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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 9 AT SEATTLE 10 MICROSOFT CORPORATION, 11 Case No. 11-485 RAJ Plaintiff, 12 PLAINTIFF MICROSOFT VS. CORPORATION'S MOTION FOR 13 BARNES & NOBLE, INC., ADDITIONAL TIME TO RESPOND TO BARNESANDNOBLE.COM LLC, HON COUNTERCLAIMS OF DEFENDANTS 14 HAI PRECISION INDUSTRY CO., LTD., BARNES & NOBLE, INC. AND FOXCONN INTERNATIONAL BARNESANDNOBLE.COM LLC 15 HOLDINGS LTD., FOXCONN 16 ELECTRONICS, INC., FOXCONN NOTED: FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2011 PRECISION COMPONENT (SHENZHEN) 17 CO., LTD., and INVENTEC CORPORATION, 18 Defendants. 19 20 Plaintiff Microsoft Corp. ("Microsoft") respectfully requests an additional 30 days to 21 respond to the Counterclaims filed by Defendants Barnes & Noble, Inc. and 22 barnesandnoble.com LLC (together, "B&N"). Microsoft's response is due on May 16, 2011. 23 However, under 28 U.S.C. § 1659, B&N has until May 19 to demand that this action be stayed 24 25 PLTFF MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR ADDITIONAL TIME TO RESPOND TO LAW OFFICES COUNTERCLAIMS OF DEFS BARNES & DANIELSON HARRIGAN LEYH & TOLLEFSON LLP 999 THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 4400 NOBLE, INC. & BARNESANDNOBLE.COM - 1 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104 TEL, (206) 623-1700 FAX, (206) 623-8717

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pending resolution of a parallel action between the parties that is currently pending before the 1 International Trade Commission. 2

3 The deadline for Microsoft's response to B&N's Counterclaims should be extended 4 until a reasonable period after expiration of B&N's deadline to request a stay under § 1659. Microsoft should not be required to invest the time and effort to develop a response to B&N's 5 6 Counterclaims when B&N unilaterally could render such a response unnecessary and moot at any point within the next three weeks. 7

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I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

A.

Microsoft's Commencement of this Action

On March 21, 2011, Microsoft filed its Complaint in the above-captioned action. Barnes & Noble, Inc. was served on March 23, 2011 and barnesandnoble.com LLC was served on April 1, 2011.

The Complaint asserts that B&N and its co-defendants are infringing and/or inducing 13 others to infringe by making, using, offering to sell, and/or selling in the United States, and/or 14 importing into the United States, products or processes that practice one or more inventions 15 claimed in each of five patents owned by Microsoft: U.S. Patent No. 5,778,372, U.S. Patent 16 No. 6,339,780, U.S. Patent No. 5,889,522, U.S. Patent No. 6,891,551, and U.S. Patent No. 6,957,233 (collectively, the "Microsoft Patents"). The claims implicate certain features 18 implemented by Barnes & Noble's Nook and Nook Color e-book readers.

19 On or about April 12, 2011, counsel for B&N requested a 30-day extension of the 20 deadline to respond to Microsoft's Complaint. On April 13, 2011 (the deadline for Barnes & 21 Noble, Inc. to file its answer) counsel for Microsoft agreed to grant Barnes & Noble, Inc. a 30-22 day extension, through May 13, 2011.¹ The parties filed a stipulation and proposed order that 23

¹ The deadline for barnesandnoble.com to file its answer was likewise extended from April 22, 2011 to May 13, 25 2011.

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1	same day, which the Court granted. See Dkt. No. 11. Microsoft is now seeking a similar
2	accommodation.
3	B. Parallel Proceedings before the International Trade Commission ("ITC")
4	On March 21, 2011, the same day Microsoft filed this action, Microsoft also filed a
5	Complaint with the ITC against B&N and its co-defendants, captioned "In the Matter of
6	Certain Handheld Electronic Computing Devices, Related Software, and Components
7	Thereof."
8	The ITC is a quasi-judicial federal agency charged with investigating claims of unfair
9	trade practices arising under 28 U.S.C. § 1337. Among other things, § 1337 prohibits the
10	importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within
11	the United States after importation by the owner, importer, or consignee, of articles that infringe a valid and enforceable United States patent[.]
12	In its ITC Complaint, Microsoft alleges that B&N and its co-defendants are in violation
13	of § 1337 in connection with the importation and sale of the Barnes & Noble Nook and Nook
14	Color e-book readers, which practice one or more inventions claimed in each of the same five
15	Microsoft Patents at issue in the instant action.
16	On April 19, 2011, the ITC issued a "Notice of Investigation," thereby formally
17	initiating the investigation (the "Notice"). See Declaration of Christopher Wion ("Wion
18	Decl."), Ex. A. As stated in the Notice, B&N and the other respondents must submit any
19	response within 20 days of service by the ITC of the Complaint and Notice.
20	ITC investigations are conducted in accordance with procedural rules that are similar in
21	many respects to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (see 19 C.F.R. Part 210). A formal
22	evidentiary hearing on the merits will be conducted typically on an expedited basis by the
23	presiding Administrative Law Judge in conformity with the adjudicative provisions of the
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PLTFF MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR ADDITIONAL TIME TO RESPOND TO COUNTERCLAIMS OF DEFS BARNES & NOBLE, INC. & BARNESANDNOBLE.COM - 3 Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 551 *et seq.*). The ALJ's initial determination is
then reviewed by the Commission.

If the Commission determines that the defendants have violated § 1337, it can issue an "exclusion order" barring the infringing products from importation into the United States, and/or a cease and desist order directing Defendants to cease engaging in the unlawful conduct at issue. Microsoft has requested such relief.

As explained in greater detail below, under 28 U.S.C. § 1659, B&N has the right to demand a stay of this district court action pending final resolution of the ITC's investigation. In order to exercise that right, B&N must request a stay within 30 days of initiation of the investigation - *i.e.*, by May 19, 2011.

C. B&N Files Its Answer & Counterclaims; Microsoft Requests Additional Time to Respond.

On April 25, 2011, B&N filed its Answer & Counterclaims in this action.

In its Answer, B&N asserts the following affirmative defenses to Microsoft's claims of patent infringement: patent misuse; non-infringement; invalidity; failure to mark; and inequitable conduct. For its Counterclaims, B&N seeks a declaratory judgment as to each such defense, with the exception of the "failure to mark" defense. B&N's Answer & Counterclaims (Dkt. No. 12), pp. 27-48.

Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(a)(1), Microsoft's response to B&N's Counterclaims is due by May 16.

On April 27, counsel for Microsoft asked counsel for B&N for an additional 30 days to respond to B&N's Counterclaims, by which time the stay issue under § 1659 will have been resolved, one way or the other. Wion Decl., \P 3. B&N has not yet responded to the request. *Id.* If B&N consents to the extension after receiving this Motion, Microsoft will withdraw this Motion.

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1	II. <u>ARGUMENT & AUTHORITY</u>
2	B&N has the right, under 28 U.S.C. § 1659, to demand that this action be stayed until
3	resolution of the ITC's parallel investigation. To exercise that right, B&N must seek a stay
4	within 30 days of the ITC's initiation of its investigation <i>i.e.</i> , by May 19, 2011. Microsoft
5	should not be required to respond to B&N's Counterclaims by May 16, but should be afforded
6	additional time so that the stay issue will be resolved before Microsoft's response is due.
7	Under § 1659, upon B&N's timely application to the Court, this action must be stayed
8	pending resolution of the parallel ITC proceedings. The statute provides that:
9	In a civil action involving parties that are also parties to a proceeding before the
10	United States International Trade Commission under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 [19 U.S.C. § 1337], at the request of a party to the civil action that
11	is also a respondent in the proceeding before the Commission, the district court shall stay, until the determination of the Commission becomes final,
12	proceedings in the civil action with respect to any claim that involves the same issues involved in the proceeding before the Commission, but only if such
13	request is made within
14	(1) 30 days after the party is named as a respondent in the proceedings before the Commission, or
15	(2) 30 days after the district court action is filed,
16	whichever is later.
17	28 U.S.C. § 1659(a).
18	If B&N intends to exercise its rights under § 1659 and this action is stayed, there is no
19	sense in requiring Microsoft to respond to B&N's Counterclaims until after the ITC case is
20	resolved. In the ITC proceedings, B&N presumably will raise each defense that forms the
21	substantive basis of its counterclaims for declaratory judgment here. If and when the stay is
22	lifted, "the record developed in the proceeding before the commission may be used to 'expedite
23	proceedings and provide useful information to the court." Sandisk Corp. v. Phison Electronics
24	Corp., 538 F.Supp.2d 1060, 1067 (W.D. Wisc. 2008). In other words, "waiting for the
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ADDITIONAL TIME TO RESPOND TO COUNTERCLAIMS OF DEFS BARNES & NOBLE, INC. & BARNESANDNOBLE.COM - 5

1	commission to complete its investigation may help simplify this case." Id. As a practical
2	matter, any response to B&N's Counterclaims submitted now would be outdated and of limited
3	utility if and when this action is resumed after full development and adjudication of the issues
4	in the ITC case.
5	On the other hand, if B&N opts <i>not</i> to request a stay within the deadline imposed by
6	§ 1659, the additional time Microsoft is requesting to respond to B&N's Counterclaims would
7	provide Microsoft a sufficient opportunity to develop a response to the Counterclaims once
8	that deadline has passed.
9	III. <u>CONCLUSION</u>
10	For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant Microsoft's request for an additional
11	30 days to respond to B&N's Counterclaims, consistent with the Proposed Order submitted
12	herewith.
13	DATED this 28th day of April, 2011.
14	DANIELSON HARRIGAN LEYH & TOLLEFSON LLP
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16	By <u>/s/ Christopher Wion</u>
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	I, Linda Bledsoe, swear under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of
3	Washington to the following:
4	1. I am over the age of 21 and not a party to this action.
5	2. On the 28th of April, 2011, I caused the preceding document to be served on
6	counsel of record in the following manner:
7	<u>Counsel for Defendants Barnes & Noble, Inc.</u>
8	and barnesandnoble.com LLC
9	Louis D. Peterson (