Mekiki Co. Ltd. et a	v. Facebook Inc.		Doc. 62
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	9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOSE DIVISION		
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11	MEKIKI CO., LTD and MEKIKI CREATES CO., LTD.,	Case No. 5:10-cv-2721-LHK (HRL)	
12	Plaintiffs and		
13	Counter-Defendants,	JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT STATEMENT	
14	v.		
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16	FACEBOOK, INC.,		
17	Defendant and		
18	Counterclaimant.		
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03847.22857/3689529.1			
03071.44031/3089349.1	JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT ST	ATEMENT (5:10-cv-2721 LHK (HRL))	
		Dockets	s.Justia.com

In accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(f) and Local Rule 16-9, Plaintiffs Mekiki Co., Ltd. and Mekiki Creates Co., Ltd. ("Mekiki") and Defendant Facebook, Inc. ("Facebook") respectfully submit the following Joint Case Management Statement in preparation for the November 5, 2010 Initial Case Management Conference. Counsel for the parties conducted a teleconference on September 1, 2010. Harold Barza, Chris Mathews, and Scott Florance participated on behalf of Mekiki. Heidi Keefe, Adam Pivovar, and Reuben Chen participated on behalf of Facebook.

- 1. <u>Jurisdiction and Service</u>: This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of Mekiki's claims of patent infringement and Facebook's patent-related counterclaims under the laws of the United States, including statutes of United Stated Code Titles 28 and 35. The parties' pleadings were filed in the District of Delaware between October 7, 2009 and January 21, 2010. (D.I. 1, 6, 13.) The case was transferred to the United States District Court for the Northern District of California on June 21, 2010, and ultimately assigned to this Court. (D.I. 39, 47, 52.)
- 2. <u>Facts</u>: This is a patent infringement suit. Mekiki's Complaint alleges infringement of United States Patent Nos. 6,879,985 ("the '985 patent"), 7,493,342 ("the '342 patent") and 7,496,603 ("the '603 patent"), each entitled "Human Relationships Registering System, Method and Device For Registering Human Relationships, Program For Registering Human Relationships, and Medium Storing Human Relationships Registering Program and Readable by Computer" (collectively the "Patents-in-Suit"), and Facebook has asserted corresponding defenses and counterclaims.

## 3. <u>Legal Issues</u>:

- (a) *Mekiki's Statement:* Mekiki contends that Facebook's technologies utilize Plaintiffs' fundamental and patented social networking intellectual property. For example, Facebook's utilities that (1) allow a user to establish a relationship with a friend of an existing friend, (2) identify to a user the mutual friends shared by that user and an existing friend, and (3) suggest potential new friends to a user, infringe the Patents-in-Suit. Facebook has infringed the claims of the Patents-in-Suit at least by making, using or selling the inventions claimed in the Patents-in-Suit.
- (b) *Facebook's Statement:* Facebook denies that it infringes any valid and enforceable claim of the Patents-in-Suit. Facebook further contends that Plaintiffs' claims for relief are barred because the claims of the Patent-in-Suit are invalid, unenforceable, and fail to comply with statutory

or regulatory requirements. On these same grounds, Facebook seeks a declaratory judgment of non-infringement, invalidity, and unenforceability of the Patents-in-Suit.

- 3.1 <u>Disputed Points of Law:</u>
- (a) Whether Facebook's accused products, processes, or services infringe any of the claims of the Patents-in-Suit.
  - (b) Whether any of the claims of the Patents-in-Suit are invalid or unenforceable.
  - (c) The meaning of the terms of the Patents-in-Suit.
- (d) If any valid and enforceable claim of the Patents-in-Suit is infringed by Facebook (and not invalid or unenforceable), what damages and/or other relief would be appropriate.
- 4. <u>Motions</u>: The parties anticipate that summary judgment motions will be filed at least on the issues of infringement or non-infringement, invalidity, and unenforceability.
  - 5. <u>Amendment of Pleadings</u>:
- (a) *Mekiki's Statement:* At this time, Plaintiffs do not anticipate amending the pleadings. On Friday, September 17, 2010, Facebook sent Mekiki's counsel a letter stating that it would seek leave to amend its declaratory judgment counterclaims to add two unasserted Mekiki patents to this case unless Mekiki grants Facebook "an unconditional covenant not to sue" on those patents "based on the current and past systems, methods, operations, and features of Facebook's products and services." At the time of filing this joint statement, Mekiki was in the process of reviewing Facebook's request, and had informed Facebook that it will respond to Facebook in due course.
- (b) Facebook's Statement: Plaintiffs are the assignees of two additional patents that are part of the same family, share the same title, and share extensive overlap in claimed subject matter as the Patents-in-Suit, but which Plaintiff has not included in the Complaint. Before transfer, Mekiki indicated that it intended to add one of these patents to its Complaint, but has since decided otherwise. To avoid the threat of duplicative suits, Facebook has asked Mekiki to add the patents to its complaint or to grant a Facebook covenant not to sue on the additional patents. Unless Mekiki agrees to grant a covenant not to sue, Facebook will be forced to supplement its pleadings to add all of Plaintiffs' patents to this suit, resulting in a case with all five (5) of Mekiki's patents (collectively, "Mekiki's Five Patents").

6. <u>Evidence Preservation</u>: The parties confirm that they have discussed and taken steps to preserve electronically stored information consistent with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Each party shall take reasonable affirmative steps to preserve evidence related to the parties' claims, defenses, and counterclaims. Such affirmative steps shall include the following:

- (1) Distribution of Document Retention Notice. All persons who are reasonably likely to be in possession of documents related to the parties claims, defenses, and counterclaims in this action shall be instructed to preserve all such evidence.
- (2) Document Retention and/or Destruction Policies. Any policy in place by a party regarding the retention or destruction of information that is in effect at the time of commencement of the action shall be maintained in a similar manner that complies with the obligations set forth by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure throughout the litigation, subject to parts (1) and (3) of this paragraph 6.
- (3) Networked Archiving of Electronic Information. Any policy of a party regarding the redundant storage or archiving of electronic information using computer networks, hard-drives, magnetic tapes, or similar means, shall be maintained in a similar manner that complies with the obligations set forth by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure throughout this litigation. If such policy provides for the regular or periodic destruction of information (such as through re-cycling or re-use of the media after a certain period of time), the implementation of the periodic destruction, recycling, or reuse of backup and archive media may continue throughout the litigation.
- 7. <u>Disclosures</u>: Mekiki and Facebook served their initial disclosures on May 3, 2010. Each party reserves its right to amend such disclosures as discovery progresses.

## 8. <u>Discovery</u>:

Agreement Regarding Depositions In Languages Other Than English: For any deposition that occurs substantially in a language other than English, to allow for translation, only half of the time of such deposition shall count toward the applicable deposition time limits.

Agreement Regarding the Scope of Discovery From Experts: The parties agree that expert reports exchanged between the parties and the information relied on by the experts to form the opinions in the exchanged reports are discoverable. Attorney communications to and from an expert,

draft reports, and notes of experts relating to communications to or from attorneys do not need to be logged in a privilege log and are not discoverable unless the expert has relied on the attorney communications to form an opinion stated in the expert's exchanged report. Further, the substance of attorney communications with an expert in preparation for the expert's deposition or trial testimony are not discoverable unless the expert has relied on the attorney communications to form an opinion stated in the deposition or trial testimony.

Agreement Regarding Production of Electronic Documents: The parties also agree to work in good faith to determine whether certain specific documents need to be produced in "native" format. With respect to any documents produced in native format, the parties propose that native format documents need not bear unique identifying control numbers on each page.

Except to the extent the parties agree that certain specific documents need to be produced in "native" format, as set forth above, the parties agree to produce documents in TIFF file format with an appropriate load file and document-level OCR text for documents or in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained.

The parties further propose not to produce metadata, but that each party expressly reserves the right to specific and focused requests for metadata or native file formats for particular documents, and each party expressly reserves the right to object to such requests.

<u>Protective Order and Privilege Log</u>: The parties intend, in the near future, to submit an agreed proposed protective order. This protective order will contain the parties' agreed-upon procedures for post-production claims of privilege or protection as attorney work-product or trial preparation materials. The parties agree that privileged documents created after the date this action was initiated (October 7, 2009) need not be logged on a privilege log.

Agreement Regarding Location of Depositions: Except as the parties otherwise specifically agree, the parties agree that any depositions of (1) employees, officers, or directors of a party or (2) any person designated by a party pursuant to Rule 30(b)(6), shall be conducted within the judicial district of a United States District Court in which the deponent resides. With respect to deponents that reside outside of the United States, Mekiki shall: (1) make Hikaru Deguchi, a co-inventor of the Patents-in-Suit and party witness, available for deposition in Los Angeles, California; (2) make any

person Mekiki designates pursuant to Rule 30(b)(6) available for deposition in Los Angeles, California; (3) make a good faith effort to make Kenichi Ninomiya, a co-inventor of the Patents-in-Suit and non-party witness, available for deposition in Los Angeles, California; and (4) make a good faith effort to make Mr. Ninomiya available for deposition in a United States embassy in Japan, if Mekiki is unable to secure the deposition of Mr. Ninomiya in Los Angeles, California.

(a) *Mekiki's Further Position:* All other limitations on discovery imposed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("FRCP") shall apply, absent a stipulation by the parties and the Court's approval.

Facebook's Proposed Discovery "Limits": Facebook's proposed further modifications of the FRCP set forth below are inappropriate. First, Facebook's sole basis for its proposed modifications—Mekiki's purported service of jurisdictional discovery on Facebook—is unfounded. Although for discussion purposes Mekiki informally sent Facebook draft discovery relevant to Facebook's transfer motion, no written discovery was ever served nor were any depositions taken. There is no reason to limit either party's right to discovery under the FRCP at this early stage in the case. Second, Facebook's proposals related to depositions are inequitable and prejudicial because their practical effect provides Facebook more deposition time and Mekiki less deposition time than the FRCP permits. For example, under Facebook's proposals, Facebook can spend 136 hours deposing Plaintiffs, their employees, and the two named inventors, and then spend an additional 70 hours deposing third parties in search of potential prior art, for a total of 206 hours of depositions. In sharp contrast to this, under Facebook's proposals the two Mekiki entities together would only get 50 hours to depose both Facebook and its knowledgeable employees. For these reasons, rather than arbitrarily implementing discovery limits at this time, Mekiki believes that the parties should proceed under the FRCP and agree to discuss any further extensions of applicable discovery limits as the need arises.

<u>Documents In Languages Other Than English</u>: Mekiki proposes that all documents ordinarily maintained in a language other than English may be produced in the other language without translation, or that the party requesting translation of a foreign-language document bear the costs associated with translation to English. Mekiki does not agree that it should be forced to bear the cost

of translating all of its Japanese documents into English, as Facebook requests.

Mekiki further proposes that, subject to the privileges provided by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3), the parties shall produce any translations in their possession of any portion of non-English documents or excerpts of documents produced in this action, in a manner that identifies the original non-English document or excerpt that the translation pertains to.

## (b) Facebook's Further Position:

Discovery Limits: In response to Facebook's motion for transfer, Mekiki served Facebook with 118 requests for admission, 5 "special" interrogatories, 18 requests for production, and deposition notices for Facebook's attorney, a declarant, and a 30(b)(6) witness on 10 topics. Consequently, there is a need for reasonable limits to be placed on discovery in this case. Facebook proposes the following limits: 25 Interrogatories; 50 Requests for Admission, excluding requests to authenticate documents; and 75 Requests for Production from a Party. On deposition discovery, Facebook proposes: Each inventor shall be subject to deposition for a maximum of 18 hours; All party depositions, including those pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(b)(6) and party-employees, shall be limited to 50 hours; and All third party depositions shall be limited to a total of 70 hours per party.

Depositions of Individuals Associated with Mekiki: Facebook proposes that: (1) Mekiki make a good faith effort to make any foreign non-party witness (a) that is represented by Mekiki's counsel, (b) whose counsel is paid for by Mekiki, or (c) who has any financial relationship with Mekiki, available for deposition in Los Angeles, California; (2) Mekiki make a good faith effort for any foreign non-party witness (a) that is represented by Mekiki's counsel, (b) whose counsel is paid for by Mekiki, or (c) who has any financial interest in Mekiki, available for deposition in a United States embassy, if Mekiki is unable to secure such deposition in Los Angeles, California, and (3) Mekiki shall pay for all costs and make all logistical arrangements for such embassy-based depositions.

Facebook proposes that any non-English documents or non-English excerpts of documents that have been translated in whole or in part by a producing party, shall be produced in both non-English and English together and in a manner that identifies the original non-English document or excerpt with the corresponding translated to English document or excerpt. As part of a party's production of non-English documents, Facebook proposes that the initial production of non-English documents or

excerpts include electronically translated copies of all non-English documents and that such electronically translated documents be produced such that the original non-English and corresponding electronically translated version be identified. If additional post-electronic translations are performed by the producing party, those additional translations shall also be produced in a manner that allows them to be identified with the original non-English and electronically translated to English documents.

Facebook proposes that the party producing documents in a language other than English pay the costs for translating the documents to English.

- 9. <u>Class Action</u>: This is not a class action.
- 10. Related Cases: Currently, there are no related cases.
- 11. Relief:
- (a) *Mekiki's Statement:* Mekiki is seeking the following relief: (1) an entry of judgment in favor of Mekiki and against Facebook; and (2) an award of damages adequate to compensate Mekiki for Facebook's infringement, together with prejudgment interest from the date infringement began, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty as permitted by 35 U.S.C. §285; and (3) an entry of a permanent injunction restraining and enjoining Facebook from infringing the Patents-in-Suit.
- (b) *Facebook's Statement:* Facebook seeks an entry of declaratory judgment that none of their products, processes, or services infringe the Patents-in-Suit, and that the Patents-in-Suit are invalid and/or unenforceable.
- 12. <u>Settlement and ADR</u>: The parties participated in an ADR Phone Conference scheduled for September 15, 2010. (D.I. 59.) The parties have agreed to file a stipulation prior to the Case Management Conference indicating that they intend, subject to the Court's approval, to participate in a private mediation within 60 days after the Court issues its claim construction ruling.
- 13. <u>Consent to Magistrate Judge For All Purposes</u>: The parties will not consent to a magistrate judge for trial in this case.
- 14. <u>Other References</u>: The parties agree that this case is not suitable for reference to binding arbitration, a special master, or the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation.
  - 15. Narrowing of Issues:
  - (a) *Mekiki's Statement:* To streamline this case, Mekiki proposes that (1) this case remain

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focused on the three Patents-in-Suit, (2) in an attempt to moot Facebook's efforts to broaden this case, the parties should continue their discussions on Facebook's request for a covenant not to sue on the two additional unasserted Mekiki patents; and (3) the parties should resume their discussions regarding possibly limiting the number of asserted claims, number of asserted prior art references and/or obviousness combinations, and number of patent claim terms to be construed by the Court after Mekiki serves its Infringement Contentions. Other than these proposals, Mekiki is not currently aware of any other issues that can be narrowed by agreement or motion, or suggestions to expedite the presentation of evidence at trial.

- (b) *Facebook's Statement:* Mekiki's Five Patents all share the same specification, priority date, and title, and have 123 total claims that have substantial overlapping subject matter. Accordingly, Facebook proposes that Mekiki be required to limit the number of claims it may assert in this case to 10 claims in order to streamline the litigation in the face of the extensive duplication in the claims. Mekiki may substitute claims for assertion in this case by obtaining leave of court and making a timely showing of good cause. Any substitution of claims will also be required to comply with the Amendment to Contention requirements of Pat. L.R. 3-6.
- 16. <u>Expedited Schedule</u>: The parties do not believe that this type of case can be handled on an expedited basis with streamlined procedures.
- 17. <u>Scheduling</u>: The parties propose the following dates for scheduling in this case, with each party's position stated where there is no current agreement on the proposed date:

- 11			
20	Event	Proposed Dates	
	Disclosure of Asserted Claims and Infringement	November 19, 2010	
21	Contentions and accompanying document production [Pat.	·	
	L.R. 3.1-3.2]		
22	Invalidity Contentions and accompanying document	January 10, 2011 [modified from	
_	production [Pat. L.R. 3.3-3.4]	January 3, 2010 by adding 7 days]	
23	Exchange of Proposed Terms and Claim Elements for	January 24, 2011	
	Construction [Pat. L.R. 4.1.a-b.]		
24	Deadline to Amend Pleadings	January 28, 2011	
ا ء ۔	The parties meet and confer to discuss list of proposed terms and claim elements for construction	February 4, 2011	
25			
اء	Simultaneous Exchange of Preliminary Claim	February 14, 2011	
26	Constructions and Preliminary Identifications of Extrinsic		
27	Evidence [Pat. L.R. 4.2.a-b.]		
۷/	The parties meet and confer to discuss preliminary claim	February 23, 2011	
<u> </u>	constructions and extrinsic evidence		

1	Event	Proposed Dates
$_{2}$	Simultaneous Exchange of Responsive Claim Constructions	March 4, 2011
3	Filing of Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing	March 11, 2011
	Statement [Pat. L.R. 4.3] Completion of Claim Construction Discovery [Pat. L.R.	April 8, 2011
4	4.4]	A :::1 25 2011
5	Opening Claim Construction Brief [Pat. L.R. 4.5.a.] Responsive Claim Construction Brief [Pat. L.R.4.5.b]	April 25, 2011 May 23, 2011 [modified from May
6	Reply Claim Construction Brief [Pat. L.R. 4.5.c]	9, 2011 by 14 days]  June 1, 2011 [modified from May
7	Tutorial	30, 2011 by 2 days]  Mekiki: June 14, 2011, Subject to
8		Court's availability  Facebook: June 1, 2011, Subject to
9	Claim Construction Hearing [Pat. L.R. 4.6]	Court's availability  June 15, 2011, Subject to Court's
10	Disclosure of Advice of Counsel [Pat. L.R. 3.7]	availability 50 days after issuance of Claim
11	Close of Fact Discovery	Construction Order  3 months after issuance of Claim
12	Exchange of Initial Expert Reports for which party bears	Construction Order  Mekiki: 3 months + 2 weeks after
13	burden	issuance of Claim Construction Order
14		<u>Facebook</u> : 5 months after issuance of Claim Construction Order
15	Exchange of Rebuttal Expert Reports	Mekiki: 5 months after issuance of Claim Construction Order
16		<u>Facebook</u> : 6 months + 2 weeks after issuance of Claim
17	CI CE ID:	Construction Order
18	Close of Expert Discovery	Mekiki: 6 months after issuance of Claim Construction Order
19		Facebook: 8 months after issuance of Claim Construction Order
20	Deadline to File Dispositive Motions and any motion to limit or exclude Expert Testimony	Mekiki: 8 months after issuance of Claim Construction Order
21		<u>Facebook</u> : 10 months after issuance of Claim Construction
	Suggested Date of Pretrial Conference	Order  Mekiki: 10 months after issuance
22	Suggested Date of Frental Collective	of Claim Construction Order
23		<u>Facebook</u> : 12 months after issuance of Claim Construction
24		Order

- 18. <u>Trial</u>: The parties have requested that this case be tried to a jury. The parties both believe they can present their cases in chief in approximately 4-6 days each (8-12 days total).
- 19. <u>Disclosure of Non-party Interested Entities or Persons</u>: The parties have filed their L.R. 3-16 certifications. (D.I. 51; 54.) Mekiki Co., Ltd. owns 20% of the stock of Mekiki Creates

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1	Co., Ltd. No other publicly traded company owns 10% or more of Facebook's or Mekiki's stock.			
2	he parties are not otherwise aware of any persons, firms, partnerships, corporations or other entities			
3	that have a financial interest in the subject matter of this p	at have a financial interest in the subject matter of this proceeding, or any other kind of interest that		
4	could be substantially affected by the outcome of this pr	ould be substantially affected by the outcome of this proceeding.		
5	20. <u>Other Matters</u> : The parties also discussed the following topics from Pat. L.R. 2-1(a):			
6	Proposed Modifications of Obligations and Deadlines in Local Patent Rules: To accommodate			
7	he holidays and Mekiki counsel's trial schedule, the parties have proposed modifications of the			
8	deadlines of Pat. L.R. 3-3 and 4-5.			
9	Scope and Timing of Claim Construction Discovery: The parties may use expert witnesses in			
10	support of their claim construction positions. If so, each party will make any mandated disclosures in			
11	accordance with Patent L.R. 4-2 and 4-3 (as modified above), and propose that claim construction			
12	discovery (including depositions) close in accordance with Pat. L.R. 4-4.			
13	Format of Claim Construction Hearing: The parties do not anticipate live testimony at the			
14	Claim Construction hearing, and anticipate that Plaintiffs will proceed with its argument, followed by			
15	Defendant. The parties anticipate that at least one-half day and not more than one full day will be			
16	required for argument by all parties at the Claim Constr	required for argument by all parties at the Claim Construction hearing.		
17	How the Parties Intend to Educate the Court on the Technology at Issue: To educate the court			
18	on the technology at issue, the parties are amenable to a variety of means. The parties have included			
19	in the proposed schedule a tutorial before the Claim Construction Hearing. The parties request to			
20	discuss this issue further with the Court at the case management conference.			
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22	ated: September 22, 2010			
23	QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & CO SULLIVAN, LLP	OOLEY LLP		
24				
25		Heidi L. Keefe		
26	Attorneys for Plaintiff and Counter-Defendants  At	eidi L. Keefe (178960) ttorneys for Defendant and Counterclaimant		
27	MEKIKI CO., LTD and MEKIKI CREATES CO., FA	ACEBOOK, INC.		
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## ATTESTATION CLAUSE

I, Chris Mathews, hereby attest in accordance with General Order No. 45.X(B) that Heidi L. Keefe, counsel for Defendant and Counterclaimant Facebook, Inc., and Harold A. Barza, counsel for Plaintiffs and Counter-Defendants Mekiki Co. Ltd and Mekiki Creates Co., Ltd. have provided their concurrence with the electronic filing of the foregoing document.

Dated: September 22, 2010 By: \_\_\_/s/ Chris Mathews\_\_\_

Chris Mathews

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