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13 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

14
 15 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 16 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

17 U-BLOX AG, U-BLOX SAN DIEGO,
 18 INC., AND U-BLOX AMERICA,
 INC.,

19 Plaintiffs,

20 v.
21

22 INTERDIGITAL, INC.;
 INTERDIGITAL
 23 COMMUNICATIONS, INC;
 INTERDIGITAL TECHNOLOGY
 24 CORPORATION; INTERDIGITAL
 PATENT HOLDINGS, INC.;
 25 INTERDIGITAL HOLDINGS, INC.;
 and IPR LICENSING, INC.,

26 Defendants.
27
28

Case No. 23-cv-00002-CAB-AHG

AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR:

- (1) Breach Of Contract;**
- (2) Declaratory Judgment; and**
- (3) Declaratory Judgment of Non-Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 8,155,067.**

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

PUBLIC VERSION

1 Plaintiffs u-blox AG, u-blox San Diego, Inc., and u-blox America, Inc.
2 (collectively, “u-blox” or “Plaintiffs”), by and through the undersigned counsel, file this
3 Complaint against InterDigital, Inc., InterDigital Communications, Inc., InterDigital
4 Technology Corporation, InterDigital Patent Holdings, Inc., InterDigital Holdings, Inc.,
5 and IPR Licensing, Inc. (collectively, “InterDigital” or “Defendants”) as follows.

6 **INTRODUCTION**

7 1. u-blox, a leading fabless semiconductor provider of embedded positioning
8 and wireless communication products, brings this lawsuit against InterDigital because of
9 InterDigital’s failure to license its alleged standard essential patents (“SEPs”) on fair,
10 reasonable, and non-discriminatory (also known as “FRAND”) terms and conditions.

11 2. As explained herein, InterDigital has declared a number of its patents to be
12 essential to the 3G and/or 4G cellular technology standards established by the European
13 Telecommunications Standards Institute (“ETSI”), a standard setting organization
14 (“SSO”). Indeed, InterDigital is a member of ETSI and has submitted over fifty (50) ETSI
15 IPR Declaration forms declaring a large number of its United States and foreign patents
16 and patent applications as essential to the standards for the 3G and 4G technologies.

17 3. As a condition of adopting and continuing to maintain proprietary
18 technology, such as InterDigital’s purported SEPs, ETSI first requires binding
19 commitments from potential SEP holders to license their purported SEPs on fair,
20 reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions. Clause 6.1 of ETSI’s Intellectual
21 Policy Rights (“IPR”) Policy states:

22 When an ESSENTIAL IPR relating to a particular STANDARD or
23 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION is brought to the attention of ETSI, the
24 Director-General of ETSI shall immediately request the owner to give within
25 three months an irrevocable undertaking in writing that it is prepared to grant
irrevocable licenses on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory (“FRAND”) terms and conditions.

26 4. In addition, as an “Individual Member” of the 3rd Generation Partnership
27 Project (“3GPP”), InterDigital is “bound by the IPR policy” of ETSI, the Organizational
28 Partner through which InterDigital participated in 3GPP. To induce 3GPP to develop and

1 ETSI to adopt its technology into ETSI’s standards, InterDigital made public and binding
2 commitments to ETSI and all potential implementers of the standards, including u-blox, to
3 license its declared patents on FRAND terms, declaring that it is “prepared to grant
4 irrevocable licenses under . . . terms and conditions which are in accordance with Clause
5 6.1 of the ETSI IPR Policy.” However, those promises were false and/or misleading
6 because InterDigital never intended and continually failed to abide by its FRAND
7 licensing promises.

8 5. InterDigital thus intentionally induced ETSI, 3GPP, their members and
9 affiliates, and anyone implementing any of the standards, including u-blox, to rely on
10 InterDigital’s representation that it had granted and/or would grant licenses on FRAND
11 terms and conditions to its declared SEPs that would be incorporated and adopted into the
12 3G and 4G standards.

13 6. These standards have been and are implemented worldwide, including in the
14 United States and California, in a variety of wireless electronic devices.

15 7. Consistent with the intent of ETSI’s IPR Policy, u-blox and other
16 implementers of the technology standards relied on InterDigital’s FRAND commitment
17 and invested significant resources to develop products that practice the 3G and 4G
18 standards.

19 8. u-blox has invested substantial resources in developing and marketing
20 cellular modules that implement the 3G and 4G standards worldwide, including in the
21 United States and California, relying on the assurances of participating IPR holders —
22 including InterDigital — that any patents identified pursuant to ETSI’s IPR Policy by such
23 IPR holders would be licensed on FRAND terms to them, regardless of whether such IPR
24 were, in fact, used in any particular implementation.

25 9. However, after intentionally locking in the industry, including implementers
26 like u-blox, to practice it’s SEP technology through the standard(s), InterDigital then
27 breached its promises to ETSI, its members and affiliates, and implementers of the
28 standard(s) such as u-blox, by refusing to agree to a patent license with a licensing rate that

1 is consistent with Clause 6 of ETSI’s IPR Policy. Instead, InterDigital has demanded
2 royalties that are discriminatory and far higher than FRAND rates.

3 10. Thus, it has become clear that, now that the cellular standards have been
4 approved incorporating InterDigital’s allegedly essential patented technology, and
5 requiring all implementers of those portions of the standard to practice that technology and
6 excluding alternative technologies, InterDigital’s promises to license its allegedly essential
7 patents on FRAND terms and conditions were false, and made only to obtain monopoly
8 power from the inclusion of its technology into the standards.

9 11. u-blox is a ready and willing licensee seeking a license to InterDigital’s
10 alleged SEPs. Specifically, u-blox previously filed a lawsuit captioned *u-blox AG v.*
11 *InterDigital, Inc.*, No. 3:19-cv-001-CAB-BLM (S.D. Cal. Jan. 1, 2019) (the “2019
12 Litigation”) in an effort to obtain a license to InterDigital’s alleged SEPs from InterDigital
13 on FRAND terms and conditions. The 2019 Litigation was dismissed upon joint request
14 by the parties after a license agreement was reached.

15 12. The 2019 Litigation ensued because InterDigital refused to negotiate in good
16 faith with u-blox for a license on FRAND terms. Among other things, InterDigital
17 intended to pressure u-blox into accepting a license that is not FRAND by interfering with
18 u-blox’s important customer relationships.

19 13. The patent license agreement that resulted in the dismissal of the 2019
20 Litigation expired on December 31, 2022 and u-blox has demonstrated to InterDigital that
21 u-blox is ready and willing to enter into a FRAND license with InterDigital or a license on
22 similar terms as the previous license, adjusting for patent expiration dates.

23 14. Unfortunately, however, InterDigital is again refusing to negotiate in good
24 faith with u-blox for a license on FRAND terms. Among other things, InterDigital knows
25 that a vital part of u-blox’s business model, developed in reliance on InterDigital’s
26 FRAND commitment, is u-blox’s ability to offer its customers products that include patent
27 rights to InterDigital’s portfolio of SEPs. InterDigital is using this knowledge as leverage
28

1 to pressure u-blox into a license that is not FRAND because, without a license, u-blox's
2 important customer relationships will suffer severe disruptions.

3 15. InterDigital's royalty demands for a patent license plainly violate its FRAND
4 commitments, including but not limited to:

- 5 • Demanding royalty rates that far exceed the fair and reasonable
6 value of InterDigital's SEPs;
- 7 • Discriminating against u-blox and violating ETSI guidelines by
8 demanding that u-blox pay higher royalty rates than other
9 similarly-situated implementers, including free riders;
- 10 • Demanding that u-blox pay royalties for alleged SEPs covering
11 portions of the standard not implemented by certain u-blox
12 products;
- 13 • Demanding royalty rates that do not account for the expiration
14 of InterDigital's alleged SEPs over the course of the license;
15 and
- 16 • Demanding a licensing model that is based on the price of the
end-user device and includes royalties that vary based on the
cost of the end-user device even if the cost of the module the
license covers stays the same.

17 16. Absent InterDigital's commitment to license on FRAND terms and
18 conditions, u-blox would not have implemented the 3G and 4G technologies. But, based on
19 InterDigital's commitment, u-blox implemented the 3G and 4G technologies rather than
20 pursuing alternative technologies. However, after inducing ETSI to adopt its technology to
21 the exclusion of alternatives with its false promises to ETSI, InterDigital is now attempting
22 to exploit its resulting market position to demand unreasonably high and discriminatory
23 licensing terms from u-blox.

24 17. As a result of the foregoing, u-blox has no choice but to turn to the Court to
25 establish the FRAND rate, and enjoin InterDigital from engaging in anticompetitive
26 conduct, including, but not limited to, stopping InterDigital from wrongfully interfering
27 with u-blox's customers and downstream manufacturers.

28

THE PARTIES

A. u-blox

18. Plaintiff u-blox AG is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Switzerland, having its principal place of business in Zürcherstrasse 68, 8800 Thalwil, Switzerland.

19. Plaintiff u-blox San Diego, Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of u-blox AG. u-blox San Diego, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, having its principal place of business at 12626 High Bluff Drive #200, San Diego, California 92130.

20. Plaintiff u-blox America, Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of u-blox AG. u-blox America, Inc. is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, having its principal place of business at 1900 Campus Commons Drive Suite 401, Reston, Virginia 20191.

21. u-blox delivers leading wireless technology to reliably locate and connect people and devices. u-blox is a leading developer of global positioning technology, including products and services based on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS), including GPS and GALILEO, for the automotive, mobile communications, and infrastructure markets. u-blox develops cellular modules incorporating a variety of different cellular technologies, including GSM/GPRS, UMTS/HSPA(+), NB-IoT, and LTE Categories M1, 1, 4, and 6.

22. u-blox's wireless communications modules are capable of incorporating a wide variety of cellular technologies. Supported cellular technologies provide global geographic coverage and include 3G and 4G standards. Even within the 4G standard, u-blox offers a wide range of products practicing different iterations of the 4G standard designed for vastly different tasks, including NB-IoT (LTE Cat NB1), LTE Cat M1, LTE Cat 1, LTE Cat 4, and LTE Cat 6. These different cellular technologies offer different levels of performance and cost benefits. For example, u-blox's LTE Cat 1, LTE Cat M1, and NB-IoT modules are designed to support a wide range of IoT applications requiring

1 medium to very low data rates. This includes a broad spectrum of applications covering
2 speeds high enough for voice and video streaming, as well as those that need optimized
3 performance for ultra-low power consumption and extended in-building range. In contrast,
4 u-blox's high speed LTE Cat 4 and LTE Cat 6 modules meet the needs of applications
5 requiring high data rates, such as for HD video transmission and infotainment solutions. u-
6 blox sells standard compatible products in California and around the world.

7 **B. InterDigital**

8 23. Upon information and belief, defendant InterDigital, Inc. ("IDI") is
9 organized under the laws of Pennsylvania, with its principal place of business at 200
10 Bellevue Parkway, Suite 300, Wilmington, DE 19809.

11 30. Upon information and belief, defendant InterDigital Communications, Inc.
12 ("InterDigital Communications") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of
13 business at 200 Bellevue Parkway, Suite 300, Wilmington, DE 19809.

14 31. Upon information and belief, defendant InterDigital Technology
15 Corporation ("InterDigital Technology") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place
16 of business at 200 Bellevue Parkway, Suite 300, Wilmington, DE 19809.

17 32. Upon information and belief, defendant InterDigital Patent Holdings, Inc.
18 ("InterDigital Patent Holdings") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of
19 business at 200 Bellevue Parkway, Suite 300, Wilmington, DE 19809.

20 33. Upon information and belief, defendant InterDigital Holdings, Inc.
21 ("InterDigital Holdings") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business at
22 200 Bellevue Parkway, Suite 300, Wilmington, DE 19809.

23 34. Upon information and belief, defendant IPR Licensing, Inc. ("IPR
24 Licensing") is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business at 200 Bellevue
25 Parkway, Suite 300, Wilmington, DE 19809.

26 35. Upon information and belief, InterDigital Communications, InterDigital
27 Technology, InterDigital Holdings, InterDigital Patent Holdings, and IPR Licensing are
28 wholly-owned direct or indirect subsidiaries of IDI. IDI, InterDigital Communications,

1 InterDigital Technology, InterDigital Holdings, InterDigital Patent Holdings, and IPR
2 Licensing (collectively, “InterDigital”) act as a common, unified economic enterprise.

3 36. Upon information and belief, IDI has and does dictate and control the actions
4 of InterDigital Communications, InterDigital Technology, InterDigital Holdings,
5 InterDigital Patent Holdings, and IPR Licensing, as described herein.

6 37. Upon information and belief, InterDigital has offices and employees in
7 California and/or regularly conducts business in California, including an office located at
8 4410 El Camino Real, Suite 120, Los Altos, California 94022, which supports
9 InterDigital’s patent licensing business.

10 38. Upon information and belief, InterDigital derives revenues primarily from
11 patent licensing and aggressively seeks to monetize its intellectual property portfolio—
12 which includes patents declared essential to the 3G and 4G standards—by targeting
13 companies like u-blox that sell standard-compliant products in California and around the
14 world.

15 39. Upon information and belief, InterDigital purports to own approximately
16 2,400 U.S. patents and 11,500 non-U.S. patents, including 440 families of patents
17 purportedly directed to the 4G/LTE technology, spanning multiple jurisdictions and
18 telecommunication technologies. InterDigital claims that its patents “relate predominantly
19 to digital wireless radiotelephony technology (including, without limitation, 3G, 4G and
20 5G technologies).”

21 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

22 40. u-blox brings this action for damages, declaratory relief, injunctive relief,
23 costs of suit, and reasonable attorneys’ fees arising under, inter alia, the patent laws of the
24 United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 et seq.; and the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201
25 and 2202. Accordingly, this Court has jurisdiction to hear this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
26 §§ 1331 and 1338.

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28

1 **Standard Setting Organizations and Intellectual Property Rights Rules**

2 45. SSOs, such as ETSI, are voluntary membership organizations whose
3 participants engage in the development of industry standards for the benefit of their
4 members and affiliates, third parties implementing the standards, and consumers.

5 46. SSOs and the standards they promulgate play an important role in the
6 technology market by allowing companies to agree on common technology standards so
7 that compliant products implementing the standards will work together. Standards also
8 lower costs by increasing product manufacturing volume and inter-brand competition and
9 by eliminating switching costs for consumers and/or manufacturers who want to switch
10 from products, services, or components provided by one company to those provided by
11 another company.

12 47. Compatibility standards are commonly adopted in industries in which
13 complementary products or components, manufactured by different firms, must
14 interoperate, interface, or communicate with each other. When many companies produce
15 components that must interoperate in a complex system, the collaboration of industry
16 participants is often the most efficient way to establish the requisite standards. This
17 collaboration often takes place in the context of formal SSOs that promulgate standards
18 and set participation rules for their members. The telecommunications industry has
19 benefited from increased interoperability across devices and networks, and the 3G and 4G
20 cellular communications standards at issue are examples of compatibility standards.

21 48. While standards deliver economic benefits to innovators, firms that
22 implement the standards, and consumers, standards also have the potential to impose
23 excessive and unfair costs on these same constituencies, some of which stem from
24 opportunistic behavior by owners of patents that cover or are declared to cover various
25 technologies necessary to practice a standard. As a result, SSOs have adopted IPR policies
26 to reduce those costs. When adhered to, these IPR policies benefit all of the constituencies.
27 Standard setting participants receive the opportunity to have their technology incorporated
28 into the standard and to receive compensation for its use in a larger number of devices that

1 operate using the standard. As the standard becomes more widely adopted and used, patent
2 holders receive greater total compensation. SSO participants also enjoy benefits
3 independent of potential royalty income, including recognition of leadership in the
4 technology, increased demand for participants' products, advantage flowing from
5 familiarity with the contributed technology potentially leading to shorter development lead
6 times, and improved product compatibility.

7 49. Firms that implement the standard receive assurance that they will always
8 have access to the SEPs and will not be exploited by patent holders or disadvantaged
9 relative to other implementers if they invest in implementing the standard or developing
10 innovative products that may operate with the standard. Likewise, consumers and
11 businesses benefit from continued innovation, reduced costs, and other efficiencies from
12 widespread interoperability and economies of scale and scope enabled by the standard.

13 50. By contrast, IPR policy breaches can chill standard-setting efforts, thus
14 denying to standard setting participants, implementers, and consumers the many benefits
15 of standard setting.

16 51. In addition, while there are many benefits to collaborative standard setting,
17 such efforts can also raise antitrust concerns, because, for example, collaborative standard-
18 setting has the potential to empower any individual firm that has IPR over one or more
19 technologies that are declared essential to the standard to block other firms from practicing
20 the standard or to significantly raise their costs of doing so. Outside of the standard setting
21 context, the extent to which a patent holder will be able to profit from an invention is
22 limited by competition from alternative, non-infringing technologies or products. Thus,
23 even though a patent gives its owner the right to exclude unauthorized users, it does not
24 necessarily confer monopoly power because constraining, non-infringing alternatives may
25 be available. However, incorporating patented technology into a standard artificially
26 removes competition from those alternatives for as long as the standard remains in use and
27 provides the patent owner with exclusionary market power it otherwise would not possess.
28 This exclusionary market power is due to the elimination of alternatives once the patented

1 technologies are incorporated into the standard, not the inherent technical value of the
2 patents (i.e., the contribution of the patented technology relative to the alternatives — the
3 ex-ante value).

4 52. SEP owners gain the power to exclude or exploit because the process of
5 standardization transforms what may have been only marginally valuable IP into essential
6 IP needed by all firms that intend to manufacture, use, or sell standard-based products. The
7 U.S. Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission have recognized the potential
8 for SEP owners to abuse the power gained through standardization. The effect is that the
9 competitive constraints on the SEP owner’s licensing behavior are eliminated after
10 standardization. This elimination of alternatives confers market power on SEP owners
11 relative to the pre-standard situation wherein alternatives (including the option of not
12 including the relevant functionality at all) are potentially available in the technology
13 market(s) and can constrain anticompetitive licensing behavior of the SEP owner.

14 53. Once a standard is set, and especially as manufacturers invest in and begin
15 manufacturing products that can use or operate with the standard, it is often infeasible to
16 revise the standard in order to avoid a SEP. Revising a standard can be very costly to the
17 industry implementing that standard because it may involve breaking the compatibility and
18 interoperability that the standard provides. Thus, changing a standard to eliminate a SEP
19 whose owner attempts to unfairly exercise undue market power gained from
20 standardization is generally not feasible. In sum, once an industry has adopted a particular
21 standard, there are no alternative technologies that can implement a given functionality
22 within the wording of the standard. The ex post relaxation of competitive constraints on
23 the SEP owner through the elimination of alternatives, together with the ex post
24 negotiation of licenses, can lead to some SEP owners to act opportunistically and “hold
25 up” some or all standard implementers by extracting higher royalties ex post than they
26 could have bargained for ex ante and in the absence of standardization.

27 54. To prevent the exploitation of the SEP owner’s market power in this
28 situation, there must be other constraints on the SEP owner’s licensing behavior, such as

1 obligations to license on FRAND terms. To this end, SSOs typically impose IPR rules on
2 their participants to protect against (or minimize the likelihood of) opportunistic,
3 anticompetitive behavior by owners of standard-essential IP. Such opportunistic behaviors
4 expropriate at least a portion of an implementer's returns from sunk investments in
5 innovation. If an implementer or potential implementer anticipates that there is a material
6 risk of opportunistic behavior, its incentives to engage in innovative activities will be
7 reduced or potentially even eliminated, particularly when the opportunistic SEP holder
8 seeks to hold up the implementer for all or a large part of the profits from the
9 implementer's innovations, complementary products, or services. By protecting against
10 opportunistic behavior, SSO rules pertaining to IPR are intended to provide an
11 environment that promotes investment, innovation, and technological progress. These IPR
12 rules typically call for SSO participants to identify through declaration any potential SEPs
13 covering the proposed standard and agree to license all implementers of the standard on
14 fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory terms.

15 **ETSI's IPR Policy**

16 55. ETSI is an independent, non-profit SSO that is responsible for the
17 standardization of information and communication technologies, including mobile cellular
18 technologies, for the benefit of its members, affiliates and the public.

19 56. 3GPP is a collaborative partnership among a group of recognized SSOs in
20 the information and communication industry, including ETSI.

21 57. ETSI, in partnership with 3GPP, has been involved in standardizing a
22 number of 3G and 4G mobile cellular technologies.

23 58. The ETSI IPR Policy,¹ which is part of the ETSI Directives, requires
24 members to disclose on a timely, bona fide basis all intellectual property rights that they
25 are aware of and believe may be essential to a proposed ETSI standard. In particular,
26 Clause 4.1 of the ETSI IPR Policy provides that: "each [ETSI] MEMBER shall use its
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28 ¹ Available at <https://www.etsi.org/images/files/IPR/etsi-ipr-policy.pdf>

1 reasonable endeavors, in particular during the development of a STANDARD or
2 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION where it participates, to inform ETSI of ESSENTIAL
3 IPRs in a timely fashion.” This obligation to disclose extends to members’ affiliates as
4 well.

5 59. ETSI’s IPR Policy requires that participants disclose their relevant IPR
6 during the development of a standard so that they may request that members owning
7 patents potentially essential for the practice of a standard irrevocably commit to license
8 those patents on FRAND terms and conditions to anyone practicing the standard.
9 Specifically, clause 6 of ETSI’s IPR Policy states:

10 When an ESSENTIAL IPR relating to a particular STANDARD or
11 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION is brought to the attention of ETSI,
12 the Director-General of ETSI shall immediately request the owner to
13 give within three months an irrevocable undertaking in writing that it
14 is prepared to grant irrevocable licences on fair, reasonable and non-
15 discriminatory [FRAND] terms and conditions under such IPR...
16 The above undertaking may be made subject to the condition that
17 those who seek licences agree to reciprocate.

18 ETSI IPR Policy, § 6.1.

19 60. Clause 6.1 lists “MANUFACTURE, including the right to make or have
20 made customized components and sub-systems to the licensee’s own design for use in
21 MANUFACTURE,” as among the rights for which SEP holders must make mandatory
22 FRAND licensing commitments.

23 61. FRAND commitments, pursuant to Clause 6 of the ETSI IPR Policy, “shall
24 be interpreted as encumbrances that bind all successors-in-interest.”

25 62. ETSI defines “essential” as follows:

26 “ESSENTIAL” as applied to IPR means that it is not possible on
27 technical (but not commercial) grounds, taking into account normal
28 technical practice and the state of the art generally available at the
time of standardization, to make, sell, lease, otherwise dispose of,
repair, use or operate EQUIPMENT or METHODS which comply
with a STANDARD without infringing that IPR. For the avoidance
of doubt in exceptional cases where a STANDARD can only be
implemented by technical solutions, all of which are infringements
of IPRs, all such IPRs shall be considered ESSENTIAL.

ETSI IPR Policy, §15.6.

1 66. Indeed, InterDigital entered into an irrevocable undertaking to grant licenses
2 to the disclosed allegedly essential patents on FRAND terms and conditions, including
3 submitting at least the following declarations to ETSI, true and correct copies of which are
4 attached as Exhibits 1 through 70.

Date	InterDigital Entity	Signatory	Place Executed	Project(s) or Standard(s)	Exh.	ISLD
10/4/01	InterDigital Technology	H. Goldberg	Philadelphia, PA	UMTS	1	ISLD-200105-001
4/8/04	InterDigital Technology	D. Boles	Wilmington, DE	UMTS (TS41.101 Rel. 5)	2	ISLD-200407-004
3/21/07	InterDigital Technology	B. Bernstein	n/a	UMTS; E-UMTS	3	ISLD-200802-001
9/19/08	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; E-UMTS;	4	ISLD-200811-003
9/19/08	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GSM; UMTS; E-UMTS; GERAN	5	ISLD-200901-001
9/14/09	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; E-UMTS; GERAN	6	ISLD-200910-006
9/14/09	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GSM; UMTS; E-UMTS; GERAN	7	ISLD-200911-005
9/16/10	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE; GERAN	8	ISLD-201010-010
10/31/11	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE; RRS; M2M	9	ISLD-201109-010
10/31/11	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE	10	ISLD-201109-021
11/30/12	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE; RRS; M2M	11	ISLD-201210-008
11/30/12	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE	12	ISLD-201210-010
11/26/13	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE; RRS; M2M	13	ISLD-201311-007
11/26/13	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GSM; UMTS; LTE	14	ISLD-201311-008
9/16/2010	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS; GSM; GERAN;	15	ISLD-201010-011
9/26/2014	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE	16	ISLD-201409-035
9/26/2014	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE; RRS; M2M	17	ISLD-201409-028
9/26/2014	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	18	ISLD-201409-039
11/12/2015	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS; RRS; M2M	19	ISLD-201511-004
12/22/2016	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS; M2M; RRS	20	ISLD-201706-015
12/11/2015	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS; GERAN	21	ISLD-201511-026
12/22/2016	InterDigital Technology	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS; GERAN;	22	ISLD-201706-014
9/19/2008	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; GERAN	23	ISLD-200811-004
9/14/2009	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; E-UMTS	24	ISLD-200909-004
9/16/2010	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GERAN; LTE; UMTS	25	ISLD-201009-002
10/31/2011	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS; LTE	26	ISLD-201109-018
11/30/2012	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS	27	ISLD-201210-011
11/26/2013	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	28	ISLD-201311-006
11/12/2015	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS	29	ISLD-201511-027
12/22/2016	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE; UMTS	30	ISLD-201706-011
12/22/2017	IPR Licensing	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	31	ISLD-201711-009
12/15/2021	InterDigital Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	32	ISLD-202112-078
09/10/2021	InterDigital Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	OneM2M	33	ISLD-202108-022
12/31/2019	InterDigital Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, 3GPP-Release-15	34	ISLD-201912-087
10/31/2019	InterDigital Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	35	ISLD-201909-015
11/30/2012	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	ETSI RRS, LTE, UMTS, ETSI M2M,	36	ISLD-201210-008
10/31/2011	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS, ETSI RRS, ETSI M2M	37	ISLD-201109-010
9/16/2010	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, LTE, GERAN,	38	ISLD-201010-010

27 _____
28 in paragraph 139) to the extent necessary to calculate FRAND terms and conditions for a
license to InterDigital's 3G and 4G SEP portfolios.

1	9/14/2009	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, GERAN, E-UMTS,	39	ISLD-200910-006
2	9/19/2008	InterDigital Patent Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	E-UMTS, GERAN, UMTS	40	ISLD-200811-003
3	12/22/2016	InterDigital Patent Holdings, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS, ESTI M2M, RRS	41	ISLD-201706-015
4	11/12/2015	InterDigital Patent Holdings, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS, ETSI RRS, OneM2M, ETSM2M	42	ISLD-201511-004
5	09/26/2014	InterDigital Patent Holdings, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS, ETSI RRS, ETSI M2M	43	ISLD-201409-028
6	11/26/2013	InterDigital Patent Holdings, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, LTE, ETSI, M2M, ETSI M2M, ETSI RRS,	44	ISLD-201311-007
7	09/14/2009	InterDigital Technology Corp.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GSM, UMTS, GERAN, E-UMTS,	45	ISLD-200911-005
8	09/16/2010	InterDigital Technology Corp.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, LTE, GSM, GERAN	46	ISLD-201010-011
9	10/31/2011	InterDigital Technology Corp.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS,	47	ISLD-201109-021
10	09/09/2008	InterDigital Technology Corp.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GSM, UMTS, GERAN, E-UMTS,	48	ISLD-200901-001
11	11/30/2012	InterDigital Technology Corp.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS,	49	ISLD-201210-010
12	04/08/2004	InterDigital Technology Corp.	D. Boles	Wilmington, DE	UMTS	50	ISLD-200407-004
13	03/21/2007	InterDigital Technology Corp.	B. Bernstein	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, E-UMTS	51	ISLD-200802-001
14	10/04/2001	InterDigital Technology Corp.	H. Goldberg	Wilmington, DE	UMTS	52	ISLD-200105-001
15	12/22/2016	InterDigital Technology Corporation	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, GERAN, UMTS	53	ISLD-201706-014
16	11/12/2015	InterDigital Technology Corporation	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS, GERAN	54	ISLD-201511-026
17	11/26/2013	InterDigital Technology Corporation	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GSM, LTE, UMTS,	55	ISLD-201311-008
18	11/30/2012	IPR Licensing Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS,	56	ISLD-201210-011
19	10/31/2011	IPR Licensing Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, LTE	57	ISLD-201109-018
20	09/16/2010	IPR Licensing Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	GERAN, LTE, UMTS	58	ISLD-201009-002
21	09/14/2009	IPR Licensing Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, E-UMTS	59	ISLD-200909-004
22	09/19/2008	IPR Licensing Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, GERAN	60	ISLD-200811-004
23	04/08/2004	IPR Licensing Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS	61	ISLD-200407-006
24	12/22/2017	IPR Licensing, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	62	ISLD-201711-009
25	12/22/2016	IPR Licensing, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS	63	ISLD-201706-011
26	12/11/2015	IPR Licensing, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE, UMTS	64	ISLD-201511-027
27	09/26/2014	IPR Licensing, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	65	ISLD-201409-039
28	11/26/2013	IPR Licensing, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	66	ISLD-201311-006
	12/22/2017	IDAC Holdings	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	3GPP-Release-15 (LTE-Advanced Pro, NR release 15)	67	ISLD-201712-041
	12/22/2016	IDPA Holdings, Inc	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	68	ISLD-201706-010
	12/22/2016	IDTP Holdings, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	LTE	69	ISLD-201706-013
	12/11/2015	IDTP Holdings, Inc.	B. Ditty	Wilmington, DE	UMTS, LTE,	70	ISLD-201511-028

67. InterDigital made these declarations to ensure that the 3G and 4G standards incorporated InterDigital's technologies to the exclusion of alternative technologies, and so that manufactures of standard-compliant devices would require a license to InterDigital's alleged SEPs.

1 68. While making the above declarations to ETSI, InterDigital concealed its
2 intent to, among other things, charge supra-competitive royalty rates and demand
3 discriminatory terms and conditions for a license to its alleged SEPs. The intent of this
4 concealment was to deceive ETSI members so that technologies InterDigital claims to
5 have patented were included in the standards. Pursuant to the ETSI IPR Policy, if
6 InterDigital had been honest regarding its intent to refuse to license its alleged SEPs on
7 FRAND terms and conditions, ETSI would have looked for alternative solutions to
8 InterDigital's technology or omitted that particular portion of the standard. See ETSI IPR
9 Policy, § 8.1.3. Thus, but for InterDigital's deceptive IPR declarations, alternative
10 technologies would have been adopted into the standards by ETSI or no particular
11 technology would have been specified.

12

13

Overview of Cellular Standards

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69. InterDigital's unlawful and anticompetitive behavior pertains to patents that
it claims are essential to the 3G and 4G cellular standards, which are described below.

16

The 3G Standard

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70. In the mid to late 1990s, the cellular industry started a push towards a
newer, more advanced system, able to support more users with improved reliability and
19 better handling of data services.

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71. Originally the hope was to adopt a single, global standard. However, over
time, it became apparent that diverging regional interests would prevent a single system
from being adopted. On the one hand, supporters of the GSM-based standards pushed to
have a system based on the GSM core network, but with an enhanced Radio Access
Network incorporating a new CDMA-based air interface known as Wideband CDMA
("WCDMA"). This standard is known as Universal Mobile Telecommunications System,
or "UMTS." On the other hand, supporters of the IS-95 family of standards pushed to
enhance the existing IS-95 core network and CDMA air interface, to develop a new
standard known as CDMA2000.

1 83. The exploitation of SEPs to extract unreasonable or discriminatory royalties
2 is referred to as patent “hold-up.” The cumulative royalty burden required to satisfy all
3 SEP holders is referred to as royalty stacking.

4 84. Hold-up harms competition and impedes implementation of standards,
5 diminishing any benefits that flow from widespread adoption of the standard. The
6 anticompetitive effects of hold-up are magnified when the total aggregate royalty stack is
7 analyzed. The total royalty stack must be reasonable when viewed in the aggregate. The
8 demands of individual SEP owners must be assessed in light of the total number of SEPs
9 included in the standard and their relative technical contributions.

10 85. A number of cases that have been litigated in U.S. courts demonstrate that
11 patent hold-up is a widespread problem, with SEP owners violating their FRAND
12 commitments by making royalty demands significantly above the adjudicated FRAND
13 rates. *See, e.g., TCL Commun. Tech. Holdings, LTD v. Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson*,
14 2017 WL 6611635, at *51-52 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 21, 2017) (determining FRAND rates of
15 0.314%-0.45% for 4G, 0.224%-0.30% for 3G, and 0.09%-0.16% for 2G, as compared to
16 Ericsson’s demand of 1.5% for 4G, 1.2% for 3G, and 0.8%-1.0% for 2G); *In re Innovation*
17 *IP Ventures, LLC Patent Litig.*, 2013 WL 5593609, at *43 (N.D. Ill. Oct. 3, 2013) (for 19
18 asserted patents, assessing damages of \$0.0956 per unit as compared to the proposed
19 royalty of \$16.17 per unit for tablet computers); *Microsoft Corp. v. Motorola, Inc.*, 2013
20 WL 2111217, at *100 (W.D. Wash. Apr. 25, 2013) (determining FRAND rate of \$0.03471
21 per Microsoft’s x Box unit, as compared to Motorola’s initial demand of \$6-\$8 per x Box
22 unit).

23 86. Courts, regulators, and economists have also made clear that to be effective,
24 the FRAND commitments in ETSI’s IPR policy should: (a) limit royalties to the value that
25 the SEP(s) had prior to inclusion in the ETSI standard and in light of other patented and
26 unpatented technology essential to the standard; (b) prohibit charging royalties that are
27 higher based upon the technology being written into the standard or that capture the value
28

1 of the standard itself; and (c) require non-discriminatory treatment of licensees and
2 potential licensees.

3 87. As explained below, and like the SEP owners from the aforementioned
4 cases, an analysis of InterDigital's non-FRAND offers to u-blox for a new license
5 demonstrates that InterDigital is attempting to abuse its monopoly power to extract the
6 hold-up value of its alleged SEPs. InterDigital's offers to u-blox are completely untethered
7 to the ex-ante value of InterDigital's alleged SEPs, and would create an unsustainable
8 royalty stack. In light of InterDigital's continued unreasonable demands for a license and
9 related conduct, u-blox had no choice but to seek a judicial determination of the terms for a
10 fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory license.

11 **InterDigital's Refusal to Offer u-blox A New License on FRAND Terms**

12 88. As explained above, InterDigital is required to license its declared essential
13 patents consistent, in all respects, with its binding commitment to ETSI, 3GPP, and
14 participants and implementers of the applicable standards. However, in disregard of its
15 binding obligations, InterDigital is refusing to license its declared essential patents to u-
16 blox on FRAND terms and conditions. Instead, InterDigital is attempting to exploit its
17 market power gained as a result of its deceptive and intentionally false FRAND
18 commitments to attempt to extract supra-competitive royalties from u-blox.

19 89. For example, in addition to its supra-competitive royalty demands,
20 InterDigital is attempting to extract royalties from u-blox for patents that will expire during
21 the course of the license. A number of W-CDMA and LTE patent families identified by
22 InterDigital as exemplary SEPs will expire several years prior to the proposed expiration
23 of the license agreement the parties are negotiating. Despite the expiration of its alleged
24 SEPs, InterDigital is attempting—by using fixed rate royalties based on product sales for
25 the duration of the license—to extract royalties after its technology enters the public
26 domain.

27 90. InterDigital is demanding royalties from u-blox and/or its customers for
28 products which only practice a limited subset of the 4G standard—including certain

1 portions of the standard which InterDigital has not demonstrated its SEPs even cover. Most
2 of the improvements to 4G have focused on expanding bandwidth and speed in broadband
3 LTE categories. However, u-blox offers cellular modules incorporating low-power wide-
4 area (“LPWA”) LTE categories specifically developed for Internet of Things (IoT) and
5 Machine-to-Machine (M2M) applications—including LTE Cat 1, LTE Cat M1 and LTE
6 NB-IoT. These LTE iterations are designed with limited speed and functionality (for
7 example, certain implementations do not support voice over LTE) in an effort to offer
8 lower power consumption, less complexity and lower costs. InterDigital is attempting to
9 extract its 4G royalty rates for these devices without even a bare showing that most of its
10 patents cover the technology as implemented and/or without attempting to determine the
11 value of its allegedly patented technology to u-blox’s products.

12 91. InterDigital’s current royalty demands are not consistent with its obligation
13 to license its SEPs on fair and reasonable terms nor the parties previous 2019-2022 license.
14 Rather, its demands can only be explained by InterDigital’s attempt to exploit its undue
15 market power to extract supra-competitive royalties that in no way reflect the value of the
16 patented technology. As described, the inherent entry barriers imposed by standardization
17 empower InterDigital to exploit its resulting market power to extract supra-competitive,
18 and non-FRAND prices.

19 92. InterDigital also bases its royalty demand on the price of the end-user device
20 that incorporates the 3G or 4G module for which the licensed SEPs would cover.
21 InterDigital’s royalty demand based on end-user devices is clearly an attempt to inflate the
22 royalty rates to make them seem more reasonable given the significantly higher price of
23 the end-user device than the 3G or 4G module incorporated therein.

24 93. Moreover, InterDigital’s royalty demand for 4G modules increases with the
25 price of the end-user device in which the 4G module is incorporated. This is yet another
26 attempt by Interdigital to inflate its royalty demands by tying it to the value of end-user
27 devices, which can vary based on a multitude of unrelated functionalities and features
28 having nothing to do with InterDigital’s purported SEP technologies, or even cellular

1 connectivity. The price of a given 4G module incorporated into various end-user devices
2 remains consistent for that 4G module even if the price of one end-user device is higher
3 than another end-user device into which such a module is incorporated. Specifically,
4 InterDigital's royalty demand for a 4G module incorporated into the highest-priced end-
5 user devices is nearly four times higher than its royalty demand for the same 4G module
6 incorporated into the lowest-priced end-user devices. Thus, even if the same 4G module is
7 used in each of these end-user devices, InterDigital's royalty model would result in
8 royalties that take up four times more of the total royalty stack for all 4G SEPs simply
9 because the price of the end-user device in which the 4G module is incorporated is higher.
10 That InterDigital's overall percentage of the royalty stack can change so drastically across
11 product offerings is a clear indication that its royalty demand is not consistent with its
12 FRAND licensing obligations.

13 94. InterDigital's licensing offer to u-blox for a new license violates its
14 commitment to ETSI and is entirely inconsistent with FRAND principles. Instead,
15 InterDigital has negotiated in bad faith to exploit its monopoly power and attempted to
16 maximize the hold-up value it can extract from u-blox.

17 95. Put simply, in breach of its FRAND commitment, InterDigital is attempting
18 to exploit the monopoly power it gained from standardization to demand supra-competitive
19 royalty rates which are grossly disproportionate to the value of the technical contribution
20 of its small number of SEPs.

21 96. In addition, as explained below, InterDigital's conduct during negotiations
22 with u-blox for a new license cannot be reconciled with its FRAND commitment.

23 **InterDigital's Repeated and Unjustified Efforts to Interfere with u-blox's Customer**
24 **Relationships to Coerce a Non-FRAND Agreement**

25 97. On January 1, 2011, u-blox signed a Patent License Agreement with
26 InterDigital (the "2011 PLA").
27
28

1 98. The terms of the PLA expired on December 31, 2016, but u-blox continued
2 to pay royalties after expiration to InterDigital under the terms of the 2011 PLA while a
3 new patent license agreement was pursued and a non-disclosure agreement was renewed.

4 99. u-blox also negotiated with InterDigital for a temporary written extension of
5 the terms of the 2011 PLA to allow u-blox to continue to be licensed to InterDigital’s
6 cellular patent portfolio while the terms of a new patent license were finalized.

7 100. It is well known and reflected in the 2011 PLA that technology patent
8 royalty rates decline year-to-year. As such, the 2011-2016 rates in the PLA that u-blox was
9 paying in 2017 were not FRAND rates. Indeed, using the 2016 rates in 2017 represented a
10 royalty rate overpayment on some u-blox products in excess of ██████ for the product alone.
11 Among other things, based on changing market conditions and technology, such a rate
12 would not allow u-blox to make any profit on the sale of its products using cellular
13 technology.

14 101. Therefore, because the rates that u-blox was paying were not FRAND rates,
15 u-blox requested that InterDigital include in any written extension a provision whereby
16 InterDigital would “true-up” u-blox’s overpayments based on the FRAND rates in their
17 new patent license agreement.

18 102. Such a true-up provision is commonly agreed to by patent owners’
19 negotiating in good faith with licensees or potential licensees, in order to allow licensees to
20 negotiate without the licensee being unfairly locked into paying non-FRAND rates without
21 any chance to be made whole. Nonetheless, InterDigital refused to agree to any such true-
22 up provision.

23 103. But, even more troubling, while the parties were still negotiating,
24 InterDigital contacted u-blox’s customers and downstream manufacturers, informing them
25 that u-blox was no longer licensed by InterDigital and seeking to collect even higher patent
26 royalties from them in a blatant attempt to coerce u-blox to agree to InterDigital’s
27 excessive non-FRAND rates.

28

1 representative while the two were attending a conference in Chicago. InterDigital’s
2 representative said InterDigital would get back to u-blox once they returned to their
3 headquarters.

4 110. Having received nothing further from InterDigital regarding license
5 negotiations, u-blox contacted InterDigital on July 15, 2022 in another effort to initiate
6 license negotiations. InterDigital responded that it would get back to u-blox in August.

7 111. After InterDigital failed to reach out by the end of August 2022, u-blox
8 contacted InterDigital again on September 6, 2022 regarding a renewal to the license.
9 Following that correspondence, u-blox was finally able to schedule a meeting with
10 InterDigital for September 26, 2022 to discuss the renewal of u-blox’s license to
11 InterDigital’s alleged SEPs.

12 112. On September 26, 2022, u-blox presented to InterDigital regarding u-blox’s
13 past, present, and future expected product offerings and the application areas in which u-
14 blox is intending for its products to be used. [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]

19 113. u-blox and InterDigital met again to discuss licensing on October 12, 2022.
20 At that meeting, InterDigital discussed a presentation it prepared, which included a slide
21 noting what InterDigital understood to be u-blox’s “Commercial Objectives for
22 Licensing.” These objectives include a business strategy of being able to “[o]ffer value to
23 customers through ‘premium offering’” and respond to “customer needs” by satisfying
24 customers’ “[i]ndemnity requirements.” As InterDigital recognized during future
25 correspondence, it understood u-blox’s “premium offering” meant u-blox’s ability to offer
26 customers products that are licensed for the relevant SEPs.

27 114. Prior to a meeting scheduled for October 26, 2022, InterDigital asked u-blox
28 for its sales numbers. On the October 26, 2022 meeting, u-blox provided InterDigital with

1 information regarding u-blox’s sales and revenue numbers for its various 3G, LTE, and
2 IoT, related product offerings.

3 [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED]
6 [REDACTED]
7 [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED]
15 [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]
19 [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED]
22 [REDACTED]

23 118. On December 2, 2022, in an effort to reach a licensing agreement with
24 InterDigital that was both consistent with prior licensing agreements and with u-blox’s
25 business objectives (of which InterDigital was aware), u-blox sent a proposed license
26 agreement to InterDigital based on a lump-sum payment, similar to the 2019 PLA, but
27 derived using the effective royalty rates under the 2019 PLA applied to u-blox’s projected
28 sales over the term of the proposed license. The valuation in u-blox’s proposal was based

1 on previous patent lists provided by InterDigital, with expired patents being removed and
2 pro-rated rates for patents expiring during the term of the new license.

3 119. On December 14, 2022, u-blox and InterDigital had a meeting wherein
4 InterDigital rejected u-blox’s December 2, 2022 offer and explained InterDigital’s new
5 licensing and patent valuation approach. [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]
7 [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED]
15 [REDACTED]

16 120. u-blox is ready, willing, and able to enter into a license with InterDigital
17 once the FRAND terms and conditions for a license to InterDigital’s 3G and 4G SEPs are
18 determined.

19 121. However, it has become clear that InterDigital has no intention of granting u-
20 blox a license to its allegedly essential 3G and 4G patents on FRAND terms and
21 conditions.

22 122. Given InterDigital’s past practices of targeting u-blox’s customers, u-blox
23 believes that InterDigital will, again, begin targeting u-blox’s customers when the 2019
24 PLA term ends.

25 123. In addition, InterDigital has no incentive to conclude negotiations for a
26 license with u-blox on FRAND rates because, as explained above, once the 2019 PLA term
27 ended, InterDigital could revert to its prior tactics of pressuring u-blox by targeting u-blox
28 customers, which would, at that point, not have a license to InterDigital’s patents. As such,

1 u-blox must make an entirely unfair Hobson’s choice: refuse to capitulate to InterDigital’s
2 unfair demands and risk losing its customers and business or agree to a new license that is
3 not on FRAND terms. Given these clear hold-up conditions, u-blox has no choice but to
4 file this action.

5 **The Irreparable Harm to u-blox**

6 124. In justifiable reliance upon InterDigital’s promises that it would license its
7 SEP technology to u-blox and others on FRAND terms, u-blox has made significant
8 monetary investments into the research, development, production, and marketing of its
9 cellular modules.

10 125. However, InterDigital’s wrongful non-FRAND demands of u-blox and
11 wrongful interference with u-blox’s current and potential future customer relationships will
12 not only lead to a loss of business for u-blox, but InterDigital’s threats to u-blox’s
13 customer relationships, and related loss of trust, reputation, and goodwill threatens the very
14 existence of u-blox, including the layoff of all of the employees of u-blox San Diego, Inc.,
15 the entity primarily responsible for research and design of u-blox’s cellular products.

16 126. Damages are not adequate to fully compensate and address u-blox's injuries,
17 including, inter alia, its reputational harm and harm to its customer relationships.

18 127. Based on the foregoing, u-blox seeks, inter alia,: (i) a judicial declaration that
19 InterDigital’s promises to ETSI, 3GPP, and their respective members and affiliates
20 constitute contractual obligations that are binding and enforceable by u-blox; (ii) a judicial
21 declaration that InterDigital has breached these obligations by demanding excessive,
22 unfair, unreasonable, and discriminatory royalties from u-blox; (iii) a judicial decree
23 enjoining InterDigital from further demanding excessive royalties from u-blox and u-
24 blox’s customers that are not consistent with InterDigital’s FRAND obligations; (iv) a
25 judicial accounting of what constitutes a FRAND royalty rate in all respects consistent
26 with InterDigital’s commitment to license its patents identified as (or alleged to be)
27 “essential” to the 3G and/or 4G standards; (v) a judicial determination that InterDigital’s
28 refusal to agree to a new license is a breach of InterDigital’s commitments to ETSI; (vi) a

1 judicial determination that InterDigital’s deceptive and deliberately false declarations to
2 ETSI constitute violations of Section 2 of the Sherman Act; (vii) a judicial determination
3 that InterDigital is liable for interference with contractual relations (viii) a jury trial on all
4 issues so triable; and (ix) all other relief to which u-blox may be entitled.

5 **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**
6 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**
7 **(Breach Of Contract)**

8 128. u-blox re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in the
9 foregoing paragraphs.

10 129. InterDigital entered into contractual commitments with ETSI, 3GPP and
11 their respective members, participants, and implementers relating to the 3G and 4G
12 standards. As a member of ETSI and to comply with ETSI’s IPR Policy, InterDigital made
13 a binding commitment to ETSI, ETSI members, and third-party implementers to grant
14 irrevocable licenses to InterDigital’s SEPs on FRAND terms and conditions.

15 130. InterDigital’s ETSI membership and activities, including the declarations it
16 made to comply with ETSI’s IPR policy for InterDigital’s SEPs, created an express and/or
17 implied contract with ETSI and/or ETSI members, including an agreement that InterDigital
18 would license those patents on FRAND terms and conditions. ETSI’s IPR Policy does not
19 limit the right to obtain a license on FRAND terms and conditions to ETSI members; third
20 parties that are not ETSI members also have the right to be granted licenses under those
21 patents on FRAND terms and conditions. Each and every party with products that
22 implement the 3G and 4G standards promulgated by ETSI is an intended third-party
23 beneficiary of InterDigital’s contractual commitments, including u-blox, its suppliers, and
24 its customers.

25 131. u-blox is an intended third-party beneficiary of InterDigital’s contractual
26 FRAND commitments under Section 6.1 of the ETSI IPR Policy by virtue of
27 manufacturing customized components and subsystems which implement the 3G and 4G
28 standards, selling products which fully conform to the practiced 3G and 4G standards and

1 which qualify as “EQUIPMENT” under the ETSI IPR Policy, using products which
 2 implement the 3G and 4G standards, and using methods related to implementing the 3G
 3 and 4G standards, including during the design and testing of u-blox’s products. u-blox is
 4 therefore entitled to a license on FRAND terms and conditions to InterDigital’s SEPs,
 5 including specifically for at least the following products (“Standard Compliant Products”):

u-blox Product Series	Licensed Standard(s) Implemented
SARA-U2	3G (HSPA)
LEXI-R422	4G (LTE-M/NB-IoT)
SARA-R500E	4G (LTE-M)
SARA-R510AWS	4G (LTE-M)
SARA-R5	4G (LTE-M/NB-IoT)
SARA-R540S	4G (LTE-M/NB-IoT)
UBX-R5	4G (LTE-M/NB-IoT)
SARA-N310	4G (LTE Cat NB2)
LARA-R6	4G (LTE Cat 1)
LENA-R8	4G (LTE Cat 1bis)
LARA-L6	4G (LTE Cat 4)

19 132. However, despite u-blox’s good faith efforts to negotiate a license to
 20 InterDigital’s alleged SEPs, InterDigital is refusing to offer u-blox a license on FRAND
 21 terms and conditions.

22 133. InterDigital has breached its FRAND obligations by refusing to agree to
 23 license its SEPs to u-blox at reasonable rates, with reasonable terms, and on a non-
 24 discriminatory basis.

25 134. As a result of InterDigital’s contractual breach, u-blox has been injured in its
 26 business or property and is threatened by imminent loss of profits, loss of customers and
 27 potential customers, and loss of goodwill and product image.

1 135. u-blox has suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable injury by reason of
 2 the acts, practices, and conduct of InterDigital alleged above until and unless the Court
 3 enjoins such acts, practices, and conduct.

4 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**
 5 **(Declaratory Judgment)**

6 136. u-blox re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in the
 7 foregoing paragraphs.

8 137. InterDigital is contractually obligated to license its 3G and 4G SEPs on
 9 FRAND terms and conditions.

10 138. InterDigital has alleged that u-blox's products infringe multiple InterDigital
 11 SEPs applicable to those technologies.

12 139. Specifically, InterDigital provided u-blox with claim charts alleging that the
 13 following patents are essential to portions of the 3G and 4G standards:

InterDigital Patents	Standard	Relevant Specification(s)
US 8,081,712	3G	3GPP TS 25.212, Rel. 7, RP-63, v7.12.0 (Available 2014-03-21) 3GPP TS 25.331, Rel. 7, RP-64, v7.25.0 (Available 2014-07-03) 3GPP TS 25.321, Rel. 7, RP-50, v7.19.0 (Available 2010-12-21)
US 8,107,991	3G	3GPP TS 25.133 V8.20.0 (2013-8) 3GPP TS 25.321 V8.17.0 (2013-1) 3GPP TS 25.331 V8.25.0 (2014-7) 3GPP TS 25.215 V8.4.0 (2009-9)
US 8,116,274	3G	TS 25.321 V8.12.0 (2010-12)
US 8,145,253	3G	3GPP TS 25.331 V8.25.0 (2014-06) 3GPP TS 25.321 V8.17.0 (2012-12) 3GPP TS 25.214 V8.13.0 (2012-03) 3GPP TS 25.319 V8.12.0 (2011-12)
US 8,400,934	3G	TS 25.331 (v. 8.25.0 2014-07-03)

1		3GPP TS 36.213 V8.8.0 (2009-09)
2		3GPP TS 36.321 V8.9.0 (2010-06)
3	US 8,014,361	4G 3GPP TS 36.300 V8.12.0 (2010-04)
4		3GPP TS 36.211 V8.9.0 (2009-12)
5		3GPP TS 36.212 V8.8.0 (2009-12)
6	US 8,509,836	4G 3GPP TS 36.213 V8.8.0 (2009-09)
7		3GPP TS 36.331 V8.20.0 (2013-06)
8		3GPP TS 36.213 V8.8.0 (2009-09)
9	US 8,565,212	4G 3GPP TS 36.321 V8.9.0 (2010-06)
10		3GPP TS 36.300 V8.12.0 (2010-03)
11		3GPP TS 36.211 V8.9.0 (2009-12)
12		3GPP TS 36.331 V8.14.0 (2011-06)
13	US 8,855,047	4G TS 25.331 (v. 8.25.0 2014-07-03)

14 140. For purposes of this action, u-blox will not contest that the above patents
15 appear to be essential to portions of the 3G and 4G standard that are implemented by u-
16 blox products. u-blox therefor seeks a FRAND license to the above patents, along with
17 any other 3G and 4G InterDigital patents that essential to the standards implemented by u-
18 blox's Standard Compliant Products.

19 141. By virtue of InterDigital previously licensing u-blox under its 3G and 4G
20 SEPs, and its history of asserting those same SEPs against u-blox's downstream customers
21 on the basis of products incorporating u-blox's Standard Compliant Products, u-blox has a
22 reasonable apprehension that InterDigital will assert one or more of the above patents
23 against u-blox and/or its customers if u-blox is not granted a license on FRAND terms.

24 142. Therefore, u-blox is entitled to a license to the above and any other standard
25 essential patents as part of a FRAND license and pursuant to the ETSI IPR policy.

26 143. u-blox is entitled to a license covering its use of InterDigital's SEPs, which
27 covers both research and development, manufacturing activities, as well as the sale of
28

1 Standard Compliant Products, on FRAND terms for at least the InterDigital SEPs
2 identified above.

3 144. InterDigital has a practice and policy of licensing its SEPs on a portfolio-
4 wide basis. In view of InterDigital’s practice of licensing its SEPs on a portfolio-wide
5 basis to other implementers, rather than individually, u-blox is entitled to a license which
6 covers InterDigital’s 3G and 4G SEP portfolios.

7 145. There is a dispute between the parties concerning whether InterDigital has
8 offered u-blox a license to its 3G and 4G SEPs on FRAND terms and conditions consistent
9 with InterDigital’s irrevocable commitments in its declarations to ETSI and the referenced
10 policy of ETSI and 3GPP.

11 146. As a result of the acts described in the foregoing paragraphs, there exists a
12 definite and concrete, real and substantial, justiciable controversy between u-blox and
13 InterDigital regarding what constitutes FRAND terms and conditions for a license to
14 InterDigital’s 3G and 4G SEPs with respect to u-blox’s products. This dispute is of
15 sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the issuance of a declaratory judgment.

16 147. U-blox is entitled to a declaratory judgment that InterDigital has not offered
17 license terms to u-blox conforming to applicable legal requirements, including failing to
18 offer u-blox a license to its 3G and 4G SEPs on FRAND terms and conditions. Moreover,
19 u-blox is entitled to a declaratory judgment and specific performance that sets the FRAND
20 terms and conditions, including but not limited to the FRAND royalty rate, for a license to
21 InterDigital’s 3G and 4G SEPs.

22 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION³**
23 **(Declaratory Judgment of Non-Infringement of U.S. Patent No. 8,155,067)**

24 148. u-blox re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in the
25 foregoing paragraphs.

26 _____
27 ³ u-blox’s Fourth Cause of Action in its original Complaint seeking declaratory judgment
28 of non-infringement of the ’067 Patent was dismissed *without prejudice* pursuant to the
Court’s August 8, 2023 Order Granting Defendants’ Motion to Dismiss. u-blox realleges

1 149. U.S. Patent No. 8,155,067 (“’067 Patent”), attached hereto as Exhibit 71,
2 entitled “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SIGNALING THE RELEASE OF A
3 PERSISTENT RESOURCE,” indicates that it issued on April 10, 2012. U.S. Patent and
4 Trademark Office (“USPTO”) records indicate that InterDigital is the assignee of the ‘067
5 Patent.

6 150. There is a dispute between the parties concerning whether certain u-blox
7 products infringe one or more claims of the ‘067 Patent. During the course of licensing
8 negotiations, InterDigital asserted that u-blox products infringe one or more of the ‘067
9 Patent claims by virtue of practicing the LTE standard. InterDigital provided u-blox with a
10 claim chart alleging that at least claims 1 or the ‘067 Patent is essential to the LTE
11 standard.

12 151. u-blox alleges that the ‘067 Patent is not essential to the LTE standard and,
13 therefore, u-blox’s products, which implement the LTE standard, do not practice one or
14 more claims of the ‘067 Patent. By way of non-limiting example, the LTE standard does
15 not require at least the claimed technique of releasing at least one persistent resource,
16 including “determining whether to explicitly or implicitly acknowledge the persistent
17 resource release based on whether the persistent resource release is applicable to the DL
18 persistent resource of the UL persistent resource,” wherein “DL” refers to downlink and
19 “UL” refers to uplink.

20 152. No claim of the ‘067 Patent has been or is infringed, either directly,
21 contributorily, or by inducement, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by u-blox or
22 the purchasers of u-blox’s products through the manufacture, use, importation, sale, and/or
23 offer for sale of u-blox’s products, at least because, by way of non-limiting example, u-
24 blox’s products do not satisfy the following claim limitation “determining whether to

25 _____
26 this cause of action in order to preserve the issue and potentially avoid waiver of this issue.
27 *See Lacey v. Maricopa Cnty.*, 693 F.3d 896, 928 (9th Cir. 2012) (requiring repleading of
28 claims dismissed without prejudice, holding the Court “will consider those claims to be
waived if not repled.”). u-blox has not repled the antitrust claim because it was dismissed
with prejudice and therefor, does not need to be repled to be preserved on appeal. *Id.*

1 explicitly or implicitly acknowledge the persistent resource release based on whether the
2 persistent resource release is applicable to the DL persistent resource of the UL persistent
3 resource.”

4 153. An actual and justiciable controversy exists between u-blox and InterDigital
5 with respect to whether u-blox’s products infringe one or more claims of the ‘067 Patent.

6 154. Pursuant to the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2201 et seq.,
7 u-blox requests the declaration of the Court that u-blox’s products do not infringe one or
8 more claims of the ‘067 Patent.

9 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

10 WHEREFORE, u-blox prays for relief as follows:

11 A. Adjudge and decree that InterDigital is liable for breach of its contractual
12 commitments to ETSI;

13 B. Adjudge and decree that InterDigital has not offered u-blox a new license to
14 its 3G and/or 4G SEPs under reasonable and non-discriminatory rates, with reasonable and
15 non-discriminatory terms and conditions;

16 C. Adjudge, set, and decree the FRAND terms and conditions to which u-blox
17 is entitled for a license to InterDigital’s 3G and 4G SEPs;

18 D. Enjoin InterDigital from demanding excessive royalties from u-blox that are
19 not consistent with InterDigital’s FRAND obligations;

20 E. Adjudge and decree that u-blox is entitled to a license from InterDigital for
21 any and all patents that InterDigital deems “essential” and/or has declared “essential” to
22 the 3G and 4G standards under reasonable rates, with reasonable terms and conditions that
23 are demonstrably free of any unfair discrimination;

24 F. Enjoin InterDigital from enforcing its 3G and/or 4G SEPs against u-blox or
25 any of its downstream manufactures or customers;

26 G. Enjoin InterDigital from forcing u-blox to take a bundled license to
27 InterDigital’s SEPs that are not implemented by the portions of the 3G and/or 4G standards
28 practiced by u-blox’s products;

1 H. Adjudge and decree that u-blox does not infringe the ‘067 Patent;

2 I. Enter judgment against InterDigital for the amount of damages that u-blox
3 proves at trial, including, as appropriate, exemplary damages;

4 J. Enter a judgment awarding u-blox its expenses, costs, and attorneys’ fees
5 under applicable laws;

6 K. Award u-blox pre-judgment and post-judgment interest to the full extent
7 allowed under the law, as well as its costs; and

8 L. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

9

10 Dated: August 25, 2023

SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP

11

12

By

s/Stephen S. Korniczky

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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that u-blox hereby demands a trial by jury.

Dated: August 25, 2023

SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP

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