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Attorneys for Helios Streaming, LLC	
UNITED STATES	S DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTR	ICT OF CALIFORNIA
SOUTHER	RN DIVISION
HELIOS STREAMING, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY, INC., WARNERMEDIA DIRECT, LLC, and HOME BOX OFFICE, INC.	Case No.: COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
Defendants.	\
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	kavon@tilg.us David Newman (Bar No. 246351) david@tilg.us THE INTERNET LAW GROUP 9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 725E Beverly Hills, CA 91212 Telephone: (310) 910-1496 Facsimile: (310) 365-3257 Timothy Devlin (pro hac vice to be filed) tdevlin@devlinlawfirm.com Leonard Monfredo (pro hac vice to be filed) monfredo@devlinlawfirm.com Veronica McCarty (pro hac vice to be filed) vmccarty@devlinlawfirm.com DEVLIN LAW FIRM LLC 1526 Gilpin Avenue Wilmington, DE 19806 Telephone: (302) 449-9010 Facsimile: (302) 353-4251 Attorneys for Helios Streaming, LLC UNITED STATES CENTRAL DISTR SOUTHER HELIOS STREAMING, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY, INC., WARNERMEDIA DIRECT, LLC, and HOME BOX OFFICE, INC.

Plaintiff Helios Streaming, LLC ("Helios"), for its Complaint against Defendant Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc. ("WBD"), Defendant WarnerMedia Direct, LLC ("WMD"), and Defendant Home Box Office, Inc. ("HBO") (collectively, "Defendants"), allege the following:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the Patent Laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq*.

THE PARTIES

- 2. Plaintiff Helios is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with a place of business at 2601 Main Street, Suite 960, Irvine, California 92614.
- 3. Upon information and belief, Defendant WBD is a mass media and entertainment conglomerate and corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with places of business at 8840 National Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232 and 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 91522. Upon information and belief, WBD sells, offers to sell, and/or uses products and services throughout the United States, including in this judicial district, and introduces infringing products and services into the stream of commerce knowing that they would be sold and/or used in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendant WMD is a mass media limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with a place of business at 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 90232 and a registered agent at 330 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale, CA 91203. Upon information and belief, Defendant WMD is registered to do business in California. Upon information and belief, WMD sells, offers to sell, and/or uses products and services throughout the United States, including in this judicial district, and introduces infringing products and services into the stream of commerce knowing that they would be sold and/or used in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States.

5. Upon information and belief, Defendant HBO is a media and entertainment corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with a place of business at 8840 National Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232 and a registered agent at 330 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale, CA 91203. Upon information and belief, Defendant HBO is registered to do business in California. Upon information and belief, HBO sells, offers to sell, and/or uses products and services throughout the United States, including in this judicial district, and introduces infringing products and services into the stream of commerce knowing that they would be sold and/or used in this judicial district and elsewhere in the United States.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 6. This is an action for patent infringement arising under the Patent Laws of the United States, Title 35 of the United States Code.
- 7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
 - 8. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b).
- 9. This Court has specific personal jurisdiction over Defendants under the laws of the State of California, due at least to their substantial business in California and in this judicial district, directly or through intermediaries, including: (i) at least a portion of the infringements 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 the State of California. Venue is also proper in this district because Defendants have a regular and established place of business in this district. For instance, on information and belief, Defendants maintain principal offices at Ivy Station at 8840 National Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232 and 4000 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 91522, and additionally Defendants WMD and HBO are registered to do business in California and maintain a registered agent at 330 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale, CA 91203.

BACKGROUND

The Asserted Patents

- 10. This action involves seven patents, described in detail in the counts below (collectively, the "Asserted Patents").
- 11. U.S. Patent No. 10,356,145 ("the '145 patent") claims technologies for providing adaptive HTTP streaming services using metadata of media content that were developed in the early 2010s by inventors Truong Cong Thang, Jin Young Lee, Seong Jun Bae, Jung Won Kang, Soon Heung Jung, Sang Taick Park, and Won Ryu.
- 12. U.S. Patent No. 10,277,660 ("the '660 patent") claims technologies for providing adaptive HTTP streaming services using metadata of media content that were developed in the early 2010s by inventors Truong Cong Thang, Jin Young Lee, Seong Jun Bae, Jung Won Kang, Soon Heung Jung, Sang Taick Park, Won Ryu, and Jae Gon Kim.
- 13. U.S. Patent No. 10,027,736 ("the '736 patent") claims technologies for providing adaptive HTTP streaming services using metadata of media content that were developed in the early 2010s by inventors Truong Cong Thang, Jin Young Lee, Seong Jun Bae, Jung Won Kang, Soon Heung Jung, Sang Taick Park, Won Ryu, and Jae Gon Kim.
- 14. U.S. Patent No. 10,362,130 ("the '130 patent") claims technologies for providing adaptive HTTP streaming services using metadata of media content that were developed in the early 2010s by inventors Truong Cong Thang, Jin Young Lee, Seong Jun Bae, Jung Won Kang, Soon Heung Jung, Sang Taick Park, Won Ryu, and Jae Gon Kim.
- 15. U.S. Patent No. 8,909,805 ("the '805 patent") claims technologies for providing adaptive HTTP streaming services using metadata of media content that were developed in the early 2010s by inventors Truong Cong Thang, Jin Young Lee, Seong Jun Bae, Jung Won Kang, Soon Heung Jung, Sang Taick Park, Won Ryu, and Jae Gon Kim.

- 16. U.S. Patent No. 9,325,558 ("the '558 patent") claims technologies for providing adaptive HTTP streaming services using metadata of media content that were developed in the early 2010s by inventors Truong Cong Thang, Jin Young Lee, Seong Jun Bae, Jung Won Kang, Soon Heung Jung, Sang Taick Park, Won Ryu, and Jae Gon Kim (collectively, with the '145, '805, '130, '660, '736 patents, the "DASH Patents").
- 17. The claimed inventions of the DASH Patents were primarily invented by researchers of the Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute ("ETRI"), the national leader in Korea in the research and development of information technologies. Since its inception in 1976, ETRI has developed new technologies in 4M DRAM computer memory, CDMA and 4G LTE cellular phone communications, LCD displays, Video Coding, and Media Transport & Delivery, the latter technology of which is at issue in this case. ETRI employs over 1,800 research/technical staff, of whom 94% hold a post-graduate degree and 50% have earned a doctoral degree in their technological field. Over the last five years, ETRI produced 1,524 SCI papers and has 467 standard experts, applied for a total of 16,062 patents, has contributed 7,309 proposals that have been adopted by international and domestic standard organizations (ISO, IEC, ITU, 3GPP, JTC, IEEE, etc.). Dr. Truong Cong Thang and Dr. Jae Gon Kim among the inventors were employees of ETRI.
- 18. The DASH Patents claim technologies fundamental to Dynamic Adaptive Streaming over HTTP ("DASH"), a media-streaming model for delivering media content.
- 19. DASH technology has been standardized in the ISO/IEC 23009 standards, which were developed and published by the International Organization for Standardization ("ISO") and the International Electrotechnical Commission ("IEC").
- 20. The claimed inventions of the DASH Patents have been incorporated into the standard for dynamic adaptive streaming delivery of MPEG media over HTTP,

ISO/IEC 23009-1:2014, and subsequent versions of this standard (collectively, these standards are referred to throughout as "MPEG-DASH").

- 21. MPEG-DASH technologies, including those of the claimed inventions of the DASH Patents, facilitate high-quality streaming of media content by breaking media content—a movie, for example—into smaller parts that are each made available at a variety of bitrates. As a user plays back downloaded parts of the media content, the user's device employs an algorithm to select subsequent media parts with the highest possible bitrate that can be downloaded in time for playback without causing delays in the user's viewing and listening experience.
- 22. The MPEG-DASH standard, including the claimed inventions of the DASH Patents, therefore enables high-quality streaming of media content over the internet delivered from conventional HTTP web servers, which was not previously possible on a large scale with prior art techniques and devices.
- 23. In or about August of 2018, Helios obtained an exclusive license to the DASH Patents.
- 24. On January 5, 2022, Helios acquired all right, title and interest in, to, and under the DASH Patents.
- 25. U.S. Patent No. 8,549,164 ("the '164 patent") claims technologies for media transmission including a user terminal, communication network, and media server that were developed in the late-2000s by inventors Tae Meon Bae and Kyung Min Kim.
- 26. The claimed inventions of the '164 patent relate to media transmission systems and methods wherein a user terminal transmits information about a position where media data will be played to a server when that media data is streamed from the server. For example, the server selects a video frame nearest to the information from the play position so that a user can easily move to and play the desired media scene.
- 27. On February 21, 2020, Plaintiff Helios acquired all right, title and interest in, to, and under the '164 patent.

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as the "Asserted Patents."

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The '164 patent and the DASH Patents are referred to collectively herein

The Accused Instrumentalities

- 29. The Accused Instrumentalities, as further defined below, include the streaming services for HBO NOW (e.g., as provided at https://play.hbonow.com/ or via software applications) ("HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service"), HBO Max (e.g., as provided at https://play.hbomax.com/ or via software applications) ("HBO Max Accused Streaming Service") and Max (e.g., as provided at https://play.max.com/ or via software applications) ("Max Accused Streaming") Service") (collectively, the "Accused Streaming Services").
- On information and belief, HBO launched the HBO NOW Accused 30. Streaming Service on or about April 7, 2015. The HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service was succeeded by the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service on or about May 27, 2020.
- 31. On information and belief, at all relevant times HBO or WMD operated the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service.
- On information and belief, at all relevant times HBO's or WMD's 32. operation of the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service was either directed by, or subject to the direction of, Warner Media, LLC ("Warner Media") or its successor-ininterest, WBD.
- On information and belief, WarnerMedia or WMD launched the HBO 33. Max Accused Streaming Service on or about May 27, 2020.
- 34. On information and belief, at all relevant times Defendant WMD operated the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service.
- 35. On information and belief, at all relevant times WMD's operation of the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service was either directed by, or subject to the direction of, WarnerMedia or its successor-in-interest, WBD.

- 36. On information and belief, on or about April 8, 2022, WarnerMedia and Discovery, Inc. merged ("the WBD Merger") to create a new company, Defendant WBD, which acquired the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, among other Discovery, Inc. and WarnerMedia assets.
- 37. Upon information and belief, as of the WBD Merger, WarnerMedia and Discovery, Inc. ceased to exist and Defendant WBD, as successor-in-interest to both entities, assumed all liability for WarnerMedia's past infringing activities pertaining to the HBO NOW and HBO Max Accused Streaming Services. Accordingly, any discussion below of "Defendants" or "WBD's" liability is intended to also encompass liability attributable to WarnerMedia. Any discussion below of "Defendants" or "WBD's" knowledge is intended to encompass knowledge attributable to WarnerMedia or Discovery, Inc., as predecessors-in-interest to WBD.
- 38. Upon information and belief, on or about August 24, 2022, WBD announced plans to launch a new streaming platform, the Max Accused Streaming Service, which was slated to combine the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service with additional streaming content and services, including content and services previously owned or operated by Discovery, Inc. and its affiliates prior to the WBD Merger.
- 39. Upon information and belief, the Max Accused Streaming Service was launched on or about May 23, 2023. Upon the launch of the Max Accused Streaming Service, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service ceased to exist as a separate offering.
- 40. On information and belief, at all relevant times Defendant WMD has and continues to operate the Max Accused Streaming Service.
- 41. On information and belief, at all relevant times WMD's operation of the Max Accused Streaming Service has been and continues to be directed by, or subject to the direction of, WBD.

Prior Communications Between the Parties

- 42. For more than four years, Helios attempted in good faith to amicably resolve its infringement claims pertaining to the Asserted Patents with various representatives for the Defendants.
- 43. On June 11, 2019, Helios sent Defendant HBO a notice letter concerning the Asserted Patents and the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service ("First Notice Letter"). The First Notice Letter identified the DASH Patents, the applications that would issue as the '145 and '130 patents, the MPEG-DASH standards to which the DASH patents and applications pertained, and informed HBO of its infringement and potential infringement of these patents and applications via its streaming services, which included HBO NOW. A true and correct copy of the First Notice Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
- 44. On June 24, 2019, Helios requested a call with HBO to discuss a license to its DASH Patents and to request confirmation of receipt of the First Notice Letter. The next day, Ms. Jessica Davidovitch, in-house counsel for HBO, confirmed that HBO had received the First Notice Letter.
- 45. On August 28, 2019, over two months later, Helios again emailed HBO about licensing the DASH Patents and informed HBO that the '145 and '130 patents had issued, attaching copies of the '145 and '130 patents for HBO's review.
- 46. On October 24, 2019, after nearly another two months, Ms. Davidovitch responded, informing Helios that HBO had undergone restructuring and that she was "now part of the litigation team that supports WarnerMedia business[es], including but not limited to HBO." Ms. Davidovitch claimed that HBO and/or WarnerMedia did not require a license for the DASH Patents, yet she also requested that Helios provide "more substantive detail, such as claim charts supporting your prior correspondence." Ms. Davidovitch added that HBO and/or WarnerMedia were "not willing to sign an NDA" to facilitate freer discussions.

- 47. On October 30, 2019, Helios responded to Ms. Davidovitch, noting that "in addition to HBO Now/GO, you can also address a license for other WarnerMedia streaming properties . . . which utilize Dynamic Adaptive Streaming over HTTP (DASH)." Helios then offered to provide "detailed claim charts that are mapped to HBO's streaming services," but would "first need to have an NDA in place" and attached an NDA for HBO and WarnerMedia's review. HBO and WarnerMedia never responded to this email.
- 48. On January 2, 2020, Helios again contacted HBO and WBD's predecessor-in-interest WarnerMedia. Helios noted it had asserted the DASH Patents against several entities and provided links to those legal documents, which included Helios's detailed infringement allegations pertaining to the DASH Patents. Helios again offered to provide HBO and WarnerMedia "detailed claim charts," but again requested the parties enter into an NDA first, attaching another draft NDA for HBO's and WarnerMedia's review.
- 49. On January 17, 2020, HBO and WarnerMedia responded and asked to see the "more detailed claim charts," but refused to enter into the proposed NDA.
- 50. On February 12, 2020, Helios provided ten exemplary claim charts, detailing HBO's and WarnerMedia's infringement of the DASH Patents via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service.
- 51. In a separate line of communications, on March 4, 2020, Helios sent AT&T Intellectual Property Corp. a notice letter concerning the Asserted Patents and other AT&T streaming services not accused in this action ("Second Notice Letter"). On information and belief, at the time AT&T Intellectual Property Corp. was the intellectual property licensing arm of HBO's then-parent AT&T, Inc. The Second Notice Letter identified the Asserted Patents, the MPEG-DASH standards to which they pertain, and informed AT&T Intellectual Property Corp. of AT&T's infringement via streaming services not accused in this action, but which, like the HBO accused streaming services, utilized portions of the MPEG-DASH standard claimed in the

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Asserted Patents. A true and correct copy of the Second Notice Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

- 52. On April 1, 2020, Mr. Geoffrey Sutcliffe responded to the Second Notice Letter on behalf of AT&T, requesting claim charts demonstrating AT&T's infringement of the DASH Patents and refusing to enter into an NDA.
- 53. On April 29, 2020, Ms. Davidovitch informed Helios that Mr. Sutcliffe would be handling all further communications "on behalf of WarnerMedia, as well [as] for all other AT&T affiliates" regarding the licensing of the DASH Patents. Thus, as of April 29, 2020, Mr. Sutcliffe became Helios's point of contact for all licensing discussions concerning the DASH Patents and the accused HBO streaming services.
- 54. On February 15, 2021, Helios sent a third notice letter to HBO's then ultimate parent company, AT&T, Inc., via Mr. Sutcliffe ("Third Notice Letter"). The Third Notice Letter identified the DASH Patents, the MPEG-DASH standards to which they pertained, and relayed that HBO's streaming services directly and indirectly infringed the DASH Patents. A true and correct copy of the Third Notice Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
- 55. On March 26, 2021, Mr. Sutcliffe responded to the Third Notice Letter via email, requesting claim charts demonstrating the alleged infringement.
- 56. On April 21, 2021, Helios identified the HBO NOW and HBO Max Accused Streaming Services as infringing the DASH Patents and provided exemplary and redacted claim charts of the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service demonstrating this infringement.
- On May 7, 2021, Mr. Sutcliffe confirmed receipt of the April 21, 2021 57. claim charts but implausibly claimed he would be unable to determine "whether or how Helios believes its patents are being infringed" from the information provided, despite that the claim charts set forth Helios's infringement allegations on a limitationby-limitation basis and included extensive examples of offending computer code along with pictorial evidence of infringement.

- 58. On May 10, 2021, Helios responded, reiterating that the "infringement reads are clear from the evidence of use provided in the charts" and suggesting the parties have a videoconference to discuss any questions.
- 59. Mr. Sutcliffe did not respond for over two months, despite Helios's follow-up communications on June 7, June 21, and July 7, 2021.
- 60. In the interim, in a separate line of communication, Helios sent Discovery, Inc. (another WBD predecessor-in-interest) a notice letter on June 10, 2021 concerning the Asserted Patents ("Fourth Notice Letter"). The Fourth Notice Letter identified the Asserted Patents, the MPEG-DASH standards to which they pertained, and informed Discovery, Inc. of its infringement via streaming services that would later be incorporated in part into the Max Accused Streaming Service. A true and correct copy of the Fourth Notice Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.
- 61. On July 1, 2021, Helios and in-house counsel for Discovery, Inc. corresponded via email regarding Discovery, Inc.'s infringement and the potential licensing of the Asserted Patents.
- 62. In the simultaneous but separate line of communication concerning the HBO NOW and HBO Max Accused Streaming Services, on July 26, 2021, Helios and Mr. Sutcliffe held a videoconference to discuss Helios's claims and proposed NDA.
- 63. On July 27, 2021, although the parties had reached an impasse on the proposed NDA, Helios provided claim charts for the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, which again demonstrated infringement of the DASH Patents but also included Helios's previously redacted analysis and commentary. Helios also noted that "several new DASH Patents have been recently issued," and Helios provided "unredacted DASH claim charts for HBO Now" demonstrating infringement of those newly issued patents via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service on July 29, 2021.
- 64. On September 7, 2021, Mr. Sutcliffe requested for the first time that Helios "walk us through the claim charts to explain its analysis of the patents and the accused services."

- 65. Helios responded the same day and offered times for the call, noting that Mr. Sutcliffe had "had the unredacted claim charts for over 5 weeks" and the redacted claim charts for four and a half months.
- 66. On September 9, 2021, Mr. Sutcliffe responded, noting that Helios had "previously accused HBO Max" of infringement and asking for Helios to provide claim charts for that service also.
- 67. In the separate series of negotiations involving Discovery, Inc., but also on September 9, 2021, Discovery, Inc. and Helios entered into an NDA. Over the next 18 months, Helios, Discovery, Inc. and WBD (as successor-in-interest to Discovery, Inc. after the WBD Merger) held multiple discussions subject to the NDA, the substance of which cannot be referenced in a public filing.
- 68. Meanwhile, on September 13, 2021, Helios responded to Mr. Sutcliffe, noting it was not necessary to provide additional claim charts for the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service because, in part, Helios had already "provide[d] you with evidence as to how each element is being practiced by AT&T and HBO's streaming services" for the "8 different exemplary DASH patents provided." Helios also noted it had been over two years since the parties had begun discussions, there had been a "complete lack of any meaningful progress" or "good faith" behavior. Helios also stated Mr. Sutcliffe's request for Helios to verbally "review the claim charts on an element-by-element basis" was "clearly being used to cause unnecessary delay."
- 69. On September 14, 2021, Helios held a teleconference with Mr. Sutcliffe, and Mr. Sutcliffe confirmed that the exemplary claim charts for the HBO Now Accused Streaming Service had been reviewed. Helios also provided Mr. Sutcliffe with proposed royalty rates for the DASH Patents for the HBO NOW and HBO Max Accused Streaming Services.
- 70. After multiple additional attempts to engage in further negotiations, on October 18, 2021, Helios wrote to Mr. Sutcliffe one final time, noting that despite the nearly two and a half years since commencing discussions, the parties were no closer

to resolution, and that the HBO NOW and HBO Max Accused Streaming Services "continue[] to infringe on" the DASH Patents. Helios stated that because there had been no demonstration of "any willingness to engage in good faith licensing discussions," Helios would treat HBO and WarnerMedia as "unwilling licensee[s]," and as such Helios was no longer legally obligated to offer "a license for standard essential patents in our portfolio under fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory ('FRAND') terms." Helios also stated that if no "meaningful progress in our licensing discussions" occurred before the end of the month, Helios would be left with "no other choice but to take legal measures to address this matter."

- 71. Mr. Sutcliffe responded on October 26, 2021 via email, denying Helios's characterizations and demanding to see copies of Helios's highly confidential licenses with other licensees of the DASH Patents "[t]o demonstrate that Helios is indeed offering FRAND licensing terms." Helios and Mr. Sutcliffe had no further communications.
- 72. Meanwhile, Discovery, Inc. (and later WBD as successor-in-interest to Discovery, Inc.) and Helios continued to hold discussions pursuant to their NDA concerning Discovery Inc.'s accused streaming services.
- 73. On April 11, 2023, however, Helios terminated the NDA between Helios and WBD. In doing so, Helios stated that "[d]espite numerous discussions with your outside counsel for the last 18+ months, it has been made clear to us by your outside counsel that Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc. has no intent to resolve this licensing matter amicably. Although not our preference, we have no other choice but to proceed with more formal legal measures to address this matter. As a first step, we hereby provide you with official notice of Helios Streaming, LLC's intent to terminate the NDA . . . effective immediately."
- 74. On June 23, 2023, Helios sent a notice letter to Defendant WBD regarding the parties' ongoing discussions and WBD's continued infringement of the Asserted Patents via the now-deprecated HBO NOW and HBO Max Accused

Streaming Services, and the newly launched Max Accused Streaming Service ("Fifth Notice Letter"). A true and correct copy of the Fifth Notice Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 5.

- 75. Helios's Fifth Notice Letter stated "[a]s your company Warner Brothers Discovery, Inc. ('WBD') is aware from many previous communications and discussions with Helios, Helios owns patents essential and/or related to ISO/IEC 23009-1, the industry standard for Dynamic Adaptive Streaming over HTTP ('DASH'), including but not limited to U.S. Patent Nos. 8,909,805 (the ''805 patent'), 9,325,558 (the ''558 patent'), 9,338,211 (the ''211 patent'), 10,027,736 (the ''736 patent'), 10,277,660 (the ''660 patent'), 10,356,145 (the ''145 patent'), 10,362,130 (the ''130 patent'), and 10,819,815 (the ''815 patent') (collectively, the DASH patents'). We write in one final attempt to reach an amicable resolution regarding WBD's knowing and continued infringement of these patents, and others to which Helios holds the exclusive right to license third parties."
- 76. The Fifth Notice Letter identified the Asserted Patents, the specific MPEG-DASH standard sections to which they pertained, and that the Asserted Patents were essential to utilizing these MPEG-DASH standards. The Fifth Notice Letter and its attachments also specifically identified the HBO NOW, HBO Max, and Max Accused Streaming Services and detailed how WBD was directly infringing and actively encouraging the direct infringement of the Asserted Patents via these services. Included with the Fifth Notice Letter were exemplary claim charts detailing Defendants' infringement of the Asserted Patents via the HBO NOW, HBO Max, and Max Accused Streaming Services. (Ex. 5 at 2.)¹
- 77. As of the date of this Complaint, Defendants have not responded to the Fifth Notice Letter and Defendants continue to infringe at least via the Max Accused Streaming Service.

¹ The relevant exemplary claim charts attached to the Fifth Notice Letter are substantively identical to the claim charts attached as Exhibits 8-9, 11, 13, 16-17, 20-21, and 24 to this Complaint.

I

COUNT I – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 10,356,145

- 78. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 77 are incorporated into this First Claim for Relief.
- 79. On July 16, 2019, the '145 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office under the title "Method and Device for Providing Streaming Content." A true and correct copy of the '145 patent is attached as Exhibit 6.
- 80. Helios is the assignee and owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '145 patent, including the exclusive right to assert all causes of action arising under the '145 patent and the right to any remedies for infringement of it.
- 81. Upon information and belief, Defendants have and continue to directly infringe at least claims 1 and 2 and to actively induce the infringement of at least claims 3 and 4 of the '145 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using, and/or providing and causing to be used streaming media content (the "Accused Instrumentalities"), including one or more videos on demand ("VOD") and media content such as those available at https://play.hbonow.com/, https://play.hbonow.com/, as set forth in detail in the preliminary and exemplary claim charts attached as Exhibits 7-9.
- 82. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have and continue to be used, marketed, provided to, and/or used by or for each Defendants' partners, clients, customers, and end users across the country and in this District.
- 83. Claim 1 of the '145 patent recites a method of providing media content performed by a server or multiple servers, the method comprising: receiving a request for the media content from a client based on a media presentation description ("MPD") with respect to the media content; and providing a segment of media content through streaming to the client in response to the request, wherein the MPD includes one or more periods, wherein the period includes one or more groups, wherein the group includes one or more representations, wherein the representation includes one

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or more segments, wherein the group includes one or more group elements for each of the groups, and wherein a group element provides a summary of values of all representations with a group.

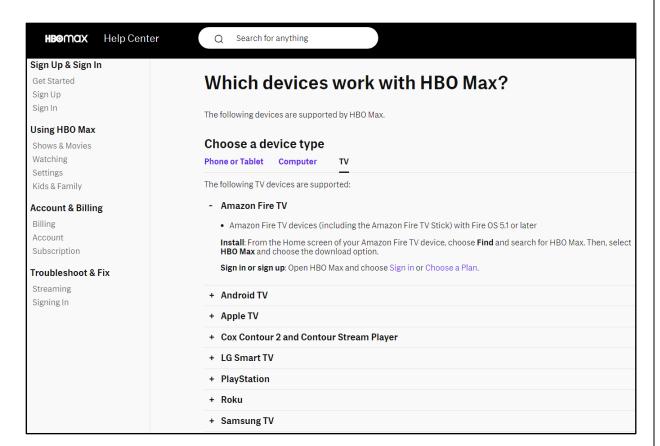
- 84. Upon information and belief, from July 16, 2019 through May 27, 2020 the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service performed the method of claim 1 of the '145 patent, and therefore infringed claim 1 of the '145 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 7.
- 85. Upon information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023 the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service performed the method of claim 1 of the '145 patent, and therefore infringed claim 1 of the '145 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 8.
- 86. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to perform the method of claim 1 of the '145 patent, and therefore has and continues to infringe claim 1 of the '145 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 9.
- 87. Claim 2 of the '145 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein the group element includes at least one of (i) an ID of the group, (ii) a minBandWidth indicating a minimum value among bandwidth attributes of all representations in the group, (iii) a maxBandwidth indicating a maximum value among bandwidth attributes of all representations in the group, (iv) a minWidth indicating a minimum value among width attributes of all representations in the group, (v) a maxWidth indicating a maximum value among width attributes of all representations in the group, (vi) a minHeight indicating a minimum value among height attributes of all representations in the group, (vii) a maxHeight indicating a maximum value among height attributes of all representations in the group, (viii) a minFrameRate indicating a minimum value among frame rate attributes of all representations in the group, (ix) a maxFrameRate indicating a maximum value among frame rate attributes of all representations in the

group, (x) a language attribute indicating the language of all representations in the group, (xi) a mimeType attribute indicating the mime type for all representation in the group, and (xii) a codec indicating a codec that is used for all representations in the group.

- 88. On information and belief, from July 16, 2019 through May 27, 2020, the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 2 of the '145 patent by performing the method of claim 1 of the '145 patent wherein the group element includes at least an ID of the group, a maxWidth indicating a maximum value among width attributes of all representations in the group, or a maxHeight indicating a maximum value among height attributes of all representations in the group, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 7.
- 89. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 2 of the '145 patent by performing the method of claim 1 wherein the group element included at least an ID of the group, a maxWidth indicating a maximum value among width attributes of all representations in the group, or a maxHeight indicating a maximum value among height attributes of all representations in the group, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 8.
- 90. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to infringe claim 2 of the '145 patent by performing the method of claim 1 of the '145 patent wherein the group element includes at least an ID of the group, a maxWidth indicating a maximum value among width attributes of all representations in the group, or a maxHeight indicating a maximum value among height attributes of all representations in the group, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 9.
- 91. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have induced and continue to induce others to infringe at least claims 3 and 4 of the '145 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b) by, among other things, and with specific intent or

willful blindness, actively encouraging or aiding and abetting others to infringe, including but not limited to Defendants' partners, customers, and/or users whose use of the Accused Instrumentalities constitutes direct infringement of at least claims 3 and 4 of the '145 patent.

- 92. For example, Defendants actively induce and encourage their partners, customers, and/or users to directly infringe claims 3 and 4 of the '145 patent by at least: (1) coding infringing methods into their streaming media content, (2) knowingly and strategically placing enticing play icons (e.g., "\rightarrow") and buttons (e.g., "Watch" or "Watch Now") with their streaming media content, and (3) actively encouraging their users to click the play icons and buttons, which necessarily triggers the performance of these known infringing methods in client devices, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibits 7-9.
- 93. As a further example, Defendants have and continue to actively and knowingly encourage infringement of the '145 patent by, in addition to continuing to strategically place the enticing icons and buttons mentioned above, instructing users of various streaming devices, such as phones or tablets, computers, and smart TVs, including but not limited to Amazon FireTVs, Android TVs, Apple TVs, Cox Contour 2 and Contour Stream Players, LG Smart TVs, PlayStations, Rokus, Samsung TVs, VIZIO Smart TVs, Xboxs, XClass TVs, Xfinity X1 and Flex TVs, PCs, Macs, Chromebooks, Android phones or tablets, and iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch devices, among others, to stream Defendants' DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities:



(See https://help.hbomax.com/do-en/Answer/Detail/000001243 (last accessed July 24, 2023).)

- 94. Claim 3 recites a method of providing media content performed by a client, the method comprising: transmitting a request for the media content to a server based on a media presentation description (MPD) with respect to the media content; and receiving a segment of media content through streaming from the server in response to the request, wherein the MPD includes one or more periods, wherein the period includes one or more groups, wherein the group includes one or more representations, wherein the representation includes one or more segments, wherein the group includes one or more group elements for each of the groups, and wherein a group element provides a summary of values of all representations with a group.
- 95. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 3 of the '145 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 3 of

the '145 patent with their client devices, as set forth above in paragraphs 91-93 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 7-9.

- 96. On information and belief, from July 16, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 3 of the '145 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 7.
- 97. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 3 of the '145 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 8.
- 98. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 3 of the '145 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 9.
- 99. Claim 4 recites the method of claim 3, wherein the group element includes at least one of (i) an ID of the group, (ii) a minBandWidth indicating a minimum value among bandwidth attributes of all representations in the group, (iii) a maxBandwidth indicating a maximum value among bandwidth attributes of all representations in the group, (iv) a minWidth indicating a minimum value among width attributes of all representations in the group, (v) a maxWidth indicating a maximum value among width attributes of all representations in the group, (vi) a minHeight indicating a minimum value among height attributes of all representations in the group, (vii) a maxHeight indicating a maximum value among height attributes of all representations in the group, (viii) a minFrameRate indicating a minimum value among frame rate attributes of all representations in the group, (ix) a maxFrameRate indicating a maximum value among frame rate attributes of all representations in the group, (x) a language attribute indicating the language of all representations in the

group, (xi) a mimeType attribute indicating the mime type for all representation in the group, and (xii) a codec indicating a codec that is used for all representations in the group.

- 100. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 4 of the '145 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 3 of the '145 patent with their client devices wherein the group element includes at least an id, minBandwidth, maxBandwidth, mimeType, maxWidth, and maxHeight, as set forth above in paragraphs 91-93 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 7-9.
- 101. On information and belief, from July 16, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 4 of the '145 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 7.
- 102. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 4 of the '145 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 8.
- 103. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce infringement of claim 4 of the '145 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 9.
- 104. On information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have engaged and continue to engage in such actions with specific intent to cause infringement or with willful blindness to the resulting infringement because Defendants have had actual knowledge of or should have had actual knowledge of the '145 patent and that their acts were inducing infringement of the '145 patent since at least February 12,

'145 patent; or, if not then, since at least the time of April 21, 2021, when Helios provided exemplary and redacted claim charts demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of July 29, 2021, when Helios provided unredacted exemplary claim charts for the DASH Patents demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of the parties' September 14, 2021 phone call, during which the parties discussed the exemplary claim charts of the DASH Patents and discussed a royalty rate and licensing terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of October 18, 2021, where Helios offered Defendants a license for the DASH Patents under FRAND terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of the WBD Merger; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving Plaintiff's Fifth Notice Letter on June 23, 2023; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving the Complaint in this matter and Exhibits 7-9 thereto in view of (i) Defendants' extensive knowledge of and experience with MPEG-DASH, (ii) Defendants' knowledge of how they were encouraging their partners, customers, and users to stream their MPEG-DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities, and (iii) the parties' pre-suit communications regarding the Asserted Patents and Defendants' websites, apps, and services, which communications detailed how Defendants directly infringed and induced the direct infringement of the asserted claims of the '145 patent.

105. In its First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Notice Letters, Helios clearly identified the MPEG-DASH standard to which the Asserted Patents pertained, identified the Asserted Patents, informed Defendants that the Asserted Patents were essential to MPEG-DASH, provided proof that it knew Defendants were utilizing the MPEG-DASH standard in providing streaming VOD via its websites and apps, and specified how the Accused Instrumentalities infringed Helios's Asserted Patents.

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- 106. Notwithstanding the above, Defendants continued to infringe the '145 patent despite having actual knowledge of or being willfully blind to their infringement.
- 107. On information and belief, based on the facts set forth in in the foregoing paragraphs, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful.
 - 108. Plaintiff has been harmed by Defendants' infringing activities.

COUNT II – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 10,277,660

- 109. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 108 are incorporated into this Second Claim for Relief.
- 110. On April 30, 2019, the '660 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office under the title "Apparatus and Method for Providing Streaming Content." A true and correct copy of the '660 patent is attached as Exhibit 10.
- 111. Helios is the assignee and owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '660 patent, including the exclusive right to assert all causes of action arising under the '660 patent and the right to collect any remedies for infringement of it.
- 112. Upon information and belief, Defendants infringed at least claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 10 and induced infringement of claims 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the '660 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using, and/or providing and causing to be used streaming media content (the "Accused Instrumentalities"), including one or more videos on demand ("VOD") and media content such as those available at https://play.hbomax.com/, as set forth in detail in the preliminary and exemplary claim chart attached as Exhibit 11.
- 113. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have been used, marketed, provided to, and/or used by or for each of Defendants' partners, clients, customers, and end users across the country and in this District.

- 114. Claim 1 recites a method for providing media content performed by a server or multiple servers, comprising: receiving, from a client, a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) request for a segment of the media content based on a metadata of the media content, wherein the metadata comprises multiple BaseURL elements and wherein identical segments are accessible at locations indicated by URLs resolved with respect to the multiple BaseURL elements; and sending the requested segment of the media content to the client, wherein the URL of the requested segment is generated based on a selected BaseURL element among the multiple BaseURL elements.
- 115. Upon information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023 the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service performed the method of claim 1 of the '660 patent, and therefore infringed claim 1 of the '660 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 116. Claim 2 recites the method of claim 1, wherein the first BaseURL element among the multiple BaseURL elements is used as a basic Universal Resource Indicator (URI), and BaseURL elements other than the first BaseURL element are used as alternative BaseURL elements.
- 117. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 2 of the '660 patent by performing the method of claim 1 of the '660 patent wherein the BaseURL "a/a1.mp4" is used as a basic URI, whereas the BaseURL element "a/a4.mp4" is used as the alternative BaseURL element, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 118. Claim 3 of the '660 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein the URL is an absolute URL or a relative URL.
- 119. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 3 of the '660 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service by performing the method of claim 1 where the

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URL is an absolute or relative URL, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.

- 120. Claim 4 of the '660 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein the metadata of the media content is a Media Presentation Description (MPD), wherein the MPD is a formalized description of a media presentation related to the media content, wherein the media presentation includes one or more periods, wherein the period includes one or more groups, wherein the group includes one or more representations, and wherein the representation includes one or more segments of the media content.
- 121. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 4 of the '660 patent by performing the method of claim 1 where the metadata of the media content is a Media Presentation Description (MPD), wherein the MPD is a formalized description of a media presentation related to the media content, wherein the media presentation includes one or more periods, wherein the period includes one or more groups, wherein the group includes one or more representations, and wherein the representation includes one or more segments of the media content, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 122. Claim 10 of the '660 patent recites the method of claim 1, further comprising sending metadata of the media content to the client.
- 123. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 10 of the '660 patent by performing the method of claim 1 and sending metadata of the media content to the client, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 124. Upon information and belief, Defendants have induced others to infringe at least claims 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the '660 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b) by,

among other things, and with specific intent or willful blindness, actively encouraging or aiding and abetting others to infringe, including but not limited to Defendants' partners, customers, and/or users whose use of the Accused Instrumentalities constitutes direct infringement of at least claims 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the '660 patent.

- 125. For example, Defendants actively induced and encouraged their partners, customers, and/or users to directly infringe 11, 12, 13, and 14 of the '660 patent by at least: (1) coding infringing methods into their streaming media content, (2) knowingly and strategically placing enticing play icons (e.g., "▶") and buttons (e.g., "Watch" or "Watch Now") with their streaming media content, and (3) actively encouraging their users to click the play icons and buttons, which necessarily triggers the performance of these known infringing methods in client devices, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 126. As a further example, Defendants have actively and knowingly encouraged infringement of the '660 patent by, in addition to continuing to strategically place the enticing icons and buttons mentioned above, instructing users of various streaming devices, such as phones or tablets, computers, and smart TVs, including but not limited to Amazon FireTVs, Android TVs, Apple TVs, Cox Contour 2 and Contour Stream Players, LG Smart TVs, PlayStations, Rokus, Samsung TVs, VIZIO Smart TVs, Xboxs, XClass TVs, Xfinity X1 and Flex TVs, PCs, Macs, Chromebooks, Android phones or tablets, and iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch devices, among others, to stream Defendants' DASH-enabled VOD:

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нвотах Help Center Q Search for anything Sign Up & Sign In Get Started Which devices work with HBO Max? Sign Up Sign In The following devices are supported by HBO Max. Using HBO Max Choose a device type Shows & Movies Watching Phone or Tablet Computer TV Settings The following TV devices are supported: Kids & Family - Amazon Fire TV Account & Billing Rilling . Amazon Fire TV devices (including the Amazon Fire TV Stick) with Fire OS 5.1 or later Account Install: From the Home screen of your Amazon Fire TV device, choose Find and search for HBO Max. Then, select Subscription **HBO Max** and choose the download option. Sign in or sign up: Open HBO Max and choose Sign in or Choose a Plan. Troubleshoot & Fix Streaming + Android TV Signing In + Apple TV + Cox Contour 2 and Contour Stream Player + LG Smart TV + PlayStation + Roku + Samsung TV

(See https://help.hbomax.com/do-en/Answer/Detail/000001243 (last accessed July 24, 2023).)

- 127. Claim 11 of the '660 patent recites a method for providing media content performed by a client, comprising: transmitting, to a server, a request for a segment of the media content based on a metadata, wherein the metadata comprises multiple BaseURL elements and wherein identical segments are accessible at locations indicated by URLs resolved with respect to the multiple BaseURL elements; and receiving the requested segment of the media content from the server, wherein the URL of the requested segment is generated based on a selected BaseURL element among the multiple BaseURL elements.
- 128. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 11 of the '660 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 11 of

the '660 patent with their client devices, as set forth above in paragraphs 125-127 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 11.

- 129. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 11 of the '660 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 130. Claim 12 of the '660 patent recites the method of claim 11, wherein the first BaseURL element among the multiple BaseURL elements is used as a basic Universal Resource Indicator (URI), and BaseURL elements other than the first BaseURL element are used as alternative BaseURL elements.
- 131. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 12 of the '660 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 11 of the '660 patent with their client devices wherein the BaseURL element "a/a1.mp4" is used as a basic URI, whereas the BaseURL element "a/a4.mp4" is used as the alternative BaseURL element, as set forth above in paragraphs 125-127 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 11.
- 132. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 12 of the '660 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 133. Claim 13 of the '660 patent recites a method of claim 11, wherein the URL is an absolute URL or a relative URL.
- 134. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 13 of the '660 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 11 of the '660 patent with their client devices wherein the Request URL is an absolute URL,

as denoted by "https://", as set forth above in paragraphs 125-127 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 11.

- 135. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 13 of the '660 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 136. Claim 14 of the '660 patent recites method of claim 11, wherein the metadata of the media content is a Media Presentation Description (MPD), wherein the MPD is a formalized description of a media presentation related to the media content, wherein the media presentation includes one or more periods, wherein the period includes one or more groups, wherein the group includes one or more representations, and wherein the representation includes one or more segments of the media content.
- 137. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 14 of the '660 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 11 of the '660 patent with their client devices wherein the metadata of the media content "Succession, S1,E1" is a MPD, as set forth above in paragraphs 125-127 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 11.
- 138. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 14 of the '660 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 11.
- 139. On information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have engaged and continue to engage in such actions with specific intent to cause infringement or with willful blindness to the resulting infringement because Defendants have had actual knowledge of or should have had actual knowledge of the '660 patent and that

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when Helios sent the First Notice Letter; or, if not then, since at least February 12, 2020, when Helios provided detailed claim charts of Defendants' infringement of the '660 patent; or, if not then, since at least April 21, 2021, when Helios provided exemplary and redacted claim charts demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of July 29, 2021, when Helios provided unredacted exemplary claim charts for the DASH Patents demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of the parties' September 14, 2021 phone call, during which the parties discussed the exemplary claim charts of the DASH Patents and discussed a royalty rate and licensing terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of October 18, 2021, where Helios offered Defendants a license for the DASH Patents under FRAND terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of the WBD Merger; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving Plaintiff's Fifth Notice Letter on June 23, 2023; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving the Complaint in this matter and Exhibit 11 thereto in view of (i) Defendants' extensive knowledge of and experience with MPEG-DASH, (ii) Defendants' knowledge of how they were encouraging their partners, customers, and users to stream their MPEG-DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities, and (iii) the parties' pre-suit communications regarding the Asserted Patents and Defendants' websites, apps, and services, which communications detailed how Defendants directly infringed and induced the direct infringement of the asserted claims of the '660 patent.

140. In its First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Notice Letters, Helios clearly identified the MPEG-DASH standard to which the Asserted Patents pertained, identified the Asserted Patents, informed Defendants that the Asserted Patents were essential to MPEG-DASH, provided proof that it knew Defendants were utilizing the MPEG-DASH standard in providing streaming VOD via its websites and apps, and specified how the Accused Instrumentalities infringed Helios's Asserted Patents.

- 141. Notwithstanding the above, Defendants continued to infringe the '660 patent despite having actual knowledge of or being willfully blind to their infringement.
- 142. On information and belief, based on the facts set forth in in the foregoing paragraphs, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful.
 - 143. Plaintiff has been harmed by Defendants' infringing activities.

COUNT III – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 10,027,736

- 144. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 143 are incorporated into this Third Claim for Relief.
- 145. On July 17, 2018, the '736 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office under the title "Apparatus and Method for Providing Streaming Content." A true and correct copy of the '736 patent is attached as Exhibit 12.
- 146. Helios is the assignee and owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '736 patent, including the exclusive right to assert all causes of action arising under the '736 patent and the right to collect any remedies for infringement of it.
- 147. Upon information and belief, Defendants directly infringed at least claims 9, 12, 13, and 15 and actively induced the infringement of at least claims 1, 4, 5, and 7 of the '736 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using, and/or providing and causing to be used streaming media content (the "Accused Instrumentalities"), including one or more videos on demand ("VOD") and media content such as those available at https://play.hbomax.com/, as set forth in detail in the preliminary and exemplary claim chart attached as Exhibit 13.
- 148. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have and continue to be used, marketed, provided to, and/or used by or for each Defendants' partners, clients, customers, and end users across the country and in this District.

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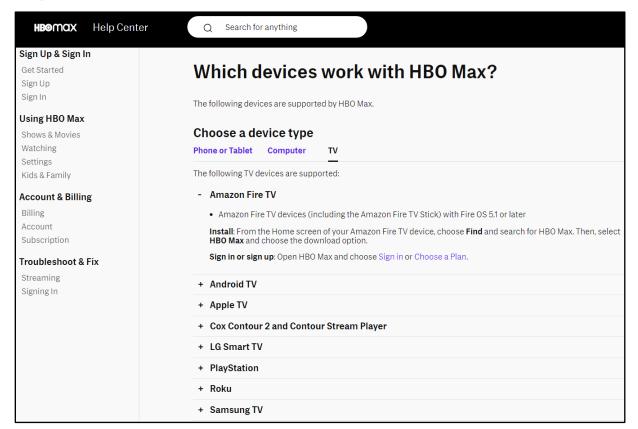
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- 149. Claim 9 of the '736 patent recites a method of providing media content by a server performed by a processor, the method comprising: receiving a request for a segment of the media content using a URL of the segment from a terminal, the URL being generated based on the selected BaseURL element; providing the segment to the terminal, wherein the terminal selects a BaseURL element from the multiple BaseURL elements based on the metadata of the media content, wherein the metadata is Media Presentation Description (MPD), wherein the MPD describes one or more periods, wherein the period includes one or more groups, wherein the group includes one or more representation, wherein the representation includes one or more segments of the media content, wherein the receiver receives identical segments that are accessible at multiple locations indicated by URLs resolved with respect to the respective BaseURL elements, and a first BaseURL element among the BaseURL elements is used as a base Universal Resource Indicator (URI).
- 150. Upon information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service performed the method of claim 9 of the '736 patent, and therefore infringed claim 9 of the '736 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.
- 151. Claim 12 of the '736 patent recites the method of claim 9, wherein the media content is requested using a URI generated based on a resource type including bitrate, vertical resolution, or horizontal resolution.
- 152. Upon information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 12 of the '736 patent by performing the method of claim 9 where the media content is requested using a URI generated based on the client/terminal according to the bandwidth (bitrate), for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.
- 153. Claim 13 of the '736 patent recites the method of claim 9, wherein the request is sent using an HTTP GET method.

- 154. Upon information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 13 of the '736 patent by performing the method of claim 9 where the request is sent using an HTTP GET method, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.
- 155. Claim 15 of the '736 patent recites the method of claim 9, wherein the URL is an absolute URL or a relative URL.
- 156. Upon information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 15 of the '736 patent by performing the method of claim 9 the URL is an absolute URL or a relative URL as denoted by "https://", for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.
- 157. Upon information and belief, Defendants have induced others to infringe at least claims 1, 4, 5, and 7 of the '736 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b) by, among other things, and with specific intent or willful blindness, actively encouraging or aiding and abetting others to infringe, including but not limited to Defendants' partners, customers, and/or users whose use of the Accused Instrumentalities constitutes direct infringement of at least claims 1, 4, 5, and 7 of the '736 patent.
- 158. For example, Defendants actively induced and encouraged their partners, customers, and/or users to directly infringe 1, 4, 5, and 7 of the '736 patent by at least: (1) coding infringing methods into their streaming media content, (2) knowingly and strategically placing enticing play icons (e.g., ">") and buttons (e.g., "Watch" or "Watch Now") with their streaming media content, and (3) actively encouraging their users to click the play icons and buttons, which necessarily triggers the performance of these known infringing methods in client devices, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.

159. As a further example, Defendants have actively and knowingly encouraged infringement of the '736 patent by, in addition to continuing to strategically place the enticing icons and buttons mentioned above, instructing users of various streaming devices, such as phones or tablets, computers, and smart TVs, including but not limited to Amazon FireTVs, Android TVs, Apple TVs, Cox Contour 2 and Contour Stream Players, LG Smart TVs, PlayStations, Rokus, Samsung TVs, VIZIO Smart TVs, Xboxs, XClass TVs, Xfinity X1 and Flex TVs, PCs, Macs, Chromebooks, Android phones or tablets, and iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch devices, among others, to stream Defendants' DASH-enabled VOD:



(See https://help.hbomax.com/do-en/Answer/Detail/000001243 (last accessed July 24, 2023).)

160. Claim 1 of the '736 patent recites a method for receiving media content in a terminal performed by a processor, the method comprising: receiving metadata of media content, the metadata comprising an attribute with multiple BaseURL elements,

selecting a BaseURL element from the multiple BaseURL elements; sending a request for a segment of the media content using a URL of the segment to a server, the URL being generated based on the selected BaseURL element; receiving the segment from the server, wherein the metadata is Media Presentation Description (MPD), wherein the MPD describes one or more periods, wherein the period includes one or more groups, wherein the group includes one or more representation, wherein the representation includes one or more segments of the media content, wherein the receiver receives identical segments that are accessible at multiple locations indicated by URLs resolved with respect to the respective BaseURL elements, and a first BaseURL element among the BaseURL elements is used as a base Universal Resource Indicator (URI).

- 161. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 1 of the '736 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '736 patent with their client devices, as set forth above in paragraphs 158-160 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 13.
- 162. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 1 of the '736 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.
- 163. Claim 4 recites the method of claim 1, wherein the media content is requested using a URI generated based on a resource type including bitrate, vertical resolution, or horizontal resolution.
- 164. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 4 of the '736 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '736 patent with their client devices wherein the URI based on the BaseURL

selected by the client/terminal is according to the bandwidth (bitrate), as set forth above in paragraphs 158-160 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 13.

- 165. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 4 of the '736 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.
- 166. Claim 5 of the '736 patent recites a method of claim 1, wherein the request is sent using an HTTP GET method.
- 167. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 5 of the '736 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '736 patent with their client devices where the request is sent using an HTTP GET method, as set forth above in paragraphs 158-160 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 13.
- 168. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 5 of the '736 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.
- 169. Claim 7 of the '736 patent recites a method of claim 1, wherein the URL is an absolute URL or a relative URL.
- 170. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 7 of the '736 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '736 patent with their client devices wherein the Request URL is an absolute URL, as denoted by "https://", as set forth above in paragraphs 158-160 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibit 13.

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171. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 7 of the '736 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 13.

172. On information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have engaged and continue to engage in such actions with specific intent to cause infringement or with willful blindness to the resulting infringement because Defendants have had actual knowledge of or should have had actual knowledge of the '736 patent and that their acts were inducing infringement of the '736 patent since at least June 11, 2019, when Helios sent the First Notice Letter; or, if not then, since at least February 12, 2020, when Helios provided detailed claim charts of Defendants' infringement of the '660 patent; or, if not then, since at least the time of April 21, 2021, when Helios provided exemplary and redacted claim charts demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of July 29, 2021, when Helios provided unredacted exemplary claim charts for the DASH Patents demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of the parties' September 14, 2021 phone call, during which the parties discussed the exemplary claim charts of the DASH Patents and discussed a royalty rate and licensing terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of October 18, 2021, where Helios offered Defendants a license for the DASH Patents under FRAND terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of the WBD Merger; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving Plaintiff's Fifth Notice Letter on June 23, 2023; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving the Complaint in this matter and Exhibit 13 thereto in view of (i) Defendants' extensive knowledge of and experience with MPEG-DASH, (ii) Defendants' knowledge of how they were encouraging their partners, customers, and users to stream their MPEG-DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities, and (iii) the parties' pre-suit communications regarding the Asserted Patents and

Defendants' websites, apps, and services, which communications detailed how Defendants directly infringed and induced the direct infringement of the asserted claims of the '736 patent.

- 173. In its First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Notice Letters, Helios clearly identified the MPEG-DASH standard to which the Asserted Patents pertained, identified the Asserted Patents, informed Defendants that the Asserted Patents were essential to MPEG-DASH, provided proof that it knew Defendants were utilizing the MPEG-DASH standard in providing streaming VOD via its websites and apps, and specified how the Accused Instrumentalities infringed Helios's Asserted Patents.
- 174. Notwithstanding the above, Defendants continued to infringe the '736 patent despite having actual knowledge of or being willfully blind to their infringement.
- 175. On information and belief, based on the facts set forth in in the foregoing paragraphs, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful.
 - 176. Plaintiff has been harmed by Defendants' infringing activities.

COUNT IV - INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 10,362,130

- 177. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 176 are incorporated into this Fourth Claim for Relief.
- 178. On July 23, 2019, the '130 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office under the title "Apparatus and Method for Providing Streaming Contents." A true and correct copy of the '130 patent is attached as Exhibit 14.
- 179. Helios is the assignee and owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '130 patent, including the exclusive right to assert all causes of action arising under the '130 patent and the right to collect any remedies for infringement of it.
- 180. Upon information and belief, Defendants have and continue to infringe at least claims 1, 2, and 3 of the '130 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using,

and/or providing and causing to be used streaming media content (the "Accused Instrumentalities"), including one or more videos on demand ("VOD") and media content such as those available at https://play.hbonow.com/, https://play.hbonow.com/, as set forth in detail in the preliminary and exemplary claim chart attached as Exhibits 15-17.

- 181. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have and continue to be used, marketed, provided to, and/or used by or for each Defendants' partners, clients, customers, and end users across the country and in this District.
- 182. Claim 1 of the '130 patent recites a method for providing media content performed by a processor in a server, the method comprising: receiving a request for the media content from a client; transmitting the media to the client based on a Media Presentation Description (MPD) of the media content, wherein the MPD includes one or more periods, wherein the period comprises one or more groups, wherein the group comprises one or more representations, wherein the representation comprises one or more segments, wherein the representation includes a bandwidth attribute related to bandwidth for a hypothetical constant bitrate channel in bits per second (bps), wherein the client is assured of having enough data for continuous playout after buffering for minbuffertime when the representation is delivered to the client, wherein the segment includes sub-segments indexed by segment index, wherein the MPD includes at least one of (i) frame rate, or (ii) timescale describing the number of time units in one second.
- 183. Upon information and belief, from July 23, 2019 through May 27, 2020, the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service performed the method of claim 1 of the '130 patent, and therefore infringed claim 1 of the '130 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 15.
- 184. Upon information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service performed the method of claim 1 of the

'130 patent, and therefore infringed claim 1 of the '130 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 16.

- 185. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to perform the method of claim 1 of the '130 patent, and therefore has and continues to infringe claim 1 of the '130 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 17.
- 186. Claim 2 of the '130 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein each of the representations starts from a start time of the period and continues to an ending point of the period.
- 187. On information and belief, from July 23, 2019 through May 27, 2020, the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 2 of the '130 patent by performing the method of claim 1 of the '130 patent where each of the representations starts from a start time of the period and continues to an ending point of the period, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 15.
- 188. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 2 of the '130 patent by performing the method of claim 1 of the '130 patent where each of the representations starts from a start time of the period and continues to an ending point of the period, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 16.
- 189. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to infringe claim 2 of the '130 patent by performing the method of claim 1 of the '130 patent where each of the representations starts from a start time of the period and continues to an ending point of the period, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 17.

190. Claim 3 of the '130 patent recites the method of claim 2, wherein the start time of the period is determined [by the] below methods, i) when a start attribute exists in a first period element of the first period, a start time of the first period is equal to the start attribute, ii) when a start attribute does not exist in the first period element of the first period, and when a second period element of the second period includes a duration attribute, the start time of the first period is determined by adding the duration attribute of the second period element to a start time of the second period, iii) when a start attribute does not exist in the first period element of the first period, and when the first period is the first of the one or more periods, the start time of the first period is set to 0, wherein the second period is previous period with respect to the first period.

- 191. On information and belief, from July 23, 2019 through May 27, 2020, the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 3 of the '130 patent by performing the method of claim 2 of the '130 patent wherein the start attribute does not exist in the first period element of the first period, and when the first period is the first of the one or more periods, the start time of the first period is set to zero, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 15.
- 192. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service infringed claim 3 of the '130 patent by performing the method of claim 2 of the '130 patent where the start attribute does not exist in the first period element of the first period, and when the first period is the first of the one or more periods, the start time of the first period is set to zero, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 16.
- 193. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to infringe claim 3 of the '130 patent by performing the method of claim 2 of the '130 patent where the start attribute exists in a first period element of the first period and a start time of the period is determined by

a start attribute set to zero, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 17.

- 194. In its First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Notice Letters, Helios clearly identified the MPEG-DASH standard to which the Asserted Patents pertained, identified the Asserted Patents, informed Defendants that the Asserted Patents were essential to MPEG-DASH, provided proof that it knew Defendants were utilizing the MPEG-DASH standard in providing streaming VOD via its websites and apps, and specified how the Accused Instrumentalities infringed Helios's Asserted Patents.
- 195. Notwithstanding the above, Defendants continued to infringe the '130 patent despite having actual knowledge of or being willfully blind to their infringement.
- 196. On information and belief, based on the facts set forth in in the foregoing paragraphs, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful.
 - 197. Plaintiff has been harmed by Defendants' infringing activities.

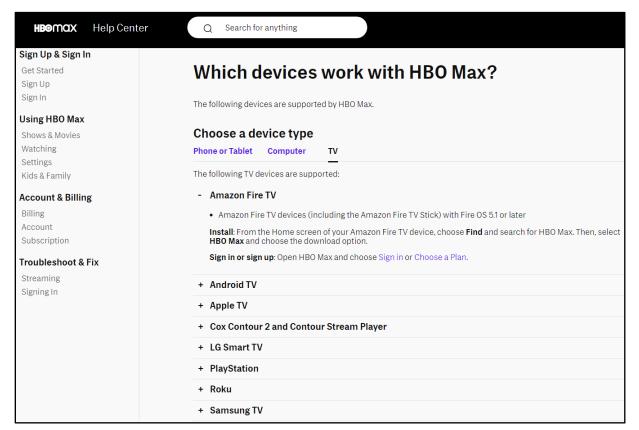
COUNT V - INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,909,805

- 198. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 197 are incorporated into this Fifth Claim for Relief.
- 199. On December 9, 2014, the '805 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office under the title "Apparatus and Method for Providing Streaming Content." A true and correct copy of the '805 patent is attached as Exhibit 18.
- 200. Helios is the assignee and owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '805 patent, including the exclusive right to assert all causes of action arising under the '805 patent and the right to collect any remedies for infringement of it.
- 201. Upon information and belief, one or more Defendants have and continue to actively induce the infringement of at least claims 1 and 2 of the '805 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using, and/or providing and causing to be used

streaming media content (the "Accused Instrumentalities"), including one or more videos on demand ("VOD") and media content such as those available at https://play.hbonow.com/, as set forth in detail in the preliminary and exemplary claim chart attached as Exhibits 19-21.

- 202. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have and continue to be used, marketed, provided to, and/or used by or for each of Defendants' partners, clients, customers, and end users across the country and in this District.
- 203. Upon information and belief, one or more Defendants have induced and continue to induce others to infringe at least claims 1 and 2 of the '805 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b) by, among other things, and with specific intent or willful blindness, actively encouraging or aiding and abetting others to infringe, including but not limited to Defendants' partners, customers, and/or users whose use of the Accused Instrumentalities constitutes direct infringement of at least claims 1 and 2 of the '805 patent.
- 204. For example, Defendants actively induce and encourage their partners, customers, and/or users to directly infringe claims 1 and 2 of the '805 patent by at least: (1) coding infringing methods into their streaming media content, (2) knowingly and strategically placing enticing play icons (e.g., "▶") and buttons (e.g., "Watch" or "Watch Now") with their streaming media content, and (3) actively encouraging their users to click the play icons and buttons, which necessarily triggers the performance of these known infringing methods in client devices, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibits 19-21.
- 205. As a further example, Defendants have and continue to actively and knowingly encourage infringement of the '805 patent by, in addition to continuing to strategically place the enticing icons and buttons mentioned above, instructing users of various streaming devices, such as phones or tablets, computers, and smart TVs,

including but not limited to Amazon FireTVs, Android TVs, Apple TVs, Cox Contour 2 and Contour Stream Players, LG Smart TVs, PlayStations, Rokus, Samsung TVs, VIZIO Smart TVs, Xboxs, XClass TVs, Xfinity X1 and Flex TVs, PCs, Macs, Chromebooks, Android phones or tablets, and iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch devices, among others, to stream Defendant's DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities:



(See https://help.hbomax.com/do-en/Answer/Detail/000001243 (last accessed July 24, 2023).)

206. Claim 1 of the '805 patent recites a method of providing media, the method comprising: receiving metadata of media, the metadata comprising one or more periods; processing the received metadata and extracting information included in the metadata, wherein the metadata includes a range attribute; requesting a segment suitable for a specific interval based on a request for bytes of a resource indicated by a URL that are designated by the range attribute; accessing segments of the media based

on information provided by the metadata; decoding and rendering data of the media that is included in the segments; wherein each of the periods comprises one or more representations of the media; wherein each of the representations starts from a beginning point of a period including each of the representation and continues to an ending point of the period, and comprises one or more segments; and wherein determining the start of a first period among one or more period comprises: when a start attribute exists in the first period element of the first period, a start time of the first period is equivalent to a value of the start attribute, when a start attribute does not exist in the first period element of the first period, and when a second period element of the second period includes a duration attribute, the start time of the first period is obtained by adding a value of the duration attribute of the second period element to a start time of the second period, and when a start attribute does not exist in the first period element of the first period, and when the first period is the first of the one or more periods, the start time of the first period is zero.

207. Upon information and belief, one or more Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 1 of the '805 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '805 patent with their client devices, as set forth above in paragraphs 204-206 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 19-21.

208. On information and belief, from June 11, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 1 of the '805 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 19.

209. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 1 of the '805 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 20.

- 210. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 1 of the '805 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 21.
- 211. Claim 2 of the '805 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein the metadata is a Media Presentation Description (MPD) of the media.
- 212. Upon information and belief, Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 2 of the '805 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '805 patent with their client devices wherein the metadata is an MPD, as set forth above in paragraphs 204-206 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 19-21.
- 213. On information and belief, from June 11, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 2 of the '805 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 19.
- 214. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 2 of the '805 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 20.
- 215. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 2 of the '805 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 21.
- 216. On information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have engaged and continue to engage in such actions with specific intent to cause infringement or with willful blindness to the resulting infringement because Defendants have had actual knowledge of or should have had actual knowledge of the '805 patent and that

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their acts were inducing infringement of the '805 patent since at least receiving the June 11, 2019 First Notice Letter; or, if not then, since at least the time of February 12, 2020, when Helios provided detailed claim charts of Defendants' infringement of the '805 patent; or, if not then, since at least the time of April 21, 2021, when Helios provided exemplary and redacted claim charts demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of July 29, 2021, when Helios provided unreducted exemplary claim charts for the DASH Patents demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of the parties' September 14, 2021 phone call, during which the parties discussed the exemplary claim charts of the DASH Patents and discussed a royalty rate and licensing terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of October 18, 2021, where Helios offered Defendants a license for the DASH Patents under FRAND terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of the WBD Merger; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving Plaintiff's Fifth Notice Letter on June 23, 2023; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving the Complaint in this matter and Exhibits 19-21 thereto in view of (i) Defendants' extensive knowledge of and experience with MPEG-DASH, (ii) Defendants' knowledge of how they were encouraging their partners, customers, and users to stream their MPEG-DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities, and (iii) the parties' pre-suit communications regarding the Asserted Patents and Defendants' websites, apps, and services, which communications detailed how Defendants directly infringed and induced the direct infringement of the asserted claims of the '805 patent.

217. In its First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Notice Letters, Helios clearly identified the MPEG-DASH standard to which the Asserted Patents pertained, identified the Asserted Patents, informed Defendants that the Asserted Patents were essential to MPEG-DASH, provided proof that it knew Defendants were utilizing the

MPEG-DASH standard in providing streaming VOD via its websites and apps, and specified how the Accused Instrumentalities infringed Helios's Asserted Patents.

- 218. Notwithstanding the above, Defendants continued to induce the infringement of the '805 patent despite having actual knowledge of or being willfully blind to their infringement.
- 219. On information and belief, based on the facts set forth in in the foregoing paragraphs, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful.
 - 220. Plaintiff has been harmed by Defendants' infringing activities.

COUNT VI – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 9,325,558

- 221. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 220 are incorporated into this Sixth Claim for Relief.
- 222. On April 26, 2016, the '558 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office under the title "Apparatus and Method for Providing Streaming Contents." A true and correct copy of the '558 patent is attached as Exhibit 22.
- 223. Helios is the assignee and owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '558 patent, including the exclusive right to assert all causes of action arising under the '558 patent and the right to collect any remedies for infringement of it.
- 224. Upon information and belief, one or more Defendants have and continue to actively induce the infringement of at least claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the '558 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using, and/or providing and causing to be used streaming media content (the "Accused Instrumentalities"), including one or more videos on demand ("VOD") and media content such as those available at https://play.hbonow.com/, https://play.hbonow.com/, and https://play.hbonow.com/, and https://play.hbonow.com/, as set forth in detail in the preliminary and exemplary claim chart attached as Exhibits 23-25.

225. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have and continue to be used, marketed, provided to, and/or used by or for each Defendants' partners, clients, customers, and end users across the country and in this District.

- 226. Upon information and belief, one or more Defendants have induced and continue to induce others to infringe at least claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the '558 patent under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b) by, among other things, and with specific intent or willful blindness, actively encouraging or aiding and abetting others to infringe, including but not limited to Defendants' partners, customers, and/or users whose use of the Accused Instrumentalities constitutes direct infringement of at least claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the '558 patent.
- 227. For example, Defendants actively induce and encourage their partners, customers, and/or users to directly infringe claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the '558 patent by at least: (1) coding infringing methods into their streaming media content, (2) knowingly and strategically placing enticing play icons (e.g., "O") and buttons (e.g., "Watch" or "Watch Now") with their streaming media content, and (3) actively encouraging their users to click the play icons and buttons, which necessarily triggers the performance of these known infringing methods in client devices, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibits 23-25.
- 228. As a further example, Defendants have and continue to actively and knowingly encourage infringement of the '558 patent by, in addition to continuing to strategically place the enticing icons and buttons mentioned above, instructing users of various streaming devices, such as phones or tablets, computers, and smart TVs, including but not limited to Amazon FireTVs, Android TVs, Apple TVs, Cox Contour 2 and Contour Stream Players, LG Smart TVs, PlayStations, Rokus, Samsung TVs, VIZIO Smart TVs, Xboxs, XClass TVs, Xfinity X1 and Flex TVs, PCs, Macs, Chromebooks, Android phones or tablets, and iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch devices, among others, to stream Defendant's DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities:

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HBOMAX Help Center Search for anything Sign Up & Sign In Get Started Which devices work with HBO Max? Sign Up Sign In The following devices are supported by HBO Max. Using HBO Max Choose a device type Shows & Movies Watching Phone or Tablet Computer TV Settings The following TV devices are supported: Kids & Family - Amazon Fire TV **Account & Billing** Billing . Amazon Fire TV devices (including the Amazon Fire TV Stick) with Fire OS 5.1 or later Account Install: From the Home screen of your Amazon Fire TV device, choose Find and search for HBO Max. Then, select Subscription **HBO Max** and choose the download option. Sign in or sign up: Open HBO Max and choose Sign in or Choose a Plan. Troubleshoot & Fix Streaming + Android TV Signing In + Apple TV + Cox Contour 2 and Contour Stream Player + IG Smart TV + PlayStation + Roku + Samsung TV

(See https://help.hbomax.com/do-en/Answer/Detail/000001243 (last accessed July 24, 2023).)

229. Claim 1 of the '558 patent recites a method by which a client provides media content including one or more periods, the method comprising: receiving metadata of the media content from a server, the metadata comprising a minBufferTime attribute indicating a minimum amount of initially buffered media content that is required to ensure playout of the media content, the minBufferTime attribute being defined in segment unit, wherein the metadata is a media presentation description (MPD) that provides descriptive information that enables a client to select one or more representations; receiving the media content from the server, and buffering the received media content by at least the minimum amount; and playing back the media content, wherein the minBufferTime attribute relates to the one or more periods, and wherein the minBufferTime attribute relates to providing a minimum amount of initially buffered media at a beginning of a media presentation, at

a beginning of the one or more periods of the media presentation, or at any random access point of the media presentation.

- 230. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 1 of the '558 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '558 patent with their client devices, as set forth above in paragraphs 226-228 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 23-25.
- 231. On information and belief, from June 11, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 1 of the '558 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 23.
- 232. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 1 of the '558 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 24.
- 233. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 1 of the '558 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 25.
- 234. Claim 2 of the '558 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein the metadata is the Media Presentation Description (MPD) of the media content.
- 235. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 2 of the '558 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '558 patent with their client devices, wherein the metadata is an MPD of the media, as set forth above in paragraphs 226-228 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 23-25.

- 236. On information and belief, from June 11, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 2 of the '558 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 23.
- 237. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 2 of the '558 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 24.
- 238. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 2 of the '558 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 25.
- 239. Claim 3 of the '558 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein the minBufferTime attribute indicates the minimum amount of the initially buffered media content that is required to ensure playout of the media content when the media content is continuously delivered at or above a value of a bandwidth attribute of the metadata.
- 240. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 3 of the '558 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '558 patent with their client devices, wherein the MPD for the media content includes a minBufferTime and bandwidth attribute, as set forth above in paragraphs 226-228 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 23-25.
- 241. On information and belief, from June 11, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 3 of the '558 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 23.

242. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 3 of the '558 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 24.

- 243. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 3 of the '558 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 25.
- 244. Claim 4 of the '558 patent recites the method of claim 1, wherein each of the periods comprises one or more representations of the media content, each of the representations being a structured collection of one or more media components within a period, and wherein the bandwidth attribute is an attribute of each of the representations, and describes a minimum bandwidth of a hypothetical constant bitrate channel over which each of the representations are able to be continuously delivered after the client buffers each of the representations for at least minBufferTime.
- 245. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 4 of the '558 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 1 of the '558 patent with their client devices, wherein each representation describes the minimum bandwidth, as set forth above in paragraphs 226-228 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 23-25.
- 246. On information and belief, from June 11, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 4 of the '558 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 23.
- 247. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 4 of the '558 patent via

the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 24.

- 248. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 4 of the '558 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 25.
- 249. Claim 5 of the '558 patent recites the method of claim 4, wherein each of the representations comprises one or more segments.
- 250. Upon information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to actively induce infringement of claim 5 of the '558 patent by actively inducing their partners, customers, and/or users to perform the method of claim 4 of the '558 patent with their client devices, wherein the representation comprises one or more segments, as set forth above in paragraphs 226-228 and in the preliminary infringement analyses set forth in Exhibits 23-25.
- 251. On information and belief, from June 11, 2019 through May 27, 2020, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 5 of the '558 patent via the HBO NOW Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis in Exhibit 23.
- 252. On information and belief, from May 27, 2020 through May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants induced infringement of claim 5 of the '558 patent via the HBO Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 24.
- 253. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, one or more of the Defendants have and continue to induce the direct infringement of claim 5 of the '558 patent via the Max Accused Streaming Service, as set forth in the preliminary infringement contention attached as Exhibit 25.

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254. On information and belief, one or more of the Defendants have engaged and continue to engage in such actions with specific intent to cause infringement or with willful blindness to the resulting infringement because Defendants have had actual knowledge of or should have had actual knowledge of the '558 patent and that their acts were inducing infringement of the '558 patent since at least receiving the June 11, 2019 First Notice Letter; or, if not then, since at least the time of February 12, 2020, when Helios provided detailed claim charts of Defendants' infringement of the '558 patent; or, if not then, since at least the time of April 21, 2021, when Helios provided exemplary and redacted claim charts demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of July 29, 2021, when Helios provided unredacted exemplary claim charts for the DASH Patents demonstrating Defendants' infringement; or, if not then, since at least the time of the parties' September 14, 2021 phone call, during which the parties discussed the exemplary claim charts of the DASH Patents and discussed a royalty rate and licensing terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of October 18, 2021, where Helios offered Defendants a license for the DASH Patents under FRAND terms; or, if not then, since at least the time of the WBD Merger; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving Plaintiff's Fifth Notice Letter on June 23, 2023; or, if not then, since at least the time of receiving the Complaint in this matter and Exhibits 23-25 thereto in view of (i) Defendants' extensive knowledge of and experience with MPEG-DASH, (ii) Defendants' knowledge of how they were encouraging their partners, customers, and users to stream their MPEG-DASH-enabled VOD via the Accused Instrumentalities, and (iii) the parties' pre-suit communications regarding the Asserted Patents and Defendants' websites, apps, and services, which communications detailed how Defendants directly infringed and induced the direct infringement of the asserted claims of the '558 patent.

blind to their infringement.

clearly identified the MPEG-DASH standard to which the Asserted Patents pertained,
identified the Asserted Patents, informed Defendants that the Asserted Patents were
essential to MPEG-DASH, provided proof that it knew Defendants were utilizing the
MPEG-DASH standard in providing streaming VOD via its websites and apps, and
specified how the Accused Instrumentalities infringed Helios's Asserted Patents.
256. Notwithstanding the above, Defendants continued to induce the
infringement of the '558 patent despite having actual knowledge of or being willfully

255. In its First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Notice Letters, Helios

- 257. On information and belief, based on the facts set forth in in the foregoing paragraphs, Defendants' infringement has been and continues to be willful.
 - 258. Plaintiff has been harmed by Defendants' infringing activities.

COUNT VII – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,549,164

- 259. The allegations set forth in the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 259 are incorporated into this Seventh Claim for Relief.
- 260. On October 1, 2013, the '164 Patent was duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office under the title "Media Transmission System and Method." A true and correct copy of the '164 patent is attached as Exhibit 26.
- 261. Helios is the assignee and owner of all right, title, and interest in and to the '164 patent, including the exclusive right to assert all causes of action arising under the '164 patent and the right to collect remedies for infringement of it.
- 262. Upon information and belief, Defendant has and continues to directly infringe at least claims 12, 13, 14, and 15 of the '164 patent by selling, offering to sell, making, using, and/or providing and causing to be used streaming media content (the "Accused Instrumentalities"), including one or more videos on demand ("VOD") and

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the preliminary and exemplary claim chart attached as Exhibit 27.

263. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have and continue to be used, marketed, provided to and/or used by or for each Defendants'

media content such as those available at https://play.max.com/, as set forth in detail in

continue to be used, marketed, provided to, and/or used by or for each Defendants' partners, clients, customers, and end users across the country and in this District.

264. Claim 12 of the '164 patent recites a media streaming method of a media server for storing a piece of media content in a form of a plurality of video streams, the media streaming method comprising the steps of: (a) streaming the media content to a user terminal; (b) receiving play position information about a position where play is requested from the user terminal; (c) determining a video stream corresponding to the play position information, from among the plurality of video streams; and (d) streaming video streams to the user terminal, starting with the video stream corresponding to the play position information; wherein if the play position information is a time t and the time t is included in an Nth video stream, the step (c) comprises searching the Nth video stream for an I frame (or an IDR frame) nearest to the time t and, if the retrieved I frame (or the IDR frame) is a Pth frame, determining the Pth frame of the Nth video stream as the video stream corresponding to the play position information, and the step (d) comprises transmitting frames of one GOP to the user terminal starting with the Pth frame of the Nth video stream, and after the step (d) of transmitting the Nth video stream, the step (c) is performed again in order to search an (N+1)th video stream for a next I frame (or an IDR frame) nearest to the time t and, if the next I frame (or the IDR frame) is a qth frame, to determine the qth frame of the (N+1)th video stream as the video stream corresponding to the play position information, and the step (d) comprises transmitting frames of one GOP to the user terminal starting with the qth frame of the (N+1)th video stream.

265. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to perform the method of claim 12 of a media streaming method of a media server for storing a piece of media content in a form of a

plurality of video streams for the '164 patent, and therefore has and continues to infringe claim 12 of the '164 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 27.

- 266. Claim 13 recites the media streaming method according to claim 12, wherein the step (b) comprises receiving a random access point, indicating a time corresponding to the play position information, from the user terminal.
- 267. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to perform the method of claim 12 of the '164 patent wherein the media representations start at SAPs, or random access points, and therefore has and continues to infringe claim 13 of the '164 patent, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 27.
- 268. Claim 14 recites the media streaming method according to claim 13, wherein if the play position information is a time t in the step (b), the step (c) comprises searching for a video stream having an I frame (or an IDR frame) nearest to the time t and, if the I frame (or the IDR frame) is a Pth frame of the retrieved video stream, determining the Pth frame of the video stream as the video stream corresponding to the play position information.
- 269. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to perform the method of claim 13 of the '164 patent wherein if the play position information is a time t in the step (b), the step (c) comprises searching for a video stream having an I frame (or an IDR frame) nearest to the time t and, if the I frame (or the IDR frame) is a Pth frame of the retrieved video stream, determining the Pth frame of the video stream as the video stream corresponding to the play position information, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 27. Therefore, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to infringe claim 14 of the '164 patent.
- 270. Claim 15 of the '164 patent recites the media streaming method according to claim 12, wherein after the step (d) of transmitting the (N+1)th video

stream, the step (c) is performed again in order to search an (N+2)th video stream for a next I frame (or an IDR frame) nearest to the time t and, if the next I frame (or the IDR frame) is an rth frame, to determine the rth frame of the (N+2)th video stream as the video stream corresponding to the play position information, and the step (d) comprises transmitting frames of one GOP to the user terminal starting with the rth frame of the (N+2)th video stream.

- 271. On information and belief, since May 23, 2023, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to perform the method of claim 12 of the '164 patent, wherein after the step (d) of transmitting the (N+1)th video stream, the step (c) is performed again in order to search an (N+2)th video stream for a next I frame (or an IDR frame) nearest to the time t and, if the next I frame (or the IDR frame) is an rth frame, to determine the rth frame of the (N+2)th video stream as the video stream corresponding to the play position information, and the step (d) comprises transmitting frames of one GOP to the user terminal starting with the rth frame of the (N+2)th video stream, for at least the reasons set forth in the preliminary infringement analysis detailed in Exhibit 27. Therefore, the Max Accused Streaming Service has and continues to infringe claim 15 of the '164 patent.
- 272. On information and belief, the Accused Instrumentalities have been used to infringe and continue to directly infringe at least claims 12, 13, 14, and 15 of the '164 patent during the pendency of the '164 patent.
- 273. Defendants continued to infringe the '164 patent despite having actual knowledge of or being willfully blind to their infringement.
 - 274. Plaintiff has been harmed by Defendant's infringing activities.

STATEMENT REGARDING FRAND OBLIGATION

275. Plaintiff contends that, pursuant to relevant ISO and IEC guidelines, bylaws, and policies, many of the claims of the Asserted Patents are subject to Fair,

Reasonable, and Non-Discriminatory ("FRAND") licensing obligations to willing licensees.

276. Defendants have refused for many years to willingly take a license under such claims of the Asserted Patents under FRAND terms. As such, Plaintiff reserves the right to treat Defendants as unwilling licensees, such that Plaintiff would not be bound by any FRAND licensing obligation for purposes of this action or any license to Defendants. Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks the maximum available reasonable royalty damages to compensate for Defendants' infringing activities.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment for itself and against A. Defendants as follows:
- B. An adjudication that Defendants have infringed each of the Asserted Patents:
- C. An award of damages to be paid by Defendants adequate to compensate Plaintiff for Defendants' past infringement of each of the Asserted Patents, and any continuing or future infringement through the date such judgment is entered, including interest, costs, expenses and an accounting of all infringing acts including, but not limited to, those acts not presented at trial;
- A declaration that this case is exceptional under 35 U.S.C. § 285, and an D. award of Plaintiff's reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- E. An award to Plaintiff of such further relief at law or in equity as the Court deems just and proper.

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JURY DEMAND Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues triable as such. THE INTERNET LAW GROUP Dated: August 23, 2023 /s/ David Newman David Newman Attorney for Plaintiff Helios Streaming, LLC