  
9 information and belief, Defendant is a California corporation. Under the patent  
10 venue analysis, Defendant resides only in this District. On information and belief,  
11 from and within this District Defendant has committed at least a portion of the  
12 infringements at issue in this case.  
13

14 7. For these reasons, personal jurisdiction exists and venue is proper in  
15 this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b).  
16

17 **III. COUNT I**  
18 **(PATENT INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 6,275,166)**

19 8. Plaintiff incorporates the above paragraphs herein by reference.

20 9. On August 14, 2001, United States Patent No. 6,275,166 (“the ‘166  
21 Patent”) was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark  
22 Office. The application leading to the ‘166 patent was filed on January 19, 1999.  
23 (Ex. A at cover). The ‘166 Patent is titled “RF Remote Appliance  
24 Control/Monitoring System.” A true and correct copy of the ‘166 Patent is attached  
25 hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.  
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1           10. Plaintiff is the assignee of all right, title and interest in the ‘166 patent,  
2 including all rights to enforce and prosecute actions for infringement and to collect  
3 damages for all relevant times against infringers of the ‘166 Patent. Accordingly,  
4 Plaintiff possesses the exclusive right and standing to prosecute the present action  
5 for infringement of the ‘166 Patent by Defendant.  
6

7  
8           11. The invention in the ‘166 Patent relates to control and monitoring of  
9 distributed systems in buildings such as systems for controlling and monitoring  
10 heating, air conditioning, lighting, security, occupancy, and usage of distributed  
11 facilities. (Ex. A at col. 1:5-12). Control of such distributed systems in the prior  
12 art commonly used computer networks and business software. (*Id.* at col. 1:11-  
13 13). A major difficult with such systems was the expense of wiring inter-  
14 connections between elements of the system, particularly when there are additions  
15 or changes to be made in the system. (*Id.* at col. 1:14-18). Prior art attempts to  
16 reduce the expense of the systems included using efficient network products such  
17 as using a widely known Ethernet standard, using AC power wiring to transmit RF  
18 communications to remove controllers, and using a combination of wired and  
19 wireless communications. (*Id.* at col. 1:18-27).  
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24           12. However, these centralized wireless control systems for building  
25 appliances have not been widely used mainly because systems that have a  
26 sufficient communication ranges are normally subject to regulations and licensing  
27 requirements that are prohibitively expensive. (*Id.* at col. 1:28-32). Also, systems  
28

1 that are powerful enough to be used in widely distributed installations are  
2 unnecessarily expensive to be used in smaller installations. (*Id.* at col. 1:32-34).

3  
4 With respect to wireless communication, there is limited availability of RF carrier  
5 frequencies, and potential interference with other nearby systems that might be  
6 operating in similar frequencies. (*Id.* at col. 1:34-37). Because of the continued  
7 deficiencies of the prior art solutions, there was a need for a wireless appliance  
8 control system that overcomes the disadvantages of the prior art solutions. (*Id.* at  
9 col. 1:38-39).

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12 13. The inventors developed an invention that “meets this need by  
13 providing a wireless configuration that uses a distributed array of low power (short  
14 range) wireless controllers that are also functional as relay units for communicating  
15 with a headend control computer at long range.” (*Id.* at col. 1:42-46).

16  
17 14. The ‘166 patent discloses exemplary embodiments of the claimed  
18 invention. The claimed invention is typically implemented in a building or  
19 location that has an appliance control/monitoring system. (*Id.* at col. 3:64 – col.  
20 4:7). For example, the following figure is of a building (11) having a distributed  
21 array of appliance management stations (12) that wirelessly communicate with a  
22 headend control station (14) (*Id.* at col. 3:66 – col. 4:4):  
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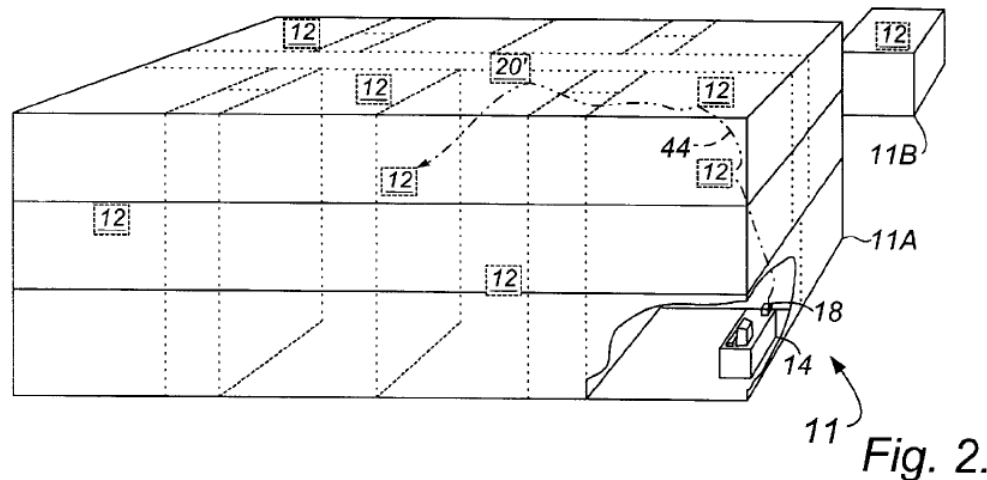


Fig. 2.

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 10 The typical appliances connected to the appliance control/monitoring system are  
 11 heating, ventilation and air conditioning units (HVAC), temperature sensors,  
 12 motion detectors, and audio/video devices. (*Id.* at col. 1:5-9, col. 4:54-61). The  
 13 appliances are interfaced with relay units that have appliance interface/controllers  
 14 to communicate with the appliance and satellite radio transceivers. (*Id.* at col.  
 15 4:62-66). The satellite radio transceivers of the relay units are operable at low  
 16 power and have a limited wireless communications range that reaches only a  
 17 portion of the building or location. (*Id.* at col. 4:62-66). In order to for the relay  
 18 units to communicate beyond their limited wireless range, they communicate by  
 19 relaying transmissions using intermediate relay units to the intended destination.  
 20 (*Id.* at col. 4:66 – col. 5:1). An exemplary simplified circuit block diagram of the  
 21 appliance controller portion of the relay unit, including a satellite radio transceiver,  
 22 is shown in Figure 3 of the ‘166 patent:  
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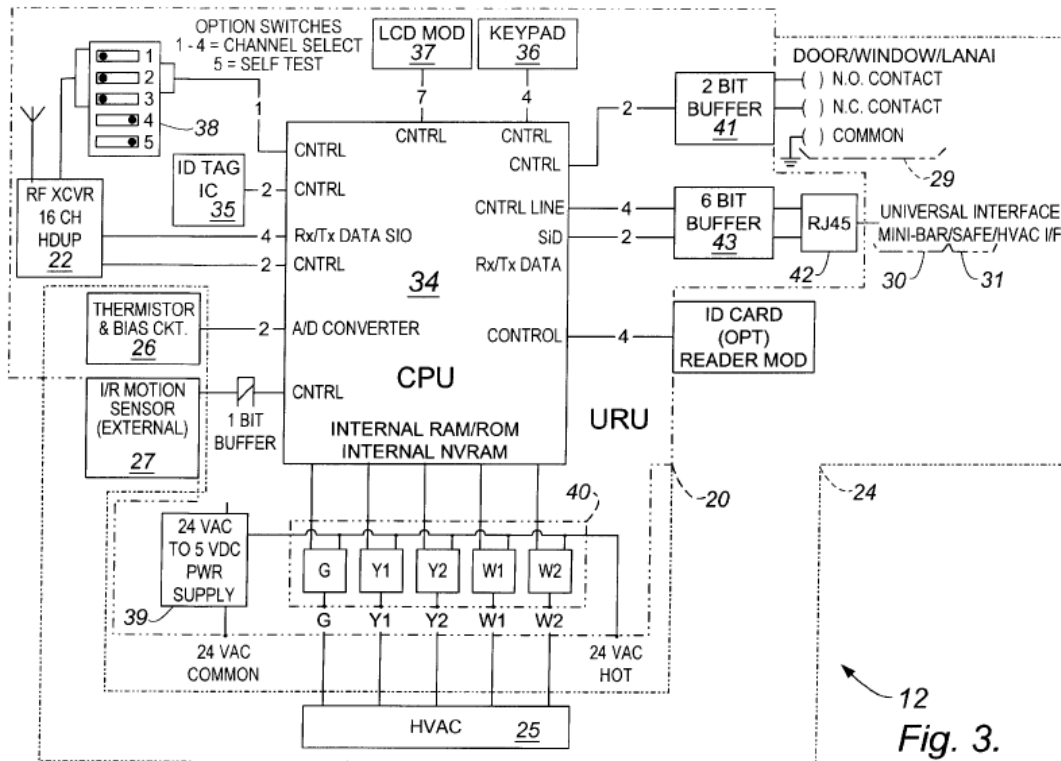


Fig. 3.

(Ex. A). The microprocessor (34) is connected between a satellite transceiver (22) and the appliance device (24). (*Id.* at col. 5:13-15).

15. The '188 patent includes a diagram of an exemplary command protocol (Fig. 4) and exemplary return protocol (Fig. 5):

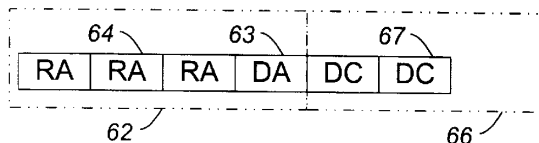


Fig. 4.

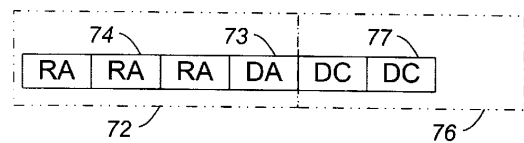


Fig. 5.

(Ex. A). The exemplary command protocol includes an address section (62) that includes a destination address (63) and may include relay addresses (64) so that the message may be relayed to another device. (*Id.* at col. 7:40-43). Following the address section is a command section (66) that includes device commands (67) that

1 are directed to particular appliance devices at the destination relay unit. (*Id.* at col.  
 2 7:43-47). The exemplary return protocol includes a counterpart of the address  
 3 section (72) that includes a destination address (73) and relay addresses (74). (*Id.*  
 4 at col. 7:48-51). Following the address section of the return protocol is a feedback  
 5 section (76) that include feedback elements (77) that are responsive to the  
 6 appliance devices at the destination relay unit. (*Id.* at col. 7:51-55).

9 16. A pictorial diagram showing an exemplary process for using a  
 10 portion of the system is shown in Figure 6 of the '166 patent:

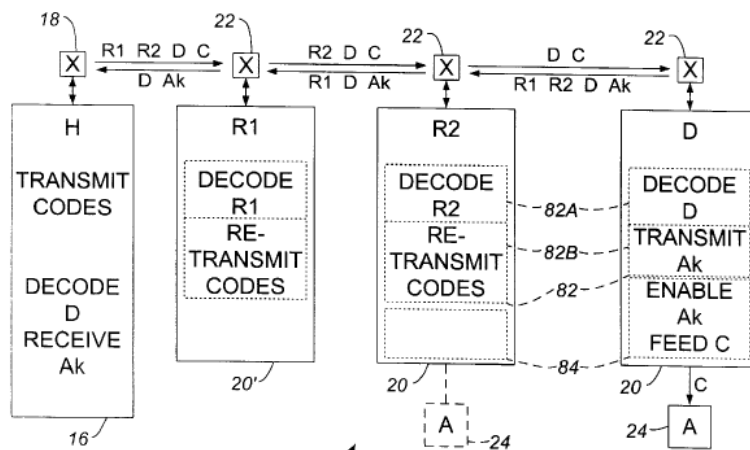


Fig. 6. 80

20 (Ex. A). A transmitter in the headend computer (H) signals the addresses of relay  
 21 units (20), with one of the addresses being the destination address (D), and the  
 22 other addresses include a first and second relay address (R1, R2), and a control  
 23 signal (C) for appliance (A) being interfaced to the destination relay unit (D). (*Id.*  
 24 at col. 7:56-65). The first relay unit decodes the first relay address, and transmits  
 25 the control signal, the second relay address and the destination address from the  
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1 first relay unit; the same steps occur at the second relay unit but with respect to  
2 decoding the second relay address. (*Id.* at col. 7:65 – col. 8:1). The destination  
3 relay unit decodes the destination address and feeds the control signal to the  
4 appliance; then the destination unit transmits the destination address, the first and  
5 second relay addresses, and an acknowledgement signal (Ak). (*Id.* at col. 8:2-6).  
6  
7 The second relay unit decodes the second relay address, and then transmits the  
8 acknowledgement signal (Ak), the first relay address, and the destination address;  
9 the same steps occur at the first relay unit but with respect to decoding the first  
10 relay address. (*Id.* at col. 8:6-9). The headend computer decodes the destination  
11 address and receives the acknowledgement signal (Ak). (*Id.* at col. 8:9-11). The  
12 decoding and transmitting in the relay units are implemented by first and second  
13 instruction portions (82A, 82B), respectively, of the relay program (82). (*Id.* at col.  
14 8:11-14). The feeding of the control signal by the relay unit to the appliance and  
15 generating the acknowledgement signal occurs in the appliance program (84). (*Id.*  
16 at col. 8:14-16). Both the relay program and appliance program are in the  
17 microcomputer memory of each relay unit. (*Id.* at col. 8:16-18).

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22 17. As explained during the prosecution history, the prior art did not teach  
23 a relay unit being an appliance controller that communicated with a headend  
24 computer using at least two other relay units. The invention therefore overcame  
25 the prior art, which were excessively expensive, had insufficient bandwidth, were  
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1 ineffective in serving multiple devices, were unreliable, and were difficult to use.  
2 (Ex. B at col. 1:43-51).

3  
4 18. **Direct Infringement.** Upon information and belief, Defendant has  
5 been directly infringing at least claim 1 of the ‘166 patent in California and this  
6 District, and elsewhere in the United States, by performing actions comprising  
7 making, using, selling, and/or offering for sale an appliance controller for a  
8 distributed appliance system having a headend computer, a multiplicity of  
9 appliances, and a plurality of relay units that satisfies the limitations of at least  
10 claim 1, including without limitation the Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus  
11 Smart Plug and Repeater with 2 USB Ports, Z-Wave Plus Wall Socket Plug-In  
12 Receptacle with 2 USB and 1 AC Port up to 2.4 A, Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-  
13 Wave Plus PIR Multi Sensor, Temperature - Humidity – Light, Z-Wave Plug RGB  
14 Smart Bulb, Z-Wave Plug PIR Motion Detector with Temperature Sensor, and Z-  
15 wave Plug RGBW Dimmer Controller Module for 12V/24V LED Light Strips  
16 (“Accused Instrumentality”).

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21 19. Accused Instrumentality provides an appliance controller (*e.g.*, Z-  
22 Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus Smart Plug and Repeater with 2 USB Ports, Z-  
23 Wave Plus Wall Socket Plug-In Receptacle with 2 USB and 1 AC Port up to 2.4 A,  
24 Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus PIR Multi Sensor, Temperature - Humidity  
25 – Light, Z-Wave Plug RGB Smart Bulb, Z-Wave Plug PIR Motion Detector with  
26 Temperature Sensor, and Z-wave Plug RGBW Dimmer Controller Module for  
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1 12V/24V LED Light Strips) for a distributed appliance system (*e.g.*, Z-Wave  
2 network) having a headend computer (*e.g.*, primary controller, in this case a  
3 controller (*e.g.*, Z-wave hub) for the network including the Z-Wave Plug-In  
4 Switch, Z-Wave Plus Smart Plug and Repeater with 2 USB Ports, Z-Wave Plus  
5 Wall Socket Plug-In Receptacle with 2 USB and 1 AC Port up to 2.4 A, Z-Wave  
6 Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus PIR Multi Sensor, Temperature - Humidity – Light,  
7 Z-Wave Plug RGB Smart Bulb, Z-Wave Plug PIR Motion Detector with  
8 Temperature Sensor, and Z-wave Plug RGBW Dimmer Controller Module for  
9 12V/24V LED Light Strips), a multiplicity of appliances (*e.g.*, appliances such as  
10 lights, outlets, etc.), and a plurality of relay units (*e.g.*, repeaters), one of the relay  
11 units being the appliance controller (*e.g.*, Z-Wave node).

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16 20. Each Accused Instrumentality is an appliance controller comprising a  
17 low power satellite radio transceiver (*e.g.*, radio frequency transceivers within the  
18 various Z-Wave devices) having a range being less than a distance to at least some  
19 of the appliances.  
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## Monoprice Z-Wave Plug-In Switch

**\$35.05**  
by Monoprice

Smart Lighting

Description | **Features & Specs** | In the box | Reviews | Downloads

### Product Features

- Ultra-low power consumption.
- Complex, thin and small size form factor.
- Does not block lower outlet when plugged into upper outlet.
- Neutral required: no
- Supported wattage: 15a
- Supported voltage: 120v
- **May be used as a repeater or range extender**



### Product Specifications

- Brand: Monoprice
- Model Number: 11995
- Z-Wave Cert Number: ZC08-14080003

<https://www.z-wave.com/shop-z-wave-smart-home-products/smart-lighting-smart-plugs-outlets-monoprice-monoprice-z-wave-plug-in-switch>



Monoprice Z-Wave Plus Smart Plug and Repeater with 2 USB Ports (Works with Alexa & Google Home with Hub)

★★★★☆ 72 Reviews | 20 Questions, 58 Answers

Product # 27481

**\$27.19** ~~53.99~~ On Sale 20.01% OFF

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Qty:  1

Limit 20 per customer

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**Versatile Compatibility:** This Smart Plug is compatible with SmartThings™, Vera™, Wink®, Vivint™, HomeSeer™, and Zipato® Internet of Things (IoT) ecosystems.

**Remote On/Off Control:** As part of your Z-Wave® system, you can use the Smart Plug to turn lamps and small appliances on and off, either at scheduled times or in response to a triggered event.

**AC Outlet and 2x USB Ports:** The Smart Plug features a Z-Wave controlled AC plug, as well as two USB charging ports, with 1 amp and 2.4 amps of charging power. The USB ports are on only when the AC outlet is on, so you can use Z-Wave control to turn USB-powered devices on or off.

**LED Indicator:** An RGB LED indicates on/off status, Z-Wave network range, and power load.

[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=27481](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=27481)

### Z-Wave Plus® Network

Z-Wave Plus® is a low power mesh networking communications technology that allows compatible devices to communicate with each other and to distribute Z-Wave Plus messages throughout the network.

[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=27481](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=27481)



Monoprice Z-Wave Plus Wall Socket Plug-in Receptacle with 2 USB and 1 AC Port up to 2.4A (Works with Alexa & Google Home with Hub)

★★★★☆ 62 Reviews | 28 Questions, 73 Answers

Product # 15654

\$30.99

Qty: 1

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[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=15654](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=15654)

Monitor and manage energy consumption to reduce costs with the Monoprice Z-Wave Plus® Wall Socket Smart Plug. This product is a Z-Wave® switched AC plug-in adapter. AC power can be remotely switched on or off manually with a button on the plug, remotely using Z-Wave manual control, or automatically with Z-Wave programming or triggered response.

Using Z-Wave commands, you can query the plug-in to report the power consumption, either as direct wattage or the kilowatt hours (kWh). It also includes two USB ports, one capable of 1A of charging power and the other capable of 2.4A of charging power, so you can keep your mobile devices charged without using another AC power socket for a wall charger.

#### Features:

- Add Z-Wave control to any AC-powered device or appliance
- Switch AC devices on/off manually, with manual Z-Wave control, or automatically with Z-Wave programming or triggered response
- Compatible with any and all Z-Wave network products from any manufacturer
- Includes two USB charging ports, one at 1A and the other at 2.4A
- Compatible with SmartThings™, Vera™, Wink®, Vivint™, HomeSeer™, and Zipato®

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# Monoprice Z-Wave Plug-In Switch

**\$35.05**  
by Monoprice

Smart Lighting

Description | Features & Specs | In the box | Reviews | Downloads

Smart solutions

Control a light or appliance wirelessly using the Monoprice Z-Wave Plug-In Switch. This smart plug can be operated remotely, using the Z-Wave controller, or directly, using the Program Switch on the device. It plugs into a standard power outlet and includes both a Z-Wave controlled outlet and standard, unswitched outlet.

Model Number: 11995



1

add to cart

This product requires a smart hub

<https://www.z-wave.com/shop-z-wave-smart-home-products/smart-lighting-smart-plugs-outlets-monoprice-monoprice-z-wave-plug-in-switch>



## Monoprice Z-Wave Plus PIR Multi Sensor, Temperature - Humidity - Light

★★★★☆ 75 Reviews | 39 Questions, 85 Answers

Product # 15902

**\$28.79** ~~\$35.99~~ On Sale 20.01% OFF

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Features

- Four smart sensors in a single small device
- Seven selectable levels of motion sensitivity
- Three different methods of reporting motion detection and temperature changes
- Tamper sensor sends an alert to the controller if the sensor is tampered with
- A report is automatically sent when the battery level is low
- Multicolor LED indicates temperature ranges at a glance
- Uses the latest backward compatible revision of Z-Wave® technology
- Z-Wave Plus® provides 50% more power than previous generations
- Z-Wave Plus provides 67% improvement in transmission range
- Z-Wave Plus offers Plug-n-Play inclusion network wide

[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=15902](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=15902)

This Z-Wave Plus® Door/Window Sensor mounts to a door or window, detects when it is opened or closed, and sends a Z-Wave trigger signal to the network. It also has a tamperproof switch, which will trigger a Z-Wave signal when the sensor's cover is removed. These trigger signals can be used to activate various other devices and perform preprogrammed tasks. When the sensor is included into a secured Z-Wave network, all communications will be encrypted using AES encryption.

**Features:**

- Detects when a door or window is opened
- Tamper sensor sends an alert to the controller if the sensor is tampered with
- Uses the latest backward compatible revision of Z-Wave® technology
- Up to 1 year battery life
- Z-Wave Plus® provides 50% more power than previous generations
- Z-Wave Plus provides 67% improvement in transmission range
- Z-Wave Plus offers Plug-n-Play inclusion network wide
- Compatible with SmartThings™, Vera™, HomeSeer™, and Zipato®

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Monoprice Z-Wave Plus RGB Smart Bulb (Works with Alexa & Google Home with Hub)

★★★★☆ 24 Reviews | 23 Questions, 46 Answers

Product # 27482

\$30.89

Qty: 1

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Z-Wave Plus® Network

Z-Wave Plus® is a low power mesh networking communications technology that allows compatible devices to communicate with each other and to distribute Z-Wave Plus messages throughout the network.

[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=27482](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=27482)



Monoprice Z-Wave Plus PIR Motion Detector with Temperature Sensor, NO LOGO

★★★★☆ 74 Reviews | 36 Questions, 69 Answers

Product # 15271

\$25.69

Qty: 1

In Stock This item should ship tomorrow (9/19/2019) if ordered within 23 hours 26 minutes

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[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=15271](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=15271)

**Motion Detection:** This device uses a passive infrared sensor and sends a Z-Wave Plus® signal when motion is detected within its detection range. It can detect moving objects within line of sight at distances up to 32 feet, away with a field of view up to 120°. This trigger signal can then be used to activate various other devices and perform preprogrammed tasks.

**Temperature Sensor:** This sensor detects changes in temperature and reports the temperature to the network whenever a significant change has occurred.

**Z-Wave Plus:** Z-Wave Plus® devices act as signal repeaters for the Z-Wave Plus network, so multiple devices result in more possible transmission routes, which helps eliminate RF "dead spots" in the network. Any Z-Wave Plus enabled device displaying the Z-Wave Plus logo can be used with Z-Wave Plus devices from other manufacturers.

**Easy to Install:** This sensor comes with everything you need to install it into an existing Z-Wave Plus network, including mounting screws, adhesive tape and a battery.

[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=15271](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=15271)



HOME / Smart Home & Security / Smart Home / Smart Lighting & Switches



Monoprice Z-Wave Plus RGBW Dimmer Controller Module for 12V/24V LED Light Strips (Works with Alexa & Google Home with Hub)

☆☆☆☆☆ Write a Review | 16 Questions, 13 Answers

Product # 36511

\$47.24

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### Low Power

Z-Wave Plus® is a low power mesh networking communications technology that allows Z-Wave Plus enabled devices to communicate with each other and to distribute Z-Wave Plus messages throughout the network.

[https://www.monoprice.com/product?p\\_id=36511](https://www.monoprice.com/product?p_id=36511)

The Z-Wave Protocol handles transmissions to destinations all over the network. If necessary, other nodes are used as repeaters. This is called routing.

During bootstrapping, the Primary Controller asks the new node to discover its neighbors. Thanks to the neighbor nodes information, the Primary Controller builds a network map and knows the different possible routes to reach a node.

When using repeaters, the Sending node includes the route information in the frame. Each repeater parses the routing information and forwards the frame accordingly.

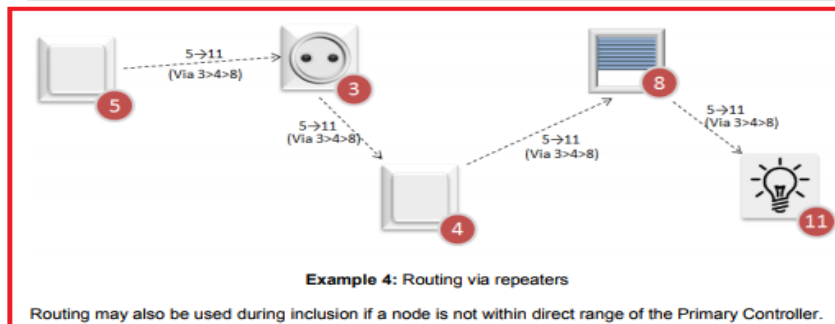
Sigma Designs Inc.

Z-Wave Networking Basics

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APL13031-2

Z-Wave Networking Basics



<http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2-%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf>



Z-Wave Alliance Recommendation ZAD12837-1

**Z-Wave Transceivers – Specification of Spectrum Related Components**

(2014)

**Scope**

This Recommendation provides guidelines pertaining to spectrum usage of the short range narrowband digital radiocommunication transceivers complying with ITU-T Recommendation G.9959. ITU-T Recommendation G.9959 contains the system architecture, physical layer (PHY) and medium access control layer (MAC) specifications for G.9959 compliant transceivers.

**References**

[1] Recommendation ITU-T G.9959, *Short range narrowband digital radiocommunication transceivers – PHY & MAC layer specifications*

**Definitions**

This Recommendation uses the following definitions:

**Channel:** a transmission path between nodes. One channel is considered to be one transmission path. Logically a channel is an instance of the communications medium used for the purpose of passing data between two or more nodes.

**Node:** any network device that contains a G.9959 transceiver. In the context of this Recommendation, use of the term ‘node’ without a qualifier means ‘G.9959 node’.

<https://z-wavealliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/ZAD12837-1.pdf>).

21. Each Accused Instrumentality has an appliance interface for communicating with the at least one local appliance (e.g., an interface which connects and makes possible the transmission of a signal to the actual electrical appliance like light or outlet). For example, the dimmer communicated with the light to dim the light, and outlet communicates with the plugged-in appliance to power the appliance. (*Supra* ¶20).

22. Each Accused Instrumentality has a microcomputer connected between the satellite radio transceiver (e.g., Z-Wave transceiver) and the appliance interface and having first program instructions for controlling the satellite

1 transceiver (e.g., the microcontroller controls the transmission of signals from the  
2 transceiver to the other Z-Wave nodes in the network), and second program  
3 instructions for directing communication between the satellite transceiver and the  
4 appliance interface (e.g., the microcontroller within the Z-Wave device enables the  
5 command received from the primary controller by the Z-Wave transceiver to be  
6 communicated to the appliance interface of the device so that the intended action  
7 can be executed such as switch on/off a light or plugged in device, dim a light).  
8  
9 (Supra ¶20; <https://standards.ieee.org/getieee802/download/802.15.4-2011.pdf>).



Z-Wave's physical and media access layers (PHY/MAC) have been ratified by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as the international standard (G.9959). The Z-Wave Standard is administered by the Z-Wave Alliance which serves as the Standards Development Organization (SDO) for Z-Wave.

Together, Sigma Designs, the Z-Wave Alliance and the over 450 international companies that use Z-Wave technology in their products and services present the largest ecosystem of interoperable wireless control products in the world. The Z-Wave mesh communication protocol stack is embedded in the available chips and modules, and is accessed through a complete set of APIs. Z-Wave chips and modules provide Flash or OTP memory options for the manufacturer or OEM's application software.

For many products, the Z-Wave chip or module, with its on-board micro-controller, is all that is needed for a complete Z-Wave solution. For companies that choose chip-based over module-based solutions, a range of blueprints of the PCB

circuitry surrounding the Z-Wave Single Chip is offered, including antenna circuitry and filters. Sigma Designs also licenses reference designs, stack software and APIs to chip manufacturers that are interested in entering the wireless control space, providing Z-Wave porting services that assure quality and accelerate product development. Z-Wave's industry-leading device specifications are available royalty free, based on a RAND model. The Z-Wave certification program ensures interoperability between all products.

(<https://Z-Wavealliance.org/Z-Wave-oems-developers/>).

1 The Version Command Class, version 2 is extended to report the version of various firmware images  
2 such as a host processor firmware, etc. in addition to the firmware image running in the Z-Wave chip.

3 As an example, one may construct a product comprising a Z-Wave chip and a secondary host processor  
4 that maintains a security certificate. With Firmware Update Meta Data Command Class, version 3 the  
5 Z-Wave chip, the host processor and the security certificate may all be updated via individual firmware  
6 IDs. Version 2 of the Version Command Class (this Command Class) allows a controlling node to  
7 request the corresponding version information for each firmware ID.

8 Commands not mentioned here remain the same as specified for Version Command Class, version 1.

#### 9 **4.20.1 Version Report Command**

10 This command is used to report the library type, protocol version and application version from a node.

11 Version 2 of this command renames the fields Application Version and Application Sub Version to  
12 Firmware 0 Version and Firmware 0 Sub Version. The use remains the same.

13 A node MUST advertise the version of all firmware images which can be updated via the Firmware  
14 Update Command Class.

15 A one-chip system MUST comply with the following:

- 16 • The Firmware 0 Version MUST reflect the complete firmware implementing the Z-Wave protocol  
17 stack as well as the Z-Wave application.

18 A multi-processor system MUST comply with the following:

- 19 • The Firmware 0 Version MUST reflect the firmware implementing the Z-Wave protocol stack and  
20 the inter-chip interface module that enables the Z-Wave application to run in the host processor.  
21 Another firmware number (e.g. Firmware 1) version MUST reflect the Z-Wave application that  
22 runs in the host processor. Any firmware number larger than 0 MAY be used for this purpose.

23 ([http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command\\_class\\_specs\\_2017A/SDS137\\_82-4%20Z-Wave%20Management%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS137_82-4%20Z-Wave%20Management%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf)).

24 23. Each Accused Instrumentality provides first program instructions  
25 including detecting communications directed by the headend computer (e.g.,  
26 primary controller) relative to the same appliance controller (e.g., targeted Z-Wave  
27 node), signaling receipt of the directed communications (e.g., sending  
28 acknowledgement signal through the Z-Wave transceiver), and directing  
communications to the headend computer relative to the same appliance controller  
(e.g., sending status of an appliance or signal from a connected sensor). For  
example, a primary controller can send/receive messages to program various  
connected Z-Wave devices; switch can receive communications to turn on or off

1 appliances or can communicate regarding the status of the appliance. (*Supra* ¶20;  
2 <https://standards.ieee.org/getieee802/download/802.15.4-2011.pdf>).

3  
4 24. Each Accused Instrumentality has a second program instructions  
5 including detecting relay communications directed between the headend computer  
6 and a different relay unit, transmitting the relay communications, detecting a reply  
7 communication from the different relay unit, and transmitting the reply  
8 communication to the headend computer, wherein at least some of the relay units  
9 communicate with the headend computer by relay communications using at least  
10 two others of the relay units (*e.g.*, a Z-Wave node detects messages from primary  
11 controller and checks whether message is intended for itself, if not, then acting as a  
12 repeater, transmits it to next intended device in the route; the Z-Wave node detects  
13 messages from another Z-Wave node and forwards it to primary controller). The  
14 Accused Instrumentality work on Z-Wave technology which uses mesh network  
15 and would communicate with the headend computer by relay communications  
16 using at least two others of the relay units (*e.g.*, repeaters). (*Supra* ¶20;  
17 <https://standards.ieee.org/getieee802/download/802.15.4-2011.pdf>;  
18 <https://www.zwaveproducts.com/learn/ask-an-expert/glossary/mesh-network>;  
19 <http://docslide.us/documents/Z-Wave-technical-basics-small.html>;  
20 <http://www.zwaveproducts.com/learn/Z-Wave>).

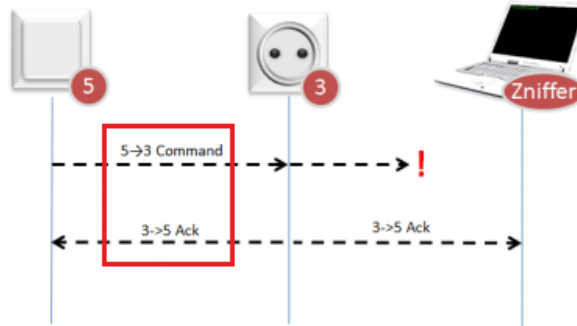
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Each frame carries a checksum. A Receiving node can verify the frame integrity thanks to this checksum. Invalid frames are discarded.

A Receiving node returns an Ack message in order to confirm that the frame has been received. If no Ack is received by the Sending node, it must assume that the transmission failed. The Sending node will then retransmit the same message until it gets feedback from the Receiving node. After three unsuccessful transmissions, the Sending node will consider the link to be down.

Ack messages are sent to confirm the frame integrity and do not imply that the Receiving node has understood or executed the command.

Local differences in wireless link quality may cause a Z-Wave network analyzer (known as a Zniffer) not to see the same transmissions as nodes participating in a transmission.



**Example 3: Network analysis issues**

(<http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf>).

This command is used to set the network route to use when sending commands to the specified NodeID.

The use of this command is NOT RECOMMENDED.

7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
COMMAND_CLASS = NETWORK_MANAGEMENT_INSTALLATION_MAINTENANCE							
COMMAND = PRIORITY_ROUTE_SET							
NodeID							
Repeater 1 [First repeater]							
Repeater 2							
Repeater 3							
Repeater 4 [Last repeater]							
Speed							

**NodeID (1 byte)**

This field is used to specify the destination NodeID for which a last working route MUST be set.

**Repeater (4 bytes)**

This field is used to specify repeaters for the route. Each byte represents a NodeID and the first field (Repeater 1) is the first repeater of the route.

The value 0x00 MUST indicate that the byte does not represent a repeater. If the route is shorter than four repeaters, unused repeaters fields MUST be set to 0x00. If Repeater 1 is set to 0x00, it means that the Last Working Route is direct (nodes are within direct reach).

([http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command\\_class\\_specs\\_2017A/SDS137](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS137))

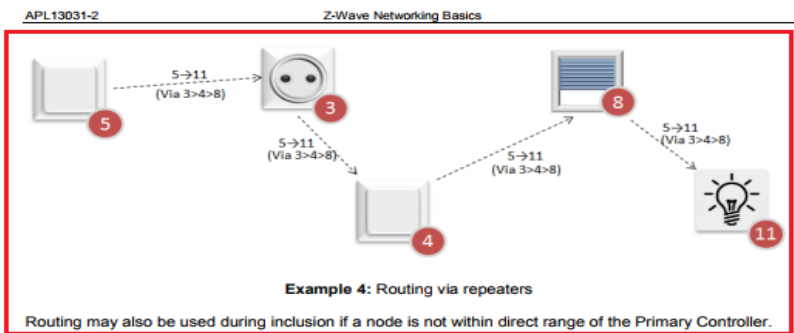
1 [84-4%20Z-Wave%20Network-](#)  
2 [Protocol%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf](#)).  
3

The Z-Wave Protocol handles transmissions to destinations all over the network. If necessary, other nodes are used as repeaters. This is called routing.

During bootstrapping, the Primary Controller asks the new node to discover its neighbors. Thanks to the neighbor nodes information, the Primary Controller builds a network map and knows the different possible routes to reach a node.

When using repeaters, the Sending node includes the route information in the frame. Each repeater parses the routing information and forwards the frame accordingly.

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17 [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf)  
18 [Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf](#)).  
19

20 **IV. COUNT II**  
21 **(PATENT INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 6,873,245)**

22 25. Plaintiff incorporates the above paragraphs herein by reference.

23 26. On March 29, 2005, United States Patent No. 6,873,245 (“the ‘245  
24 Patent”) was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark  
25 Office. The application leading to the ‘245 patent was filed on August 14, 2001,  
26 and is a continuation-in-part of the application leading to the ‘166 Patent. (Ex. B at  
27  
28

1 cover). The '245 Patent is titled "RF Remote Appliance Control/Monitoring  
2 System." A true and correct copy of the '245 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit B  
3 and incorporated herein by reference.  
4

5 27. Plaintiff is the assignee of all right, title and interest in the '245 patent,  
6 including all rights to enforce and prosecute actions for infringement and to collect  
7 damages for all relevant times against infringers of the '245 Patent. Accordingly,  
8 Plaintiff possesses the exclusive right and standing to prosecute the present action  
9 for infringement of the '245 Patent by Defendant.  
10

11 28. Because the '245 patent is a continuation in part of the application  
12 leading to the '166 patent, the '245 patent has a substantially overlapping  
13 specification and the background regarding the '166 patent is equally applicable  
14 and is incorporated by reference with respect to the '245 patent. (*Supra* ¶¶11-17).  
15

16 29. **Direct Infringement.** Upon information and belief, Defendant has  
17 been directly infringing at least claim 1 of the '245 patent in California and this  
18 District, and elsewhere in the United States, by performing actions comprising  
19 making, using, selling, and/or offering for sale an appliance controller for a  
20 distributed appliance systems having a multiplicity of appliances, and a plurality of  
21 relay units, that satisfies the limitations of at least claim 1, including without  
22 limitation the Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus Smart Plug and Repeater with  
23 2 USB Ports, Z-Wave Plus Wall Socket Plug-In Receptacle with 2 USB and 1 AC  
24 Port up to 2.4 A, Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus PIR Multi Sensor,  
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1 Temperature - Humidity – Light, Z-Wave Plug RGB Smart Bulb, Z-Wave Plug  
2 PIR Motion Detector with Temperature Sensor, and Z-wave Plug RGBW Dimmer  
3 Controller Module for 12V/24V LED Light Strips (“Accused Instrumentality”).

4  
5 30. Each Accused Instrumentality provides an appliance controller (*e.g.*,  
6 Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus Smart Plug and Repeater with 2 USB Ports,  
7 Z-Wave Plus Wall Socket Plug-In Receptacle with 2 USB and 1 AC Port up to 2.4  
8 A, Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-Wave Plus PIR Multi Sensor, Temperature -  
9 Humidity – Light, Z-Wave Plug RGB Smart Bulb, Z-Wave Plug PIR Motion  
10 Detector with Temperature Sensor, and Z-wave Plug RGBW Dimmer Controller  
11 Module for 12V/24V LED Light Strips) for a distributed appliance system (*e.g.*, Z-  
12 Wave network) having a multiplicity of appliances (*e.g.*, appliances such as lights,  
13 appliances, etc.), and a plurality of relay units (*e.g.*, Z-Wave Plug-In Switch, Z-  
14 Wave Plus Smart Plug and Repeater with 2 USB Ports, Z-Wave Plus Wall Socket  
15 Plug-In Receptacle with 2 USB and 1 AC Port up to 2.4 A, Z-Wave Plug-In  
16 Switch, Z-Wave Plus PIR Multi Sensor, Temperature - Humidity – Light, Z-Wave  
17 Plug RGB Smart Bulb, Z-Wave Plug PIR Motion Detector with Temperature  
18 Sensor, and Z-wave Plug RGBW Dimmer Controller Module for 12V/24V LED  
19 Light Strips), one of the relay units being the appliance controller (*e.g.*, a Z-wave  
20 hub). (*Supra* ¶20;

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24 [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command\\_class\\_specs\\_2017A/SDS1378](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378-4%20Z-Wave%20Management%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf)  
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28 [2-4%20Z-Wave%20Management%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378-4%20Z-Wave%20Management%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf);

1 [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf)  
2 [Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf\)](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf)  
3

4 31. Each Accused Instrumentality has a low power satellite radio  
5 transceiver (*e.g.*, radio frequency transceivers within the various Z-Wave devices)  
6 having a range being less than a distance to at least some of the appliances. (*Supra*  
7 ¶20).  
8

9 32. Each Accused Instrumentality has an appliance interface for  
10 communicating with the at least one local appliance (*e.g.*, an interface which  
11 connects and makes possible the transmission of signal to the actual electrical  
12 appliance like a light and plugged in appliances). (*Supra* ¶20).  
13

14 33. Each Accused Instrumentality has a microcomputer (*e.g.*,  
15 microcontroller) connected between the satellite radio transceiver (*e.g.*, Z-Wave  
16 transceiver) and the appliance interface and having first program instructions for  
17 controlling the satellite transceiver (*e.g.*, the microcontroller controls the  
18 transmission of signals from the transceiver to the other Z-Wave nodes in the  
19 network) and second program instructions for directing communication between  
20 the satellite transceiver and the appliance interface (*e.g.*, the microcontroller within  
21 the Z-Wave device enables the command received from the appliance interface to  
22 be communicated to the local appliance by the Z-Wave transceiver so that the  
23 intended action can be executed such as turn off an appliance). (*Supra* ¶¶20, 22;  
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28 [https://Z-Wavealliance.org/Z-Wave-oems-developers/;](https://Z-Wavealliance.org/Z-Wave-oems-developers/)

1 [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command\\_class\\_specs\\_2017A/SDS1378](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378)  
2 [2-4%20Z-Wave%20Management%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378);  
3  
4 <http://www.rfwireless-world.com/Tutorials/Z-Wave-physical-layer.html>).

5 34. Each Accused Instrumentality has a first program instructions  
6 including detecting communications directed by another of the relay units (*e.g.*,  
7 another Z-Wave node acting as a repeater) relative to the same appliance controller  
8 (*e.g.*, targeted Z-Wave node), signaling receipt of the directed communications  
9 (sending acknowledgement signal through the Z-Wave transceiver), and directing  
10 communications to the other of the relay units relative to the same appliance  
11 controller (*e.g.*, sending status of an appliance or signal from a connected sensor).  
12 For example, the Switch can send/receive messages to program various connected  
13 Z-Wave devices. (*Supra* ¶20;

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17 [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf)  
18 [Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf);  
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20 [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command\\_class\\_specs\\_2017A/SDS1378](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378)  
21 [4-4%20Z-Wave%20Network-](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378)  
22 [Protocol%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378)).

23  
24 35. Each Accused Instrumentality has a second program instructions  
25 including detecting relay communications directed between the another of the relay  
26 units and a different relay unit, transmitting the relay communications, detecting a  
27 reply communication from the different relay unit, and transmitting the reply  
28

1 communication to the other of the relay units, wherein at least some of the relay  
2 units communicate with others of the relay units by relay communications using at  
3 least two others of the relay units (e.g., a Z-Wave node detects messages from  
4 primary controller and checks whether message is intended for itself, if not, then  
5 acting as a repeater, transmits it to next intended device in the route. Also, the Z-  
6 Wave node detects messages from another Z-Wave node and forwards it to  
7 primary controller. N number of nodes may be involved in the process acting as  
8 repeaters or relay units). The Accused Instrumentality works on Z-Wave  
9 technology which uses mesh network and would communicate with the other relay  
10 units by relay communications using at least two others of the relay units (e.g.,  
11 repeaters). (*Supra* ¶¶20, 24; [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-  
12 2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/APL13031-2%20-%20Z-Wave%20Networking%20Basics.pdf);  
13 [http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command\\_class\\_specs\\_2017A/SDS1378  
14 4-4%20Z-Wave%20Network-  
15 Protocol%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf](http://zwavepublic.com/sites/default/files/command_class_specs_2017A/SDS1378-4-4%20Z-Wave%20Network-Protocol%20Command%20Class%20Specification.pdf);  
16 <https://www.zwaveproducts.com/learn/ask-an-expert/glossary/mesh-network>;  
17 <http://docslide.us/documents/Z-Wave-technical-basics-small.html>;  
18 <http://www.zwaveproducts.com/learn/Z-Wave>).

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25 36. Plaintiff has been damaged because of Defendant's infringing  
26 conduct. Defendant is thus liable to Plaintiff for damages in an amount that  
27 adequately compensates Plaintiff for such Defendant's infringement of the '166  
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1 Patent and the '245 Patent, *i.e.*, in an amount that by law cannot be less than would  
2 constitute a reasonable royalty for the use of the patented technology, together with  
3 interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.  
4

5 37. On information and belief, Defendant had at least constructive notice  
6 of the '166 Patent and the '245 Patent by operation of law, and there are no  
7 marking requirements that have not been complied with.  
8

9 **V. JURY DEMAND**

10 Plaintiff, under Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, requests a  
11 trial by jury of any issues so triable by right.  
12

13 **VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

14 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court find in its favor  
15 and against Defendant, and that the Court grant Plaintiff the following relief:  
16

- 17 a. Judgment that one or more claims of United States Patent No.  
18 6,275,166 have been infringed, either literally and/or under the  
19 doctrine of equivalents, by Defendant;
- 20 b. Judgment that one or more claims of United States Patent No.  
21 6,873,245 have been infringed, either literally and/or under the  
22 doctrine of equivalents, by Defendant;
- 23 c. Judgment that Defendant account for and pay to Plaintiff all damages  
24 to and costs incurred by Plaintiff because of Defendant's infringing  
25 activities and other conduct complained of herein, and an accounting  
26 of all infringements and damages not presented at trial;
- 27 d. That Plaintiff be granted pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on  
28 the damages caused by Defendant's infringing activities and other  
conduct complained of herein;

1 e. That Plaintiff be granted such other and further relief as the Court may  
2 deem just and proper under the circumstances.

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September 24, 2019

By /s/Ryan E. Hatch

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