

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

**BEACON NAVIGATION GMBH,**

*Plaintiff,*

v.

**HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD.; HONDA  
NORTH AMERICA, INC.; AMERICAN  
HONDA MOTOR CO., INC.; HONDA  
MANUFACTURING OF ALABAMA, LLC;  
HONDA MANUFACTURING OF INDIANA,  
LLC; AND HONDA OF AMERICA MFG.,  
INC.,**

*Defendants.*

Civil Action No.

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

**COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff Beacon Navigation GmbH (“Beacon” or “Plaintiff”), for its Complaint against Defendants Honda Motor Co., Ltd (“Honda Motor Co.”), Honda North America, Inc. (“Honda North America”), American Honda Motor Co., Inc. (“American Honda”), Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, LLC (“Honda Manufacturing of Alabama”), Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, LLC (“Honda Manufacturing of Indiana”), and Honda of America Mfg., Inc. (“Honda of America”) 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 Honda Motor Co. is a Japanese corporation with its principal place of business at 1-1, 2-chome, Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8556 Japan.

3. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda North America is a California corporation with its principal place of business at 700 Van Ness Ave., Torrance, California, 90501.

4. Upon information and belief, Defendant American Honda Motor is a California corporation with its principal place of business at 1919 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, California, 90501.

5. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda Manufacturing of Alabama is an Alabama corporation with its principal place of business at 1800 Honda Drive, Lincoln, AL 35096.

6. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda Manufacturing of Indiana is an Indiana corporation with its principal place of business at 2755 North Michigan Ave., Greensburg, IN 47240.

7. Upon information and belief, Defendant Honda of America is an Ohio corporation with its principal place of business at 24000 Honda Pkwy., Marysville, OH 43040.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

8. 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).

9. 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**

10. Beacon owns all right, title and interest in U.S. Patent No. 6,360,167 (the “’167 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 6,163,269 (the “’269 patent”); and U.S. Patent No. 5,878,368 (the “’368 patent”) (collectively, the “patents-in-suit”).

11. The ’167 patent, entitled “Vehicle Navigation System With Location-Based Multi-Media Annotation,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 19, 2002, after full and fair examination. A copy of the ’167 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

12. The ’269 patent, entitled “Navigation System With Anti-Alias Map Display,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 19, 2000, after full and fair examination. A copy of the ’269 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

13. The ’368 patent, entitled “Navigation System with User Definable Cost Values,” was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 2, 1999, after full and fair examination. A copy of the ’368 patent is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

14. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America manufacture, sell and distribute vehicles with navigation systems, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX.

**COUNT I**

**INFRINGEMENT OF THE '167 PATENT**

15. Beacon incorporates each of the preceding paragraphs 1-14 as if fully set forth herein.

16. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America have been and are infringing literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, directly, contributorily, or by inducement, at least claims 1 and 32 of the '167 patent.

17. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America directly infringe, 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 '167 patent, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX.

18. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America had knowledge of the '167 patent based on a letter sent to each of them on September 28, 2011.

19. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America have contributed to direct infringement of the '167 patent by others (e.g., consumers), in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), because the GPS navigation systems in their products, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX, are specially adapted for an infringing use of the '167 patent, embody a material part of the inventions claimed in the '167

patent, and are not staple articles of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

20. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America actively induce others (e.g., consumers) to directly infringe the '167 patent, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), by providing products with GPS navigation systems, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX, along with instructions, user manuals, or technical assistance actively directing, encouraging, or assisting infringement of the '167 patent, and/or by providing a system where one of the core and common features leads to third party infringement of the '167 patent.

21. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America had knowledge of the '167 patent based on a letter sent to each of them on September 28, 2011 but have engaged in infringing conduct nonetheless. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America's infringement is willful.

22. Beacon has no adequate remedy at law against these acts of patent infringement. Unless Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America are permanently enjoined from further infringement of the '167 patent, Beacon will suffer irreparable harm.

23. As a direct and proximate result of the acts of patent infringement by Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America, Beacon has been damaged in an amount not presently known.

24. 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 '269 PATENT**

25. Beacon incorporates each of the preceding paragraphs 1-14 as if fully set forth herein.

26. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America have been and are infringing literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, directly, contributorily, or by inducement, at least claims 1, 7, and 11 of the '269 patent.

27. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America directly infringe, 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 '269 patent, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX.

28. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America had knowledge of the '269 patent based on a letter sent to each of them on September 28, 2011.

29. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of

America have contributed to direct infringement of the '269 patent by others (e.g., consumers), in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), because the GPS navigation systems in their products, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX, are specially adapted for an infringing use of the '269 patent, embody a material part of the inventions claimed in the '269 patent, and are not staple articles of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

30. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America actively induce others (e.g., consumers) to directly infringe the '269 patent, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), by providing products with GPS navigation systems, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX, along with instructions, user manuals, or technical assistance actively directing, encouraging, or assisting infringement of the '269 patent, and/or by providing a system where one of the core and common features leads to third party infringement of the '269 patent.

31. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America had knowledge of the '269 patent based on a letter sent to each of them on September 28, 2011 but have engaged in infringing conduct nonetheless. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America's infringement is willful.

32. Beacon has no adequate remedy at law against these acts of patent infringement. Unless Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America are permanently enjoined from further infringement of the '269 patent, Beacon will suffer irreparable harm.

33. As a direct and proximate result of the acts of patent infringement by Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America, Beacon has been damaged in an amount not presently known.

34. 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 '368 PATENT**

35. Beacon incorporates each of the preceding paragraphs 1-14 as if fully set forth herein.

36. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America have been and are infringing literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, directly, contributorily, or by inducement, at least claims 1 and 15 of the '368 patent.

37. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America directly infringe, 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 '368 patent, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX.

38. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of



America had knowledge of the '368 patent based on a letter sent to each of them on September 28, 2011.

39. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America have contributed to direct infringement of the '368 patent by others (e.g., consumers), in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), because the GPS navigation systems in their products, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX, are specially adapted for an infringing use of the '368 patent, embody a material part of the inventions claimed in the '368 patent, and are not staple articles of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.

40. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America actively induce others (e.g., consumers) to directly infringe the '368 patent, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), by providing products with GPS navigation systems, including but not limited to the Honda Fit and the Acura MDX, along with instructions, user manuals, or technical assistance actively directing, encouraging, or assisting infringement of the '368 patent, and/or by providing a system where one of the core and common features leads to third party infringement of the '368 patent.

41. Upon information and belief, Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America had knowledge of the '368 patent based on a letter sent to each of them on September 28, 2011 but have engaged in infringing conduct nonetheless. Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America's infringement is willful.

42. Beacon has no adequate remedy at law against these acts of patent infringement. Unless Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America are permanently enjoined from further infringement of the '368 patent, Beacon will suffer irreparable harm.

43. As a direct and proximate result of the acts of patent infringement by Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America, Beacon has been damaged in an amount not presently known.

44. 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 Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America, 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 Honda Motor Co., Honda North America, American Honda, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, and Honda of America, their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, and all other persons in active concert or participation with any of them who receive actual notice thereof;
- (e) prejudgment 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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