

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MARSHALL DIVISION**

AX WIRELESS LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

ACER INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:23-cv-41

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff AX Wireless LLC (“Plaintiff” or “AX Wireless”) hereby alleges patent infringement against Defendant Acer Inc. (“Defendant” or “Acer”) as follows:

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff AX Wireless is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas, having a principal place of business at 2025 Guadalupe Street, Suite 260, Austin, Texas 78705.

2. Defendant Acer is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Taiwan, having a principal place of business at 8F, 88, Sec. 1, Xintai 5th Road, Xizhi, New Taipei City 221, Taiwan.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This patent infringement action arises under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35 of the United States Code (“U.S.C.”) § 101 *et seq.*

4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332, and

1338(a).

5. Defendant is subject to this Court's specific and general personal jurisdiction consistent with the principles of due process and/or the Texas Long Arm Statute.

6. Defendant sells and offers to sell products and services throughout the United States, the State of Texas, and this District, and introduces infringing products and services into the stream of commerce knowing that they will be sold in the United States, the State of Texas, and this District. For example, Defendant sells and offers to sell infringing products and services through its website, <https://store.acer.com/en-us/>, which may be accessed throughout the United States, the State of Texas, and this District.

7. Defendant has authorized sellers and sales representatives that offer for sale and sell products pertinent to this Complaint throughout the State of Texas, including in this District and to consumers throughout this District, such as: Walmart Supercenter, 1701 East End Boulevard North, Marshall, Texas 75670; and Best Buy at 422 West Loop 281, Suite 100, Longview, Texas 75605.

8. Personal jurisdiction exists generally over Defendant because Defendant has sufficient minimum contacts with the forum as a result of business conducted within the United States, the State of Texas, and this District.

9. Personal jurisdiction also exists over Defendant because it, directly, through, or in consort with subsidiaries, affiliates, or intermediaries, including but not limited to Acer America Corporation, some or all of which are Defendant's agents or alter egos, makes, uses, sells, offers for sale, imports, advertises, makes available, and/or markets products and services within the United States, the State of Texas, and this District that infringe one or more claims of the asserted patent, as alleged more particularly below.

10. Venue in this District is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b). Defendant is a foreign entity for which venue is proper in any district.

11. Defendant makes, uses, sells, offers to sell, and/or imports infringing products and services into and/or within this District, maintains a permanent and/or continuing presence within this District, and/or has the requisite minimum contacts with this District such that this venue is a fair and reasonable one. Upon information and belief, Defendant has transacted and, at the time of the filing of the Complaint, is continuing to transact business within this District.

AX WIRELESS PATENTS

12. AX Wireless owns the entire right, title, and interest in and to each of the following patents, including the right to seek damages for past and ongoing infringement: U.S. Patent Nos. 9,584,262 (“the ‘262 Patent”); 9,614,566 (“the ‘566 Patent”); 9,973,361 (“the ‘361 Patent”); 10,079,707 (“the ‘707 Patent”); 10,291,449 (“the ‘449 Patent”); 10,554,459 (“the ‘459 Patent”); 10,917,272 (“the ‘272 Patent”); and 11,212,146 (“the ‘146 Patent”) (collectively, “AX Wireless Patents”).

13. The ‘262 Patent issued on February 28, 2017.

14. The ‘566 Patent issued on April 4, 2017.

15. The ‘361 Patent issued on May 15, 2018.

16. The ‘707 Patent issued on September 18, 2018.

17. The ‘449 Patent issued on May 14, 2019.

18. The ‘459 Patent issued on February 4, 2020.

19. The ‘272 Patent issued on February 9, 2021.

20. The ‘146 Patent issued on December 28, 2021. A true and correct copy of this patent is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

21. The named inventors of each of the AX Wireless Patents are: Marcos C. Tzannes and Joon Bae Kim.

22. The AX Wireless Patents are directed to wireless OFDM (orthogonal frequency division multiplexing) networks and systems, including wireless OFDM transceivers, which employ variable header repetition.

23. The technology claimed in the AX Wireless Patents is adopted in the 802.11ax standard promulgated by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), which sets forth certain technical specifications for wireless local area networks (“WLANs”), also known as “Wi-Fi.”

24. The IEEE 802.11ax standard and its enhancements are marketed by the Wi-Fi Alliance as “Wi-Fi 6” and “Wi-Fi 6E.” Wi-Fi 6 was approved on or about February 9, 2021 and published on or about May 19, 2021. Wi-Fi 6E is an extension of Wi-Fi 6 (2.4 GHz and 5 GHz) to the 6 GHz frequency band.

25. Wi-Fi 6 utilizes OFDM and OFDMA (orthogonal frequency-division multiple access) technology, and employs variable header repetition, to provide enhanced data throughput, increased spectral efficiency, auto-detection, backwards compatibility, and other benefits.

26. Wi-Fi 6 may be deployed in dense environments, such as corporate offices, shopping centers, and apartment complexes, and provides backwards compatibility, increased network capacity and simultaneous connectivity, greater channel width, more effective bandwidth, and reduced power consumption.

ACCUSED INSTRUMENTALITIES

27. Defendant makes, uses, sells, and/or offers to sell in, and/or imports into, the

United States products that implement or embody Wi-Fi 6 technology and/or implement or comply with the Wi-Fi 6 standard (“Wi-Fi 6 Instrumentalities”). Defendant’s Wi-Fi 6 Instrumentalities infringe the ‘146 Patent (the “Asserted Patent”) (“Accused Instrumentalities”).

28. Wi-Fi 6 Instrumentalities include, but are not limited to, smartphones, personal computers (PCs) (desktops and laptops), tablets, networking devices, Internet of things (“IoT”) devices, appliances, and other consumer and home electronics. On information and belief, Defendant certifies the interoperability of its Wi-Fi 6 Instrumentalities as Wi-Fi CERTIFIED 6 (based on IEEE 802.11ax standard) through the Wi-Fi Alliance.

29. Appendix A provides a non-exhaustive list of Defendant’s Accused Instrumentalities. Each Accused Instrumentality comprises a Wi-Fi 6 or 802.11ax transceiver. For example, the Nitro 5 Gaming Laptop comprises a Wi-Fi 6 or 802.11ax transceiver. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities employ, implement, or utilize materially the same Wi-Fi 6 technology, such that facts material to infringement by one Accused Instrumentality will be material to all Accused Instrumentalities.

COUNT I: THE ‘146 PATENT

30. Defendant infringes at least claim 1 of the ‘146 Patent. Appendix B details the manner in which the Accused Instrumentalities infringe this patent by way of an exemplary chart as illustrated through a representative example. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities are materially the same with respect to infringement of this patent.

31. Defendant had actual notice of the Asserted Patent and/or its infringing activities since prior to and no later than the filing of the Complaint, including but not limited to notice via a December 21, 2021 letter, which identified specific AX Wireless Patents and infringing instrumentalities.

32. Defendant has committed and continues to commit acts of direct infringement of the Asserted Patent by making, using, selling, offering to sell, and/or importing Accused Instrumentalities.

33. Defendant has been and is indirectly infringing the Asserted Patent by actively inducing or contributing to the direct infringement by others of the Asserted Patent, in the United States, the State of Texas, and this District.

34. Defendant has induced and continues to induce its subsidiaries and affiliates, customers, and other third parties, such as resellers and end-consumers of Accused Instrumentalities, to directly infringe the Asserted Patent by making, using, selling, offering to sell, and/or importing into the United States the Accused Instrumentalities through affirmative acts.

35. The affirmative acts of inducement by Defendant include, but are not limited to, any one or a combination of encouraging and/or facilitating third-party infringement through the advertisement, marketing, and dissemination of the Accused Instrumentalities and their components; and creating and publishing promotional and marketing materials, supporting materials, product manuals, and/or technical support and information relating to the Accused Instrumentalities.

36. Defendant specifically intended and was aware that the ordinary and customary use of the Accused Instrumentalities would infringe the Asserted Patent.

37. Defendant knew that the induced conduct would constitute infringement, and intended said infringement at the time of committing the aforementioned acts, such that those acts and conduct have been and continue to be committed with the specific intent to induce infringement, or to deliberately avoid learning of the infringing circumstances at the time those

acts were committed, so as to be willfully blind to the infringement they induced.

38. Defendant took active steps to encourage end users to use and operate the Accused Instrumentalities, despite knowing of the Asserted Patent in the United States, in a manner it knew directly infringes each element of the claims of the Asserted Patent. Further, Defendant provided product manuals and other technical information that cause its subscribers, customers, and other third parties to use and to operate the Accused Instrumentalities for their ordinary and customary use, such that Defendant's customers and other third parties have directly infringed the Asserted Patent, through the normal and customary use of the Accused Instrumentalities.

39. Therefore, Defendant is liable for infringement of the Asserted Patent and that infringement has been and continues to be willful in nature.

40. AX Wireless has incurred and will continue to incur substantial damages; and has been and continues to be irreparably harmed by Defendant's infringement. Therefore, AX Wireless is entitled to an injunction, actual and/or compensatory damages, reasonable royalties, pre- and post-judgment interest, enhanced damages, attorney fees, and costs.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff AX Wireless respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. Enter judgment in favor of AX Wireless that the Asserted Patent is valid and enforceable;
- B. Enter judgment in favor of AX Wireless that Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe the Asserted Patent, and that such infringement is willful;
- C. Award AX Wireless all monetary relief available under the laws of the United States, including but not limited to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

D. Order Defendant to pay ongoing royalties in an amount to be determined for any continued infringement after the date of judgment;

E. Declare this case exceptional and award AX Wireless its reasonable attorney fees under 35 U.S.C. § 285;

F. Enjoin Defendant and its subsidiaries, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and all persons in active concert with any of the foregoing from further infringement; and

G. Grant AX Wireless all such other relief as the Court deems just and reasonable.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

AX Wireless demands a jury trial on all issues so triable pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38.

Date: February 2, 2023

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