

EXHIBIT L

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9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
10 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
11 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
12

13 ELANTECH DEVICES CORP.,) Case No. 3:06-CV-01839 CRB
14 Plaintiff,)
15 vs.) ELANTECH DEVICES CORP.'S REPLY
16 SYNAPTICS, INC. and) CLAIM CONSTRUCTION BRIEF FOR U.S.
17 AVERATEC, INC.) PATENT NO. 5,825,352
18 Defendants.)
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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 The Court need only resolve two primary claim construction questions for Elantech’s United
 3 States Patent No. 5,825,352 (“the ‘352 patent”)¹. They are (1) whether the simple term of
 4 “scanning” should, as proposed by Synaptics, be construed as “measuring traces” and “assigning
 5 them to a sequence corresponding to their physical order . . .” solely based on expert testimony
 6 when no intrinsic record supports such a narrow reading; and (2) whether the easy-to-understand
 7 terms of “maxima” and “minima” should, as proposed by Synaptics, be redefined respectively as
 8 “the point at which the measured values cease to increase and begin to decrease” and “the point at
 9 which the measured values cease to decrease and begin to increase” when the teachings and
 10 drawings from the ‘352 patent directly contradict Synaptics’ re-defining of those terms.

11 Under the Federal Circuit case law, “no” is the only answer to both questions. Synaptics’
 12 and its expert’s overly complicated reading of the simple term of “scanning,” “minima” and
 13 “maxima” violates fundamental principles of claim construction. The claim construction process
 14 must remain focused on how the patentee used the claim term in the claims, specification, and
 15 prosecution history – not how an expert defines the term. Indeed, expert testimony must be viewed
 16 as less reliable than the patent and its prosecution history in determining how to read claim terms.

17 **II. CLAIM CONSTRUCTION FOR CLAIMS 1 AND 18 OF THE ‘352 PATENT**

18 Synaptics’ attempts to alter the claims of the ‘552 patent using expert testimony should be
 19 rejected, and the claim terms should be given their ordinary meaning. The ‘352 patent relates to
 20 touchpad devices that can detect the presence of two or more fingers (or other objects). The
 21 invention of claim 1 is simply a method of examining touch sensor information to identify two peak
 22 values with one lowest value in between to determine the presence of two fingers, and providing an
 23 indication in response to that identification. Claim 18 also contains similar limitations but is
 24 directed to an apparatus for detecting two fingers. The claim language as written in both claims,
 25 along with the intrinsic record, makes it clear that the claimed method for detecting a multi-finger
 26 presence does not require any particular order or manner of scanning, or any particular nature of the

27 _____
 28 ¹ The ‘352 patent is in the record as Exhibit A to the January 29, 2007 Declaration of Sean P. DeBruine (“DeBruine Decl.”).

1 first and second maxima and the minimum between them. Elantech believes that these claims are
2 clear, and could be understood by the jury on their face. To assist the jury and to respond to
3 Synaptics' request for providing claim constructions, Elantech proposed constructions that are based
4 on the intrinsic record, not an expert's selective reading of dictionaries and constantly evolving
5 definitions. In contrast, Synaptics is asking the Court to turn the simple words of "scanning,"
6 "maxima," and "minima" into peculiar definitions that are not likely to be decipherable by the jury
7 and are inconsistent with the patent.

8 **A. "Scanning the Touch Sensor" Means "Examining Information Associated with the
9 Touch Sensor"**

10 As Elantech's Opening Brief explained, its construction of "scanning" is based on the
11 meaning of the term in the context of the '352 patent and should be adopted because (1) the patent
12 specification expressly contradicts Synaptics' initial construction of "sequentially measuring the
13 traces . . . ;" (2) the '352 patent specification describes "scanning" as examining or processing
14 touchpad information to identify finger presence; and (3) the dictionary definitions from Elantech
15 and Synaptics similarly characterize scanning as examining information and contradict Synaptics'
16 initial construction.

17 Rather than concede that its initial construction was improper, Synaptics now proposes an
18 entirely different construction of this term: "measuring the traces in the touch sensor and assigning
19 them to a sequence corresponding to their physical order on the touch sensor." Synaptics' Opp. at 3,
20 2/12/2007 Wolfe Decl. at 4. However, this re-ordering of the words does not change the effect.
21 Synaptics is still attempting to impose the additional limitation of a sequence. That reading is still
22 contradicted by the patent which says a scan may be sequential or concurrent. '352 patent at 7:36-
23 40. Thus, Synaptics' new construction unduly imposes a narrow reading of the simple term of
24 "scanning the touch sensors" for the same reasons Elantech has previously discussed. In essence,
25 Synaptics is asking the Court to disregard the broad teaching and multiple embodiments disclosed
26 in the specification and construe the term based solely on Synaptics' expert testimony.

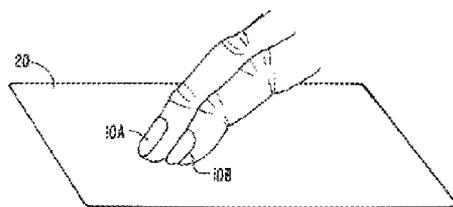
27 The only specification language cited by Synaptics does not even support its position. It
28 merely says that "[t]he scan process measures the values of finger-induced capacitance for each of

1 the conductors, and stores the values in RAM” Synaptics’ Opp. at 4. Synaptics identified no
 2 instance where its proposed construction of “assigning [the measured traces] to a sequence
 3 corresponding to their physical order on the touch sensor” can be found in the ‘352 patent
 4 specification or prosecution history. The only support for Synaptics’ position is the allegedly
 5 “uncontested testimony of Dr. Wolfe,” the same expert who was forced to re-write his construction
 6 of this term after Elantech pointed out that it contradicted the patent disclosure. Synaptics Opp. at
 7 5, 2/12/2007 Wolfe Decl. at 4. Again, the sentence immediately preceding the passage relied on by
 8 Synaptics states that touch sensors “may be scanned sequentially *or concurrently*, depending on the
 9 hardware implementation.” ‘352 patent at 7:36-37 (emphasis added). In other words, if the
 10 scanning as claimed required a separate “assigning” operation as Synaptics suggested, a concurrent
 11 scanning would not necessarily result in assigning scanning results to any particular sequence.

12 Synaptics’ attempt to vary the meaning of claim term based solely on expert testimony
 13 should be rejected. Indeed, extrinsic evidence, such as expert testimony, “is to be used for the
 14 court’s understanding of the patent, not for the purpose of varying or contradicting the terms of the
 15 claims.” *Markman v. Westview Instruments, Inc.*, 52 F.3d 967, 981 (Fed. Cir. 1995)(*en banc*), aff’d,
 16 517 U.S. 370 (1996). Additionally, the Federal Circuit has held that construing a claim to exclude a
 17 preferred embodiment “is rarely, if ever, correct and would require highly persuasive evidentiary
 18 support.” *Vitronics Corp. v. Conceptor, Inc.*, 90 F.3d 1576, 1583 (Fed. Cir. 1996). Synaptics fails
 19 to offer any evidentiary support to justify its proposed attention of the claim language.

20 **1) The Intrinsic Evidence Describes “Scanning” as Examining or**
 21 **Processing Touchpad Information to Identify Finger Presence, which the**
 22 **Dictionary Definition also Supports**

23 As illustrated by the ‘352 patent specification and Figures 1 and 3 reproduced below, the
 24 two-finger presence may be identified by simply identifying two peak values and one lowest value
 25 between the two peak values.



26 **FIG. 1**



27 **FIG. 3.**

1 Sensing the proximity of multiple fingers to a touch sensor, as illustrated in Figure 1, “may
 2 be implemented based on any conventional touch sensing technology,” such as capacitive, resistive,
 3 surface wave, strain, pressure, and optical sensing. ‘352 patent at 2:18-22, 1:18-32. Accordingly,
 4 the specification does not limit the invention to any particular “scanning.” For example, scanning a
 5 touch sensor to identify the high and low values as illustrated in Figure 3 includes having “the
 6 values of finger-induced capacitance . . . processed” to “detect whether one or more fingers is in
 7 operative contact” with a touchpad. *Id.* at 6:14-17.

8 In addition to the specification, an authoritative dictionary cited by both Elantech and
 9 Synaptics also defines scanning as “the process of examining information in a systematic manner.”
 10 DeBruine Decl., Ex. D (The IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronic Terms, 947 (6th
 11 Ed.)). However, despite the consistency between the specification and the most relevant dictionary,
 12 Synaptics seeks to impose a narrow reading of “measuring the traces” and “assigning them to a
 13 sequence corresponding to their physical order . . .” on the easy-to-understand term “scanning.”
 14 Synaptics’ Opp. at 3. Synaptics’ only justification for its peculiar definition is its expert’s self-
 15 serving testimony in combination with two other dictionary definitions not aligned with the intrinsic
 16 record. 2/12/2007 Wolfe Decl. at 5. None of those definitions equates scanning with “measuring.”
 17 *Id.* Thus, Synaptics is left with nothing but unsupported testimony of its expert to support its
 18 construction.

19 2) The Prosecution History of ‘352 Patent Directly Contradicts Synaptics’ 20 Narrow Reading

21 In addition to the lack of support from the ‘352 specification and file history, Synaptics’
 22 transformation of a single term of “scanning the touch sensor” into two separate and distinct
 23 limitations of “measuring the traces in the touch sensor” *and* “assigning them to a sequence
 24 corresponding to their physical order on the touch sensor” is directly contradicted by the
 25 prosecution history. Synaptics’ Opp. at 3. Specifically, the file history contradicts the inclusion of
 26 “trace values” in Synaptics’ proposed construction. The prosecution history states that multiple
 27 fingers are detected by “detecting the multiple maxima in the [finger] *profile* on the touchpad,” not
 28 by measuring the traces as narrowly defined by Synaptics. DeBruine Decl., Ex. C at 3, 4. (Amd. B,

1 April 6, 1998.) This language clearly supports Elantech’s proposed construction that “scanning the
 2 touch sensor” means “examining information associated with the touch sensor.” The reference to
 3 “trace values” and “assigning them to a sequence corresponding to their physical order . . .” in
 4 Synaptics’ definition, on the other hand, finds no support in the file history.

5 **3) The Claim Term of “Following” Merely Indicates Relevant Location of
 6 the Two Maxima and One Minimum and Connotes No Sequence of
 7 Assigning**

8 The use of the term “following” according to the plain language itself merely explains the
 9 relative locations of the maxima and minimum, as having “a minima *following* the first maxima”
 10 and “a second maxima . . . *following* said minima.” ‘352 patent at 16:17-20. Synaptics nevertheless
 11 argues that the claim language of “following” requires there to be “an ordered sequence” associated
 12 with the claimed “scanning” and therefore “scanning” requires “assigning the measured trace values
 13 from the touch sensor to a sequence corresponding to their physical order on the touch sensor.”
 14 Synaptics’ Opp at 7. Synaptics provides no intrinsic evidence to support this position but relies
 15 solely on its expert declaration. *Id.* In fact, there is no intrinsic evidence to support this argument.
 16 In essence, Synaptics is asking the Court not to follow the claim language itself or the intrinsic
 17 record but to rewrite the claim so the term “following” is somehow connected to a remotely located
 18 term of “scanning.” Synaptics relied on that attenuated connection to transform the term “scanning”
 19 into “measuring the traces” and “assigning them to a sequence corresponding to their physical order
 20” The Court should reject Synaptics’ attempts to rewrite the claims.

21 **B. “First Maxima,” “Minima,” and “Second Maxima” Can be Properly and
 22 Respectively Construed as “First Peak Value,” “Lowest Value,” and “Second Peak
 23 Value” in Corresponding Finger Profiles**

24 The three claim phrases relating to the maxima and minima limitations are similar and can
 25 be discussed jointly. Elantech proposed three parallel constructions: (1) “scanning the touch sensor
 26 to . . . identify a first maxima in a signal corresponding to a first finger” means “identify a first peak
 27 value in a finger profile obtained from scanning the touch sensor;” (2) “identify a minima following
 28 the first maxima” means “identify the lowest value in the finger profile that occurs after the first
 peak value, and before another peak value is identified;” and (3) “identify a second maxima in a

1 signal corresponding to a second finger following said minima” means “after identifying the lowest
 2 value in the finger profile, identify a second peak value in the finger profile.”

3 As Elantech’s Opening Brief explained, Elantech’s construction given above is based on the
 4 meaning of the term in the context of the ‘352 patent and should be adopted because (1) skilled
 5 artisans would understand the “maxima” and “minima” terms as Elantech’s proposed construction;
 6 (2) the ‘352 patent specification and prosecution history support Elantech’s construction; (3) the
 7 ‘352 patent specification and prosecution history directly contradict Synaptics’ proposals. As part
 8 of Synaptics’ proposals, maxima is defined as “the point at which the measured values cease to
 9 increase and begin to decrease” and minima is defined as “the point at which the measured values
 10 cease to decrease and begin to increase” solely based on expert testimony and selective reading of
 11 dictionary definitions. Those definitions again impose unwarranted restrictions and overcomplicate
 12 the claimed “maxima” and “minima” terms that, as written, can be easily understood by the Court
 13 and the jury. Again, Synaptics is asking the Court to disregard the intrinsic evidence and construe
 14 the term solely based on expert testimony and Synaptics’ selective reading of a dictionary.

15 **1) Synaptics Uses the Terms “Maxima” and “Peaks” Consistently with**
 16 **Elantech’s Proposed Construction**

17 The ‘352 patent specification and Figures 3 and 4 reproduced below both suggest that the
 18 claimed “first maxima” simply means a first peak value, which can be derived by examining a
 19 finger profile.



23 **FIG. 3.**

23 **FIG. 4.**

24 As illustrated in Figure 3, the “first maxima” as claimed, or more correctly (grammatically
 25 speaking) “first maximum,” simply means a first peak value 85, which exists in a peak area of the
 26 finger profile and may be followed by a minimum or lowest value 90 and another maximum or
 27 second peak value 95. ‘352 patent at Fig. 3, 6:27-38. Figure 4 similarly illustrates a first peak value
 28

1 105, which is followed by a local minimum or lowest value 100 and a second peak value 110. *Id.* at
2 6:39-47. The specification's use of Xpeak1 as a "variable to store the value of the *first peak X*
3 *value*" and Xpeak2 as a "variable to store the value of the *second peak X value*." also suggests the
4 consistent use of a local peak to represent a maximum. *Id.* at 8:64, 9:4.

5 Therefore, Elantech's proposed construction of the claim term "scanning the touch sensor to
6 . . . identify a first maxima in a signal corresponding to a first finger" as "identify a first peak value
7 in a finger profile obtained from scanning the touch sensor" and a similar construction for the claim
8 term of "identify a second maxima in a signal corresponding to a second finger" is fully supported
9 by the intrinsic evidence. Indeed, Synaptics' own statements in its Opposition Brief make it clear
10 that a maximum is generally understood as a peak and the two terms of maximum and peak are used
11 interchangeably. Specifically, Synaptics stated that other than Mount Everest, "every other '*peak*'
12 or 'plateau' around Mount Everest, or anywhere else, *is a 'local' maximum.*" Synaptics Opp. at 8
13 (emphasis added) Therefore, Elantech and Synaptics appear to be in agreement that the "first
14 maxima" can be ordinarily and appropriately defined as a "first peak" or a "first peak value."

15 Despite the fact that Synaptics uses the terms "maximum" and "peak" interchangeably, it
16 nevertheless challenged Elantech's position not by taking on Elantech's proposed constructions, but
17 by redefining "first peak value" or "second peak value" as a "global peak" and then arguing that a
18 definition of "maxima" as "global peak" is inconsistent with the plural maxima identified in the
19 '352 patent. *Id.* at 11. Synaptics' self-serving redefinition of Elantech's proposed construction is
20 not acceptable. Nowhere in Elantech's proposed construction does it use the term "global" or
21 characterize the proposed construction of "first peak value" or "second peak value" as a global peak
22 value. Indeed, Elantech's proposed constructions of "first maxima" as "first peak value" and
23 "second maxima" as "second peak value" show that there are at least two peak values as required by
24 the plain language of the claims, and that Elantech's constructions do not require a single, global
25 peak value. DeBruine Decl., Ex. B (Jt. CC Stmt.) at Ex. C, Claim Terms 16 and 18. Therefore,
26 Synaptics' attacks on Elantech's proposed construction are meritless. In fact, the Court need not
27 consider those attacks, because Synaptics' own statements about peaks demonstrate that Synaptics'
28

own use of the same word does not limit a “peak” to a global peak and allows multiple peaks to coexist. Synaptics Opp. at 8. (Other than Mount Everest, “*every other ‘peak’* or ‘plateau’ around Mount Everest, or anywhere else, is a ‘local’ maximum.”) (emphasis added).

2) Synaptics Failed to Address Two Main Flaws of Its Proposed Construction: Direct Contradictions by Specification Teachings and Prosecution History

Elantech, in its Opening Brief, discussed why Synaptics proposed construction of “measuring the trace values of the touch sensor corresponding to a first finger and *determining the point at which the measured values cease to increase and begin to decrease*” and Synaptics’ similar definition for the second maxima impose unwarranted restrictions and are directly contradicted by the specification, the drawings, and the prosecution history. Elantech used the following drawings to illustrate two main flaws of Synaptics’ proposed construction.



FIG. 3.

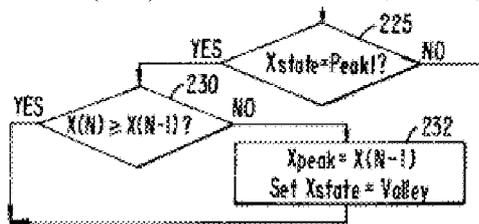
Upside-down version of Figure 3

First, the first maximum 85 as illustrated in Figure 3 may be the point at which values *begin to decrease*, but *not* the point at which values *cease to increase*, which occurs at a separate location, i.e., a point to the left of first maximum 85 and of the same level as first maximum 85. Similarly, the second maximum 95 may be the point at which values *begin to decrease*, but *not* the point at which values *cease to increase*, which occurs at a separate location, i.e., a point to the left of second maximum 95 and of the same level as second maximum 95. Synaptics’ definition of the claimed “minima” as “the point at which the measured values cease to decrease and begin to increase” is also flawed for the same reason – the minimum 90 as illustrated in Fig. 3 simply does not qualify. Second, the fact that a maximum could be a maximum negative level or a negative peak directly contradicts Synaptics’ construction as “the point at which the measured values cease to increase and

begin to decrease,” which only occurs when a finger profile remains positive and does not occur at negative peaks for a finger profile having two negative maxima or peaks.

Synaptics failed to provide any response regarding the first flaw, because Synaptics’ definition of “first maxima” as a single point “*at which the measured values cease to increase and begin to decrease*” is clearly not reconcilable with the teachings in the specification and the drawings. The very specific “point” as required by Synaptics’ proposed construction, which is based not on the intrinsic evidence but on a selected definition from many dictionary definitions, simply does not exist in the embodiments as illustrated by the drawings of the ‘352 patent. Indeed, neither point 85 nor point 95 qualifies as a maximum under Synaptics’ construction, but they both are maxima according to the specification. ‘352 patent at 6:29-35.

Synaptics appeared to justify its construction using the algorithm in Fig. 6-1. Synaptics’ Opp. at 9-10. However, the algorithm in Fig. 6-1, which Synaptics characterized as “exactly correspond[ing]” to Synaptics’ definition, does not match or correspond to Synaptics’ proposed construction at all. *Id.* For example, as the portion of Fig. 6-1 below illustrates, in identifying a first maximum or first peak value X_{peak} in the specific embodiment that Synaptics relied upon, the algorithm identifies X_{peak} only as *a peak value that occurs before the value stops increasing*, i.e., where $X(N)$ is no longer larger than $X(N-1)$. DeBruine Decl., Ex. A, Fig. 6-1 (‘352 patent).

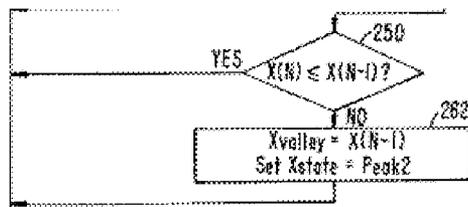


Portion of Fig. 6-1 of ‘352 patent

Accordingly, even with the specific and narrowing embodiment Synaptics identified to support its position, the algorithm does not require a point “at which the measured values **cease to increase and begin to decrease**.” The algorithm therefore does not, as presented by Synaptics, “exactly correspond” to Synaptics’ proposed construction of “measuring the trace values of the touch sensor corresponding to a first finger and *determining the point at which the measured values*

1 *cease to increase and begin to decrease.*” DeBruine Decl., Ex. B at Ex. C, Claim Term 16 (Jt. CC
 2 Stmt.)

3 As another example, referring to a different portion of Fig. 6-1 reproduced below, in
 4 identifying a minimum or lowest value Xvalley, the algorithm identifies Xvalley only as *a lowest*
 5 *value that occurs when the value starts to increase*, i.e. where X(N) is no longer equal to or smaller
 6 than X(N-1). ‘352 patent, Fig. 6-1.



7
8
9
10 Another Portion of Fig. 6-1 of '352 patent

11 Again, the algorithm does not require a point “at which the measured values *cease to*
 12 *decrease and begin to increase.*” The algorithm does not, as presented by Synaptics, “exactly
 13 correspond” to Synaptics’ proposed construction of “measuring the trace values of the touch sensor
 14 following, in scan order, after the first maxima and *determining the point at which the measured*
 15 *values cease to decrease and begin to increase.*” DeBruine Decl., Ex. B at Ex. C, Claim Term 17
 16 (Jt. CC Stmt.)

17 Regarding the second flaw Elantech identified, Synaptics’ response was that “the ‘maxima’
 18 and ‘minima’ could be negative ‘maxima’ and ‘minima’ and Synaptics’ proposed definitions become
 19 applicable when a signal is examined using its “absolute value.” Synaptics’ Opp. at 10, 2/12/2007
 20 Wolf Decl. at 14. However, Synaptics’ proposed construction of “maxima” as “the point at which
 21 the measured values *cease to increase and begin to decrease,*” with or without Synaptics’ further
 22 explanation, simply does not apply to a negative maximum as illustrated above. A negative
 23 maximum is at best a point where the measured values “cease to decrease and begin to increase.”
 24 The fact that a maximum could be a maximum negative level or negative peak directly contradicts
 25 Synaptics’ construction as “the point at which the measured values cease to increase and begin to
 26 decrease,” which only occurs when a finger profile remains positive. In contrast, Elantech’s
 27 proposed constructions of “first maxima” as “first peak value” and “second maxima” as “second
 28

1 peak value” are equally applicable to positive or negative peaks without the need for further
2 explanation. Indeed, Synaptics’ expert conceded that Elantech’s proposed construction is
3 “consistent with the inventors’ statement during prosecution.” 2/12/2007 Wolf Decl. at 15.

4 **3) The Claim Term of “Following” Merely Indicates Relevant Location of**
5 **the Two Maxima and One Minimum and Connotes No Particular**
6 **Scanning Order**

7 As discussed under Section II-A-(3), the use of the term “following” according to the plain
8 language itself merely explains the relative locations of the maxima and minimum, as having “a
9 minima *following* the first maxima” and “a second maxima . . . *following* said minima.” DeBruine
10 Decl., Ex. A at 16: 17-20 (’352 patent). Synaptics again argued that the claim language of
11 “following” requires there to be a “scan order” when the claim language itself has none. Synaptics’
12 Opp. at 12. The Court should reject Synaptics’ attempts to rewrite the claims for similar reasons
13 discussed under Section II-A-(3). Furthermore, the ’352 specification makes it clear that the touch
14 sensor may be concurrently scanned and the finger-induced capacitance values can then be loaded
15 into a memory. ’352 patent at 7:34-40. Then, the maxima and minima can be identified. *Id.* at
16 6:14-37. Accordingly, the specification descriptions require no particular order and suggest that
17 those values may be obtained concurrently, rather than sequentially. The claim itself and the
18 specification therefore do not require any “scan order” as suggested by Synaptics.

19 **4) Synaptics’ Reliance on Claim Differentiation Principle is Misplaced**

20 Synaptics argues that the doctrine of claim differentiation renders Elantech’s claim
21 construction as improper. Synaptics’ Opp. at 12. However, the doctrine of claim differentiation is
22 merely a guide, not a rule, and a claim is to be construed based on the intrinsic evidence and not
23 solely by looking at how dependent claims differ from independent ones. Although the doctrine of
24 claim differentiation means that different claims are presumed to be of different scope, describing
25 claim elements or limitations in different words does not invariably change the scope of the claim.
26 *Tandon Corp. v. United States Int’l Trade Comm’n*, 831 F.2d 1017, 1023-24 (Fed. Cir. 1987).
27 Therefore, the fact that dependent claims 7 and 21 of the ’352 patent describe maxima as peaks do
28 not preclude the Court from construing maxima as peak values based on the intrinsic evidence.

1 **C. The Patent Clearly Discloses Microprocessor 60 as the Structure Corresponding to**
2 **the “Means for Indicating”**

3 While this claim term was not elected by the parties as among the eight terms the Court will
4 initially construe pursuant to its Order of February 12, 2007, Elantech will address Synaptics’
5 erroneous arguments so that the record is complete. Consistent with its tendency to ignore aspects
6 of the patent specification that do not support its litigation positions, Synaptics and its expert claim
7 that there is no teaching in the patent that microcontroller 60 is the structure that performs the
8 function of “providing an indication of the simultaneous presence of two fingers in response to
9 identification of said first and second maxima.” Syn. Opp. Br. at 13. In particular, Synaptics claims
10 that one of ordinary skill would have to “guess” to determine what structure performs this function.
11 *Id.* That is simply not the case.

12 One of ordinary skill in the art is defined by Synaptics as having a degree in electrical
13 engineering and three years or so of experience in touchpad design. 2/12/2007 Wolfe Decl., ¶ 4.
14 Such a person actually reading the ‘352 patent would clearly understand that the corresponding
15 structure is microcontroller 60 running appropriate software or firmware. First, the patent explains
16 that microcontroller 60 operates to determine a finger profile for one or more fingers. ‘352 patent at
17 5:49-51. The output of microcontroller 60 is supplied to the host computer, such as a PS/2
18 interface, RS-232 interface or an Apple Desktop Bus interface. *Id.* at 5:53-55; Fig 2 (output of
19 microcontroller 60 is “interface to PC or other device.”) The patent also explains that the operation
20 of the touchpad of Fig. 2 is controlled in either firmware, software or hardware. *Id.* 5:32-35 and
21 7:1-3. The function of detecting the simultaneous presence of two fingers and reporting that
22 presence to the host is described as being carried out with firmware or software generally consistent
23 with the flow diagram in Fig. 5 and algorithm in Fig. 6. *Id.* at 7:3-6. At various points in the flow
24 chart diagram “reports” are made when two fingers are detected. *See, e.g.* Fig. 5, steps 540 and 555.
25 A “report” means information transmitted to the host, *Id.* at 7:27-29, which again is the province of
26 microcontroller 60. *Id.* at 5:52-55. Thus, the patent clearly teaches that microcontroller 60 is
27 programmed to detect the presence of two fingers and provide an indication of that fact to the host
28

1 computer. Synaptics uses unsupported expert testimony in an attempt to create a claim construction
2 issue where none exists.

3 **D. The Synaptics' Misleading Statements Regarding Its Own Patent's Priority Over**
4 **'352 Patent and the '352 Patent's Prosecution History Should be Ignored**

5 Finally, Elantech will address two extraneous arguments raised by Synaptics which have no
6 bearing whatsoever on the Courts' claim construction analysis. Rather, those arguments appear to
7 have been raised in an attempt to unduly bias the Court. First, Synaptics asserts bragging rights for
8 allegedly being the first to invent multiple finger detection by pointing to its newly issued U.S.
9 Patent No. 7,109,978 ("the '978 patent"). Synaptics alleges that its patent has a priority date earlier
10 than that of the '352 patent. Synaptics Opp. Br. at 2:1-13. The Court should ignore this discussion
11 because it is completely irrelevant to the claim construction issues being briefed. Nowhere does
12 Synaptics offer any discussion of how or why its '978 patent supports Synaptics' claim construction
13 position or refutes Elantech's claim construction position. Furthermore, Synaptics' discussion of its
14 '352 patent raises issues of validity and non-infringement that are completely outside of the scope
15 of a claim construction hearing. As such, this argument should be dismissed for what it is: an
16 attempt to muddy the waters.

17 Synaptics also suggested, without stating how it is relevant to the Court's construction, that
18 Elantech's predecessor somehow "abandoned its original application." Kramer Decl. at 3. The
19 Court should ignore this statement, not only because it bears no relationship to claim construction,
20 but because Synaptics failed to explain to the Court that such an abandonment is part of
21 practitioner's common practice when applicants continue to prosecute patent applications using a
22 continuation application. *See* Kramer Decl., Ex. C (notice of abandonment from the file history).
23 Indeed, Synaptics' '978 patent originated from an abandoned application. *See* Kramer Decl., Ex. E,
24 ('978 patent cover page).

25 **III. CONCLUSION**

26 As discussed above, Elantech's proposed constructions for the disputed terms of the '352
27 patent follow the straightforward language of the claims and are supported by the intrinsic evidence.
28 In contrast, Synaptics' proposed constructions limit the claim language not to any particular

1 embodiments in the specification of the '352 patent, but to peculiar meanings sponsored by
2 Synaptics' expert supported only by his selective reading of dictionary definitions, an approach
3 specifically rejected by the Federal Circuit. No explicit or different definitions, or disavowal or
4 disclaimer of claim scope, appear in either the '352 patent itself or in its prosecution history that
5 would warrant the unduly narrow claim constructions proposed by Synaptics. Synaptics' proposed
6 constructions also have several flaws, making them not reconcilable with the intrinsic evidence.
7 Accordingly, Elantech respectfully requests that the Court adopt its constructions and reject those
8 offered by Synaptics.

9
10 Dated: February 21, 2007

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

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12
13 By: _____ /s/
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