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Costco Wholesale Corp. v. Au Optronics Corp. et al

1 2 3 4 5 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 6 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 7 IN RE: TFT-LCD (FLAT PANEL) ANTITRUST No. M 07-1827 SI LITIGATION MDL No. 1827 8 No. C 11-0058 SI 9 This Order Relates To: ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S 10 TION FOR ORDER TO SERVE COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION. FENDANT CHUNGHWA PICTURE 11 TUBES, LTD. THROUGH ITS U.S. Plaintiff, COUNSEL 12 13 AU OPTRONICS CORPORATION, ET AL., 14 Defendants. 15

Plaintiff has filed a motion to serve a foreign defendant, Chunghwa Picture Tubes, Ltd., through its U.S. counsel pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(f)(3). The Court has previously heard and granted a number of similar motions in this MDL. *See*, *e.g.*, Order Re: Defendant Nexgen MediaTech Inc.'s Motion to Dismiss for Insufficient Service of Process; Quashing Service; and Granting Direct Purchaser Plaintiffs' Motion to Serve Nexgen Through its Counsel Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(f)(3), Nov. 19, 2008 (Master Docket No. 725); *see also* Master Docket Nos. 1309, 1657, 1779, 2109, 2532, and 2584.

For the reasons set forth in its prior orders, the Court finds that service under Rule 4(f)(3) is both available to plaintiff and appropriate in this case. *See*, *e.g.*, *Rio Properties*, *Inc. v. Rio Intern. Interlink*, 284 F.3d 1007, 1014-15 (9th Cir. 2002) (holding that service of process under Rule 4(f)(3) is not a "last resort," but "merely one means among several which enables service of process on an international defendant"). Further, due to Chunghwa's active participation in this lawsuit for the past three years, the

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1	Court finds that service through its U.S. counsel will fully comport with due process. See FMAC Loan
2	Receivables v. Dagra, 228 F.R.D. 531, 534 (E.D. Va. 2005) (finding service on defendant through his
3	attorney complied with due process because the numerous motions filed by defendant's attorney made
4	it "abundantly clear" that the two had been in constant communication).
5	
6	CONCLUSION
7	For the foregoing reasons and for good cause shown, the Court hereby GRANTS plaintiff's
8	motion to serve Chunghwa Picture Tubes, Ltd. through its U.S. counsel pursuant to Federal Rule of
9	Civil Procedure 4(f)(3). Docket No. 12 in C 11-0058 SI; Docket No. 2562 in M 07-1827 SI.
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11	IT IS SO ORDERED.
12	Suran Illaton
13	Dated: May 11, 2011 SUSAN ILLSTON
14	United States District Judge
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