1 2 3 4 5 6 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, CASE NO. 3:13-cv-2016-GPC-WVG 11 **ORDER:** Plaintiff/Counterclaim Defendant. 12 (1) GRANTING ITRI'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT; 13 v. [ECF No. 98] 14 (2) DENYING LG ELECTRONICS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY 15 JUDGMENT 16 LG ELECTRONICS, INC., and LG ELECTRONICS U.S.A., INC., [ECF No. 112] 17 [REDACTED] Defendants/Counterclaim Plaintiffs. 18 19 and 20 LG DISPLAY CO., LTD., 21 Intervenor. 22 23 I. INTRODUCTION 24 Before the Court are two motions for summary judgment. (ECF Nos. 98, 112.) Plaintiff Industrial Technology Research Institute ("ITRI") moves for summary 25 judgment on Defendants LG Electronics, Inc. and LG Electronics U.S.A., Inc.'s 26 27 28

(collectively, "LGE") exhaustion and lack of standing defense. (ECF No. 98.) LGE moves for summary judgment on LGE's third counterclaim seeking a declaratory judgment of non-infringement and LGE's licensing defense. (ECF No. 112.)

The parties have fully briefed the motions. (ECF Nos. 98, 112, 121, 118, 134, 137.) A hearing was held on December 5, 2014. (ECF No. 146.) Upon review of the moving papers, admissible evidence, oral argument, and applicable law, the Court finds that ITRI's patent.

Summary judgment and DENIES LGE's motion for summary judgment.

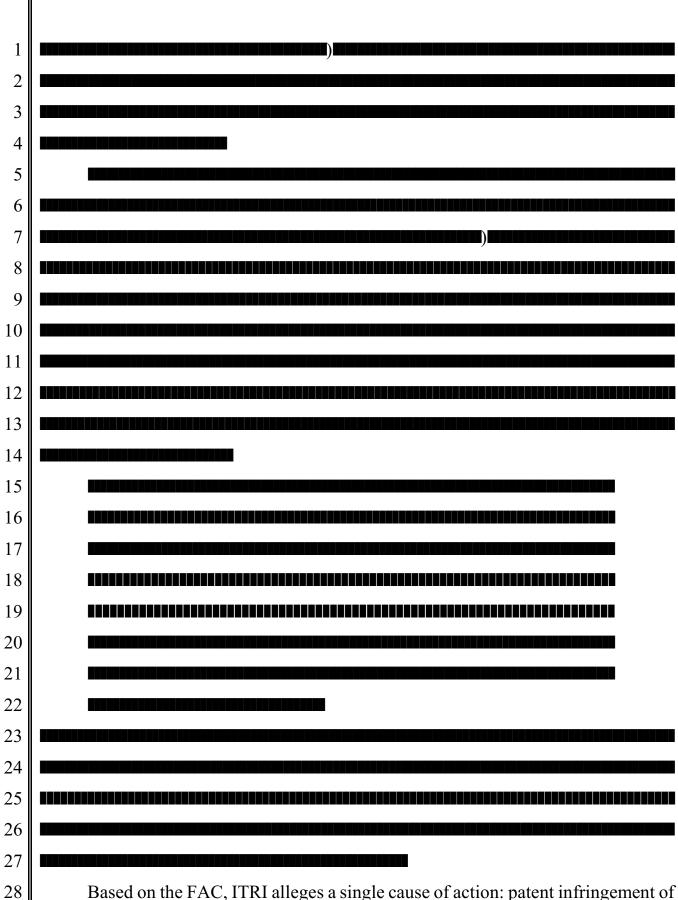
II. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On August 29, 2013, ITRI filed a complaint against LGE alleging patent infringement. (ECF No. 1.) On June 26, 2014, ITRI filed a First Amended Complaint alleging patent infringement by LGE (the "FAC"). (ECF No. 35.) On July 14, 2014, LGE filed an answer to the FAC (the "Answer") alleging thirteen affirmative defenses and three counterclaims. (ECF No. 37.)

On October 16, 2014, ITRI filed a motion for summary judgment on LGE's licensing defense. (ECF No. 98.) On November 7, 2014, LGE filed an opposition to ITRI's motion. (ECF No. 121.) On November 10, 2014, Intervenor LG Display Co., Ltd. ("LGD") filed a notice of joinder joining LGE's opposition to ITRI's motion. (ECF No. 125.) On November 21, 2014, ITRI filed a reply to LGE's opposition. (ECF No. 137.)

On October 24, 2014, LGE filed a motion for summary judgment on LGE's licensing defense and LGE's counterclaim for a declaratory judgment of non-

¹ The parties refer to LGE's Seventh Affirmative Defense as an "exhaustion defense," "licensing defense," and "lack of standing defense." For clarity, the Court will refer to it as LGE's licensing defense.



Based on the FAC, ITRI alleges a single cause of action: patent infringement of

the '355 patent by LGE. (FAC.) ITRI alleges that three of LGE's monitors infringe the '355 patent: 23EA63V-P, 22EA53T-P, and 29EA93-P (the "Accused Monitors"). (*Id.* ¶ 14.) LGD manufactures and sells to LGE the liquid crystal displays in the Accused Monitors. (ECF No. 47-1, at 3; ECF No. 68, at 2.)

LGE's answer alleges thirteen affirmative defenses, including LGE's Seventh Affirmative Defense:

LGE's answer also alleges three counterclaims, including LGE's third count: a declaratory judgment of noninfringement. (See Answer ¶¶ 49–50.)

IV. LEGAL STANDARD

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56 empowers the Court to enter summary judgment on factually unsupported claims or defenses, and thereby "secure the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of every action." *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 325, 327 (1986); FED. R. CIV. P. 56. Summary judgment is appropriate if the "pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." FED. R. CIV. P. 56(c). A fact is material when it affects the outcome of the case. *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 242, 248 (1986).

The moving party bears the initial burden of demonstrating the absence of any genuine issues of material fact. *Celotex*, 477 U.S. at 323. The moving party can satisfy this burden by demonstrating that the nonmoving party failed to make a showing sufficient to establish an element of his or her claim on which that party will bear the burden of proof at trial. *Id.* at 322–23. If the moving party fails to bear the initial burden, summary judgment must be denied and the Court need not consider the nonmoving party's evidence. *Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co.*, 398 U.S. 144, 159–60 (1970).

Once the moving party has satisfied this burden, the nonmoving party cannot rest

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on the mere allegations or denials of his pleading, but must "go beyond the pleadings and by her own affidavits, or by the 'depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file' designate 'specific facts showing that there is a genuine issue for trial." *Celotex*, 477 U.S. at 324 (citing FED. R. CIV. P. 56 (1963)). If the non-moving party fails to make a sufficient showing of an element of its case, the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. *Id.* at 325. "Where the record taken as a whole could not lead a rational trier of fact to find for the nonmoving party, there is no 'genuine issue for trial." *Matsushita Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith Radio Corp.*, 475 U.S. 574, 587 (1986) (citing FED. R. CIV. P. 56 (1963)). In making this determination, the Court must "view [] the evidence in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party." *Fontana v. Haskin*, 262 F.3d 871, 876 (9th Cir. 2001). The Court does not engage in credibility determinations, weighing of evidence, or drawing of legitimate inferences from the facts; these functions are for the trier of fact. *Anderson*, 477 U.S. at 255.

V. DISCUSSION

A. LGE's Defense

A patent license is an agreement by the licensor not to sue the licensee for patent
infringement. See Jim Arnold Corp. v. Hydrotech Sys., Inc., 109 F.3d 1567, 1577 (Fed.
Cir. 1997). The first sale/patent exhaustion doctrine "provides that the initial authorized
sale of a patented item terminates all patent rights to that item." Quanta Computer, Inc.
v. LG Electronics, Inc., 553 U.S. 617, 625 (2008). The parties disagree whether

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2	B. Licensing Agreement
3	The Court first turns to whether the '355 patent falls within the definition of
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19	VI. CONCLUSION AND ORDER
20	For the reasons stated above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:
21	1. ITRI's Motion for Summary Judgment, (ECF No. 98), is GRANTED ; and
22	2. LGE's Motion for Summary Judgment, (ECF No. 112), is DENIED .
23	DATED: December 9, 2014
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25	HON. GONZALO P. CURIEL United States District Judge
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