

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

STEELHEAD LICENSING LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

SPRINT NEXTEL CORPORATION,

Defendants.

C.A. No.13-043 LPS

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED

AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff Steelhead Licensing LLC (“Steelhead”), by and through its undersigned counsel, for its Complaint against Sprint Nextel Corporation (“Sprint” or “Defendant”), alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35 of the United States Code (“U.S.C.”) to prevent and enjoin Defendant from infringing and profiting, in an illegal and unauthorized manner and without authorization and/or consent from Steelhead, from U.S. Patent No. 5,491,834 (the “834 Patent”, attached hereto as Exhibit A) pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §271, and to recover damages, attorneys’ fees, and costs.

THE PARTIES

2. Plaintiff Steelhead is a Delaware limited liability with its principal place of business at 222 Delaware Avenue, PO Box 25130, Wilmington, DE 19899.

3. Defendant Sprint is a Kansas corporation with its principal place of business at 6200 Sprint Parkway, Overland Park, Kansas 66251. Sprint can be served with process through

its agent The Corporation Service Company, 2900 SW Wanamaker Drive Suite 204, Topeka, Kansas 66614.

4. Defendant is in the business of using, selling, offering for sale and/or importing mobile devices including free-standing mobile hotspots.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331 and 1338(a) because the action arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. §§1 et seq.

6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant by virtue of its systematic and continuous contacts with this jurisdiction, as well as because of the injury to Steelhead and the cause of action Steelhead has raised, as alleged herein.

7. Defendant is subject to this Court's specific and general personal jurisdiction pursuant to due process and/or the Delaware Long-Arm Statute, *Del Code. Ann. Tit. 3, §3104*, due to at least their substantial business in this forum, including: (i) at least a portion of the infringement alleged herein; and (ii) regularly doing or soliciting business, engaging in other persistent courses of conduct, and/or deriving substantial revenue from goods and services provided to individuals in Delaware.

8. Defendant has conducted and does conduct business within the state of Delaware, directly or through intermediaries, resellers, agents, or offer for sale, sell, advertise products in Delaware that infringe the '834 Patent.

9. In addition to Defendant's continuously and systematically conducting business in Delaware, the causes of action against Defendants are connected (but not limited) to Defendant's purposeful acts committed in the state of Delaware, including Defendant's using, importing,

offering for sale, or selling products which include features that fall within the scope of at least one claim of the '834 Patent.

10. Venue lies in this District under 28 U.S.C. §§1391 and 1400(b) because, among other reasons, Defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction in this District, and has committed and continues to commit acts of patent infringement in this District. For example, Defendant has used, sold, offered for sale, and/or imported infringing products in this District.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

11. On February 13, 1996, the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") duly and legally issued the '834 Patent, entitled "Mobile Radio Handover Initiation Determination" after a full and fair examination. Steelhead is presently the owner of the patent and possesses all right, title and interest in and to the '834 Patent. Steelhead owns all rights of recovery under the '834 Patent, including the exclusive right to recover for past infringement. The '834 Patent is valid and enforceable.

12. The '834 Patent contains eight independent claims and twelve dependent claims. Defendant commercializes, *inter alia*, methods that perform all the steps recited in one or more claim of the '834 Patent. Defendant use, import, and sell or offer for sale telecommunication products, including mobile devices, which encompass one or more of the features recited and which perform all the steps comprised in the patented claims.

13. The invention claimed in the '834 Patent includes a process for determining the manner in which handover is performed in a mobile radio network including a plurality of cells, where each cell is associated with a base station supporting communication with a mobile device.

14. The patented process includes the steps of monitoring the quality of a signal as a function of time respectively transmitted between candidate base stations and the mobile unit. The process further includes producing an indication of either the rise or fall of the signal's quality as a function of time. Handover from a serving base station supporting communication with the mobile unit to another base station is initiated based on the rise or fall in the signal's quality.

15. For example, operators of mobile networks rely on the patented process to handle service associated with their mobile devices. Specifically, Defendant relies on the patented process to determine the manner in which communication service associated with a free-standing mobile hotspot device is to be handed over from one cell to another.

16. Defendant commercializes free-standing mobile hotspot devices which support 3G Code-Division Multiple Access (hereinafter, CDMA) and/or Long Term Evolution (hereinafter, "LTE") standards. These products will be hereinafter identified as Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products.

17. 3G CDMA (or CDMA2000) is a leading mobile phone technology. CDMA technology operates by transmitting multiple digital signals simultaneously over the same carrier frequency (i.e., the same channel), thus optimizing the use of available bandwidth. In CDMA implementations, every user is allocated the entire spectrum all of the time and connections are uniquely identified using codes.

18. LTE is a fourth-generation (4G) wireless broadband technology. LTE provides high-speed communication and data transfer with increased bandwidth capacity. It derives from the GSM/UMTS technologies and is faster than 3G. Unlike earlier mobile technologies, all communication in LTE devices is handled as data.

19. In mobile telephony, it is necessary to maintain an established user connection even if the user changes locations, or the radio access environment surrounding the user is changing, while the connection is still active. “Handover” refers to the transfer of user connection from one access point to another. For Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Products, Defendant relies on the patented process to determine mobile device communication conditions for initiating a handover from one cell to another.

DEFENDANT’S INFRINGEMENT

20. Defendant practices patented mobile telecommunications methods with respect to certain mobile telecommunications devices commercialized in this judicial district. Specifically, Defendant practices a method that determines the manner in which handover of service is performed among cells in a mobile network with respect to certain mobile devices.

21. Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Products include, but are not limited to, the ZTE Flash.

22. Each Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Product forms a mobile terminal that can be used on a mobile radio network such as that provided by a telecommunications company or a carrier. This network is formed by a plurality of cells.

23. Each Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Product includes a processor and a memory device with instructions stored therein. Upon execution, these instructions perform a handover determination method in which each of Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Products searches for a better cell pursuant to the cell reselection process stated in the CDMA and/or LTE standards. Under CDMA standards, each Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Product sends out route update messages to the serving base stations, when conditions dictate, to initiate a cell reselection to a better base station.

24. Each Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Product complies with the 3G CDMA and/or LTE standards. As such, when communicating, it maintains an active list of base stations with which

the Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product has sufficient signal strength to communicate. The active list of base stations is used by each Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product itself to initiate cell reselection.

25. Specifically, when Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product is used in a mobile radio network, it receives signals from base stations within range. In accordance with CDMA standards, each Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product maintains a set of pilot channels transmitted by each sector in the neighborhood of the serving sector in which the cell phone is used. The strength of each pilot channel is a quality of a signal from each candidate base station that is monitored by each Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product as a function of time. The pilots are ranked in order of signal strength. The action of the drop timer in connection with monitoring the strength of the pilot channels evidence whether the strength or quality of each signal is rising or falling as a function of time. Whenever conditions indicate, each Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product initiates a handover to a better cell by sending out a route update message. The initiation of the handover is based on the fact that, for example, the signal strength of the pilot was not disabled by the action of a drop timer.

26. When using LTE standards to communicate, Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products periodically measure the signals received from base stations in the vicinity for cell selection and reselection purposes. Then, each Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product selects a suitable cell based on idle mode measurements and cell selection criteria, including but not limited to, quality of the signal. When camped on a cell, the Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product will regularly search for better cells according to the cell selection criteria. For example, if the ranking of the new cell rises above the ranking of the serving cell during a particular time, then the characteristics of the potential new cell may rise as a function of time. Conversely, if the ranking of the new cell falls below the ranking of the serving cell during a particular time frame, then the characteristics of

the potential new cell may fall as a function of time. Thus, the behavior of the characteristics of the potential new cell over the certain time interval produces an indication of the rise or fall of at least one measurement or criteria as a function of time. If a better cell is found, then that better cell is selected which initiates the handover of Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product from a current cell to the better cell. The initiation of a handover is based on the fact that, for example, the new cell did not fall below the quality of the serving cell during the time frame.

27. The patented method recited in one or more claims of the '834 Patent is performed when a cell reselection is made by any Sprint's CDMA/LTE Product when it is using either the 3G CDMA or LTE standards to communicate.

COUNT 1:
DIRECT INFRINGEMENT OF THE '834 PATENT

28. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-27.

29. Taken together, either partially or entirely, the features included in the Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products including, but not limited to, ZTE Flash, perform the process recited in one or more claims of the '834 Patent.

30. Defendant directly infringes one or more claims of the '834 Patent by using Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products, which perform the process defined by one or more claims of the '834 Patent. For example, without limitation, Defendant directly infringes at least claim 8 of the '834 Patent by using Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products, including use by Defendant's employees and agents, use during testing processes, and use when activating, servicing and/or repairing free-standing mobile hotspot devices on behalf of customers.

31. Additionally, Defendant directly infringes one or more claims of the '834 Patent by offering to sell Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products and by licensing—to end users in a commercial

transaction—software embedded in Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Products that performs the process defined by one or more claims of the ‘834 Patent. For example, without limitation, Defendant directly infringe at least claim 8 of the ‘834 Patent by offering to sell and conveying Sprint’s CDMA/LTE Products to end users including a license to a fully operational software program implementing and thus embodying the claimed method.

32. By engaging in the conduct described herein, Defendant has injured Steelhead and are thus liable for infringement of the ‘834 Patent, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §271.

33. Defendant has committed these acts of infringement without license or authorization.

34. To the extent that facts learned in discovery show that Defendant’s infringement of the ‘834 Patent is or has been willful, Steelhead reserves the right to request such a finding at the time of trial.

35. As a result of Defendant’s infringement of the ‘834 Patent, Steelhead has suffered monetary damages and is entitled to a monetary judgment in an amount adequate to compensate for Sprint’s past infringement, together with interests and costs.

36. Steelhead will continue to suffer damages in the future unless Defendant’s infringing activities are enjoined by this Court. As such, Steelhead is entitled to compensation for any continuing or future infringement up until the date that Defendant is finally and permanently enjoined from further infringement.

37. Steelhead has also suffered and will continue to suffer severe and irreparable harm unless this Court issues a permanent injunction prohibiting Defendant, its officers, directors, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, affiliates, divisions, branches, parents, and

those persons in active concert or participation with any of them from directly or indirectly infringing the '834 Patent.

COUNT 2:
INDUCING INFRINGEMENT OF THE '834 PATENT

38. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-37.

39. Defendants have had knowledge of infringement of the '834 Patent at least as of the service of the complaint filed on January 4, 2013 (D.I. 1).

40. Specifically, on January 22, 2013, Defendants were put on notice of their infringement of the '834 Patent by a letter that contained an exemplary presentation showing how Defendant's products infringe the patent-in-suit (Exhibit B).

41. Despite having been put on notice, Defendants have been and still are indirectly infringing by way of inducing infringement by others of the '834 Patent in the State of Delaware, in this judicial district, and elsewhere in the United States, by, among other things, illegally making, using, importing, offering for sale, and/or selling, products for performing processes that fall within the scope of one or more claims of the '834 Patent, in violation of 35 USC § 271(b). Such products include, without limitation, the Flash mobile phone. For example, Defendants indirectly infringe one or more claims of the '834 Patent by actively inducing its customers, users, subscribers and licensees who directly infringe due to their use of the Flash mobile phone.

42. With knowledge of the '834 patent, including knowledge that Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products are specifically designed to infringe the '834 Patent, Defendants actively induce others, such as its customers, users, subscribers, and licensees, to use Defendants' CDMA/LTE Products, including but not limited to, the Flash mobile phone.

43. Such Defendants' CDMA/LTE Products perform all the steps recited in at least claim 8 of the '834 Patent.

44. Furthermore, Defendants indirectly infringe one or more claims of the '834 Patent by actively inducing third-party developers to create applications and/or offer features enabling without limitation, the function to make use of the services offered and sold by Defendants, who directly infringe one or more of the claims of the '834 Patent due to their use of Sprint's CDMA/LTE Products.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

45. Steelhead demands a trial by jury of any and all causes of action.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Steelhead respectfully prays for the following relief:

1. That Defendant be adjudged to have infringed directly and indirectly, by inducing others to infringe, the '834 Patent, literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents;

2. That Defendant, its officers, directors, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, affiliates, divisions, branches, parents, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, be preliminarily and permanently restrained and enjoined from directly and/or indirectly infringing the '834 Patent;

3. An award of damages pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §284 sufficient to compensate Steelhead for Defendant's past infringement and any continuing and/or future infringement up until the date that Defendant is finally and permanently enjoined from further infringement, including compensatory damages;

4. An assessment of pre-judgment and post-judgment interests and costs against Defendant, together with an award of such interests and costs, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §284;

5. That Defendant be directed to pay enhanced damages, including Steelhead's attorneys' fees incurred in connection with this lawsuit pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §285; and

6. That Steelhead have such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: February 11, 2013

BAYARD, P.A.

OF COUNSEL:

Eugenio Torres-Oyola
FERRAIUOLI LLC
221 Plaza 5th Floor
221 Ponce de León Ave.
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00917
(787) 766-7000
etorres@ferraiuoli.com

/s/ Stephen B. Braerman

Richard D. Kirk (#0922)
Stephen B. Braerman (#4952)
Vanessa R. Tiradentes (#5398)
222 Delaware Avenue, Suite 900
P.O. Box 25130
Wilmington, DE 19899
(302) 655-5000
rkirk@bayardlaw.com
sbraerman@bayardlaw.com
vtiradentes@bayardlaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff Steelhead Licensing LLC