

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN DIVISION**

**MCOM IP, LLC,
Plaintiff,**

v.

**VALLEY NATIONAL BANCORP,
Defendant**

Civil Action No. 1:24-cv-04568

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

PLAINTIFF’S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT

Plaintiff mCom IP LLC (“mCom”) files this Original Complaint and demand for jury trial seeking relief from patent infringement of the claims of U.S. Patent No. 8,862,508 (“the ’508 patent”) (referred to as the “Patent-in-Suit”) by Valley National Bancorp (“Defendant” or “Valley”).

I. THE PARTIES

1. Plaintiff mCom is a Texas Limited Liability Company with its principal place of business located in Harris County, Texas.

2. On information and belief, DEFENDANT is a bank organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey, with a regular and established place of business located at 579 Fifth Ave., 3rd Floor, New York, New York 10017. On information and belief, DEFENDANT sells and offers to sell products and services throughout New York, including in this judicial district, and introduces products and services that perform infringing methods or processes into the stream of commerce knowing that they would be sold in New York and this judicial district. DEFENDANT can be served with process through their registered agent, Corporation Service Company, Princeton South Corporate Center, 100 Charles Ewing Blvd., Suite 160, Ewing, New Jersey 08628, at its place of business, or anywhere else it may be found.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This Court has original subject-matter jurisdiction over the entire action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a) because Plaintiff's claim arises under an Act of Congress relating to patents, namely, 35 U.S.C. § 271.

2. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because: (i) Defendant is present within or has minimum contacts within the State of New York and this judicial district; (ii) Defendant has purposefully availed itself of the privileges of conducting business in the State of New York and in this judicial district; and (iii) Plaintiff's cause of action arises directly from Defendant's business contacts and other activities in the State of New York and in this judicial district.

3. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and 1400(b). Defendant has committed acts of infringement and has a regular and established place of business in this District. Further, venue is proper because Defendant conducts substantial business in this forum, 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 New York and this District.

III. INFRINGEMENT - Infringement of the '508 Patent

4. On October 14, 2014, U.S. Patent No. 8,862,508 ("the '508 patent", included as Exhibit-A and part of this complaint) entitled "System and method for unifying e-banking touch points and providing personalized financial services" was duly and legally issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Plaintiff owns the '508 patent by assignment.

5. The '508 patent relates to novel and improved systems and methods for constructing a unified banking system.

6. Defendant maintains, operates, and administers systems, products, and services of unified banking systems that infringes one or more of claims of the '508 patent, including one or more of claims 2, 8, 14, and 17, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents. Defendant put the inventions claimed by the '508 Patent into service (i.e., used them); but for Defendant's actions, the claimed-inventions embodiments involving Defendant's products and services would never have been put into service. Defendant's acts complained of herein caused those claimed-invention embodiments as a whole to perform, and Defendant's procurement of monetary and commercial benefit from it.

7. Support for the allegations of infringement may be found in the preliminary exemplary table attached as Exhibit B. These allegations of infringement are preliminary and are therefore subject to change.

8. Defendant has and continues to induce infringement. Defendant has actively encouraged or instructed others (e.g., its customers and/or the customers of its related companies), and continues to do so, on how to construct a unified banking system of one or more of claims 2, 8, 14, and 17 of the '508 patent, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents. Moreover, Defendant has known of the '508 patent and the technology underlying it from at least the filing date of the lawsuit.¹ For clarity, direct infringement is previously alleged in this complaint.

9. Defendant has and continues to contributorily infringe. Defendant has actively encouraged or instructed others (e.g., its customers and/or the customers of its related companies), and continues to do so, on how to use its products and services (e.g., construction of unified banking system) and related services that provide unified banking system such as to

¹ Plaintiff reserves the right to amend if discovery reveals an earlier date of knowledge.

cause infringement of one or more of claims 2, 8, 14, and 17 of the '508 patent, literally or under the doctrine of equivalents. Moreover, Defendant has known of the '508 patent and the technology underlying it from at least the filing date of the lawsuit.² For clarity, direct infringement is previously alleged in this complaint.

10. Defendant has caused and will continue to cause Plaintiff damage by direct and indirect infringement of (including inducing infringement of) the claims of the '508 patent.

IV. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

11. Plaintiff has never sold a product. Plaintiff is a non-practicing entity, with no products to mark. Plaintiff has pled all statutory requirements to obtain pre-suit damages. Further, all conditions precedent to recovery are met. Under the rule of reason, Plaintiff has taken reasonable steps to ensure marking of licensees producing a patented article. Plaintiff has entered into settlement licenses with several defendants, but none of the settlement licenses to produce a patented article, for or under the Plaintiff's patents. Furthermore, each of the parties in the settlement licenses did not agree that they were infringing any of Plaintiff's patents, including the Patents-in-Suit. Further, to the extent necessary, Plaintiff will limit its claims of infringement to the method claims and thereby remove any requirement for marking.

12. The policy of § 287 serves three related purposes: (1) helping to avoid innocent infringement; (2) encouraging patentees to give public notice that the article is patented; and (3) aiding the public to identify whether an article is patented. These policy considerations are advanced when parties are allowed to freely settle cases without admitting infringement and thus not require marking. All settlement licenses were to end litigation and thus the policies of §287 are not violated. Such a result is further warranted

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by 35 U.S.C. §286 which allows for the recovery of damages for six years prior to the filing of the complaint.

V. JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury on issues so triable by right.

VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as follows:

- a. enter judgment that Defendant has infringed claims 2, 8, 14, and 17 of the '508 patent;
- b. award Plaintiff damages in an amount sufficient to compensate it for Defendant's infringement of the Patent-in-Suit in an amount no less than a reasonable royalty or lost profits, together with pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and costs under 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- c. award Plaintiff an accounting for acts of infringement not presented at trial and an award by the Court of additional damage for any such acts of infringement;
- d. declare this case to be "exceptional" under 35 U.S.C. § 285 and award Plaintiff its attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs incurred in this action;
- e. declare Defendant's pre lawsuit infringement to be willful and treble the damages, including attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs incurred in this action and an increase in the damage award pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284 if Plaintiff proves that the infringement was deliberate or intentional;
- f. declare Defendant's post lawsuit infringement to be willful and treble the damages, including attorneys' fees, expenses, and costs incurred in this action and an increase in the damage award pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;

- g. a decree addressing future infringement that either (i) awards a permanent injunction enjoining Defendant and its agents, servants, employees, affiliates, divisions, and subsidiaries, and those in association with Defendant from infringing the claims of the Patent-in-suit, or (ii) awards damages for future infringement in lieu of an injunction in an amount consistent with the fact that for future infringement the Defendant will be an adjudicated infringer of a valid patent, and trebles that amount in view of the fact that the future infringement will be willful as a matter of law; and,
- h. award Plaintiff such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David J. Hoffman

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