

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

BEACON NAVIGATION GMBH,

Plaintiff,

v.

GENERAL MOTORS COMPANY,

Defendant.

Civil Action No.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Beacon Navigation GmbH (“Beacon” or “Plaintiff”), for its Complaint against Defendant General Motors Company (“GM”) states and alleges as follows:

THE PARTIES

1. Plaintiff Beacon is a Swiss company with limited liability with a principal place of business in Switzerland.
2. Upon information and belief, Defendant General Motors Company is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 300 Renaissance Center, Detroit, MI 48265.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*, including 35 U.S.C. § 271. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
4. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b), 1391(c), 1391(d) and/or 1400(b) because (1) a substantial part of the events giving rise to Beacon’s claims occurred in the District of Delaware, (2) because each of the Defendants is either resident in or

otherwise subject to personal jurisdiction in the District of Delaware, or is an alien, or (3) each of the Defendants has committed acts of infringement in and has a regular and established place of business in the District of Delaware.

BACKGROUND

5. Beacon owns all right, title and interest in U.S. Patent No. 6,374,180 (the “’180 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 6,178,380 (the “’380 patent”); and U.S. Patent No. 6,029,111 (the “’111 patent”) (collectively, the “patents-in-suit”).

6. The ’180 patent, entitled “Points of Interest for a Navigation System,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 16, 2002, after full and fair examination. A copy of the ’180 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

7. The ’380 patent, entitled “Street Identification for a Map Zoom of a Navigation System,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on January 23, 2001, after full and fair examination. A copy of the ’380 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

8. The ’111 patent, entitled “Vehicle Navigation System and Method Using GPS Velocities,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 22, 2000, after full and fair examination. A copy of the ’111 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

9. GM manufactures, sells and distributes vehicles with navigation systems, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox.

COUNT I

INFRINGEMENT OF THE ’180 PATENT

10. Beacon incorporates each of the preceding paragraphs 1-9 as if fully set forth

herein.

11. GM has been and is infringing literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, directly, contributorily, or by inducement, at least claim 1 of the '180 patent.

12. GM directly infringes, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), by making, using, selling, offering for sale, and/or importing in or into the United States, without authority, products that practice the '180 patent, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox.

13. Upon information and belief, GM had knowledge of the '180 patent based on a letter sent to it on September 28, 2011.

14. Upon information and belief, GM has contributed to direct infringement of the '180 patent by others (e.g., consumers), in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), because the GPS navigation systems in its products, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox, are specially adapted for an infringing use of the '180 patent, embody a material part of the inventions claimed in the '180 patent, and are not staple articles of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

15. Upon information and belief, GM actively induces others (e.g., consumers) to directly infringe the '180 patent, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), by providing products with GPS navigation systems, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox, along with instructions, user manuals, or technical assistance actively directing, encouraging, or assisting infringement of the '180 patent, and/or by providing a system where one of the core and common features leads to third party infringement of the '180 patent.

16. Upon information and belief, GM had knowledge of the '180 patent based on a letter sent to it on September 28, 2011 but has engaged in infringing conduct nonetheless. GM's infringement is willful.

17. Beacon has no adequate remedy at law against these acts of patent infringement. Unless GM is permanently enjoined from further infringement of the '180 patent, Beacon will suffer irreparable harm.

18. As a direct and proximate result of the acts of patent infringement by GM, Beacon has been damaged in an amount not presently known.

19. Beacon has incurred and will incur attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the prosecution of this action. The circumstances of this dispute create an exceptional case within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 285, and Beacon is entitled to recover its reasonable and necessary fees and expenses.

COUNT II

INFRINGEMENT OF THE '380 PATENT

20. Beacon incorporates each of the preceding paragraphs 1-9 as if fully set forth herein.

21. GM has been and is infringing literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, directly, contributorily, or by inducement, at least claims 1, 18, 26, and 29 of the '380 patent.

22. GM directly infringes, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), by making, using, selling, offering for sale, and/or importing in or into the United States, without authority, products that practice the '380 patent, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox.

23. Upon information and belief, GM had knowledge of the '380 patent based on a letter sent to it on September 28, 2011.

24. Upon information and belief, GM has contributed to direct infringement of the

'380 patent by others (e.g., consumers), in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), because the GPS navigation systems in its products, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox, are specially adapted for an infringing use of the '380 patent, embody a material part of the inventions claimed in the '380 patent, and are not staple articles of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

25. Upon information and belief, GM actively induces others (e.g., consumers) to directly infringe the '380 patent, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), by providing products with GPS navigation systems, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox, along with instructions, user manuals, or technical assistance actively directing, encouraging, or assisting infringement of the '380 patent, and/or by providing a system where one of the core and common features leads to third party infringement of the '380 patent.

26. Upon information and belief, GM had knowledge of the '380 patent based on a letter sent to it on September 28, 2011 but has engaged in infringing conduct nonetheless. GM's infringement is willful.

27. Beacon has no adequate remedy at law against these acts of patent infringement. Unless GM is permanently enjoined from further infringement of the '380 patent, Beacon will suffer irreparable harm.

28. As a direct and proximate result of the acts of patent infringement by GM, Beacon has been damaged in an amount not presently known.

29. Beacon has incurred and will incur attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the prosecution of this action. The circumstances of this dispute create an exceptional case within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 285, and Beacon is entitled to recover its reasonable and necessary fees and expenses.

COUNT III

INFRINGEMENT OF THE '111 PATENT

30. Beacon incorporates each of the preceding paragraphs 1-9 as if fully set forth herein.

31. GM has been and is infringing literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, directly, contributorily, or by inducement, at least claims 1 and 17 of the '111 patent.

32. GM directly infringes, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a), by making, using, selling, offering for sale, and/or importing in or into the United States, without authority, products that practice the '111 patent, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox.

33. Upon information and belief, GM had knowledge of the '111 patent based on a letter sent to it on September 28, 2011.

34. Upon information and belief, GM has contributed to direct infringement of the '111 patent by others (e.g., consumers), in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), because the GPS navigation systems in its products, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox, are specially adapted for an infringing use of the '111 patent, embody a material part of the inventions claimed in the '111 patent, and are not staple articles of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

35. Upon information and belief, GM actively induces others (e.g., consumers) to directly infringe the '111 patent, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), by providing products with GPS navigation systems, including but not limited to the Chevrolet Equinox, along with instructions, user manuals, or technical assistance actively directing, encouraging, or assisting infringement of the '111 patent, and/or by providing a system where one of the core and common features leads to third party infringement of the '111 patent.

36. Upon information and belief, GM had knowledge of the '111 patent based on a letter sent to it on September 28, 2011 but has engaged in infringing conduct nonetheless. GM's infringement is willful.

37. Beacon has no adequate remedy at law against these acts of patent infringement. Unless GM is permanently enjoined from further infringement of the '111 patent, Beacon will suffer irreparable harm.

38. As a direct and proximate result of the acts of patent infringement by GM, Beacon has been damaged in an amount not presently known.

39. Beacon has incurred and will incur attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the prosecution of this action. The circumstances of this dispute create an exceptional case within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 285, and Beacon is entitled to recover its reasonable and necessary fees and expenses.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Beacon requests that judgment be entered in its favor and against GM, and that the Court award the following relief to Beacon:

- (a) damages in an amount adequate to compensate Beacon for infringement of the patents-in-suit, and in no event less than a reasonable royalty;
- (b) increased damages in an amount three times the damages found by the jury or assessed by the Court for the willful infringement of the patents-in-suit pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- (c) expenses, costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285;
- (d) a preliminary and, thereafter, a permanent injunction against GM, its officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or

participation with any of them who receive actual notice thereof;

- (e) prejudice and post-judgment interest on all damages; and
- (f) such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

In accordance with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 38 and 39, Beacon asserts its rights under the Seventh Amendment to the United States Constitution and demands a trial by jury on all issues triable by a jury.

Dated: October 11, 2011

Respectfully submitted,
YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT
& TAYLOR, LLP

/s/ Elena C. Norman

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