

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
TYLER DIVISION**

**EOLAS TECHNOLOGIES §
INCORPORATED and THE REGENTS §
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA §**

Plaintiffs,

vs.

**ADOBE SYSTEMS INC., AMAZON.COM §
INC., CDW CORPORATION, CITIGROUP §
INC., THE GO DADDY GROUP, INC., §
GOOGLE INC., J.C. PENNEY §
CORPORATION, INC., STAPLES, INC., §
YAHOO! INC., and YOUTUBE, LLC., §**

Defendants.

CASE NO. 6:09-CV-00446-LED

JURY TRIAL

**PLAINTIFFS' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF THEIR OPPOSED MOTION TO
CORRECT JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO RULES 59(e) AND 60(a)**

Plaintiffs Eolas Technologies Incorporated (“Eolas”) and The Regents of the University of California (“UC”) (collectively “Plaintiffs”) respectfully file this Reply in Support of Their Motion to Correct Judgment Pursuant to Rules 59(e) and 60(a) [Dkt. No. 1368].

I. ARGUMENT

Defendants contend that the Court’s order that “‘Plaintiffs take nothing’ from Defendants” “resolved Plaintiffs’ infringement claims in favor of Defendants[.]” Resp. at 2. Yet, neither the Court nor the jury heard any evidence or argument regarding infringement issues in this case and, thus, reached no verdict or issued any order regarding Plaintiffs’ infringement claims or Defendants’ counterclaims of noninfringement. Indeed, this Court expressly forbade the parties from even “stat[ing] or imply[ing] that infringement has been conceded or that infringement is yet to be determined by this or any other jury.” Dkt. No 1315. The jury’s verdict, which Plaintiffs have challenged [Dkt. No. 1367] and upon which the Court’s final judgment is based, was limited solely to the validity of the patents-in-suit.

Despite the foregoing, Defendants argue that Plaintiffs’ infringement claims should be dismissed with prejudice, citing the Federal Circuit’s holding in *Marrin v. Griffin*. See Dkt. 1383 at 1. Defendants state simply that in *Marrin*, the district court had “granted summary judgment that the patent-in-suit was invalid and, as a consequence, was not infringed” and that “[t]he Federal Circuit affirmed, stating the rule that “[t]here can be no infringement of claims deemed to be invalid.” *Id.* at 1-2. What the Federal Circuit stated was merely a truism—there can be no liability for the infringement of claims that are found invalid. Defendants ignore the fact that validity and infringement are “separate and distinct issues.” See *Pandrol USA, LP v. Airboss Ry. Prods.*, 320 F.3d 1354, 1365 (Fed. Cir. 2003). Thus, while “‘an invalid claim cannot give rise to liability for infringement, whether it is infringed is an entirely separate question capable of determination without regard to its validity.’” *Id.* (quoting *Medtronic, Inc. v. Cardiac*

Pacemakers, Inc., 721 F.2d 1563, 1583 (Fed. Cir. 1983)). See also *Carman Indus., Inc. v. Wahl*, 724 F.2d 932, 936 n.2, 220 USPQ 481, 484 n.5 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (“Although related, validity and infringement are separate issues.”). The jury’s verdict regarding the invalidity of certain patent claims, therefore, does not address the issue of whether Defendants’ accused products meet each and every limitation of those patent claims—it just renders that issue moot.

Plaintiffs do not ask the Court to enter a corrected judgment holding Defendants liable for infringement of claims deemed invalid by the jury. Instead, consistent with relevant, controlling case law, Plaintiffs request the Court to enter a corrected judgment that dismisses Plaintiffs’ infringement claims based on Defendants’ invalidity affirmative defense and counterclaim—in effect, holding those claims moot in light of the jury’s verdict. Such a judgment is verbatim of what the Federal Circuit found appropriate in *Leggett & Platt, Inc. v. VUTEk, Inc.*, 537 F.3d 1349 (Fed. Cir. 2008), as discussed in Plaintiffs’ Motion at 1-2 and Exhibits 1 and 2 thereto.

There can be no doubt as to whether Plaintiffs’ proposed corrected final judgment is in line with binding Federal Circuit case law. The Federal Circuit has repeatedly heard appeals of litigants in which the district court had ruled on validity or unenforceability, but had declined to rule on, or dismissed as moot, claims of infringement or noninfringement. See, e.g., *MBO Labs, Inc. v. Becton, Dickinson & Co.*, 602 F.3d 1306, 1312 (Fed. Cir. 2010) (hearing appeal in which the district court found the patent invalid, dismissed the motion for summary judgment of non-infringement as moot, and entered final judgment of invalidity); *Revolution Eyewear, Inc. v. Aspex Eyewear, Inc.*, 556 F.3d 1294, 1295 (Fed. Cir. 2009) (hearing appeal in which the district court granted summary judgment of invalidity, dismissed as moot the other counterclaims for non-infringement and unenforceability, and entered final judgment of invalidity); *Halliburton Energy Servs. v. M-I LLC*, 514 F.3d 1244, 1248 (Fed. Cir. 2008) (hearing appeal in which the

district court found all asserted claims invalid and that all other issues of infringement and validity were moot); *M. Eagles Tool Warehouse, Inc. v. Fisher Tooling Co.*, 439 F.3d 1335, 1344 (Fed. Cir. 2006) (hearing appeal in which the district court found the motion on infringement moot, having found the patent unenforceable for inequitable conduct).

Finally, Defendants' proposed Amended Final Judgment reveals the fallacy of their arguments: While Defendants would have the Court dismiss "with prejudice" Plaintiffs' infringement claims, they ask the Court to dismiss "as moot" their counterclaims—which necessarily include their counterclaims of noninfringement. Dkt. No. 1383-1. Defendants' disparate treatment of infringement and noninfringement claims is at odds with logic and the Federal Circuit, given that claims of infringement and noninfringement are inextricably intertwined. *See, e.g., Polymer Indus. Prods. v. Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc.*, 347 F.3d 935, 938 (Fed. Cir. 2003) (holding "that a claim for a declaration of noninfringement makes a counterclaim for patent infringement compulsory").

II. CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing and the arguments set forth in Plaintiffs' Motion, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court correct its "final" judgment entered in this case, replacing it with a judgment naming only Defendants Amazon.com Inc.; Google Inc.; J.C. Penney Corporation, Inc.; Yahoo! Inc.; and YouTube, LLC and stating that Plaintiffs' claims for infringement and damages are dismissed based on Defendants' invalidity affirmative defense and counterclaim, and Defendants' counterclaims other than for invalidity are hereby dismissed as moot.

Dated: April 9, 2012.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Local Rule CV-5(a)(7), the undersigned certifies that the foregoing document was filed electronically. As such, counsel for Plaintiffs has served this Reply in electronic form on all counsel who have consented to electronic service.

/s/ Gretchen K. Curran
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