

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board  
P.O. Box 1451  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1451  
General Contact Number: 571-272-8500

Mailed: May 23, 2016

**Opposition No. 91226478  
(Parent case)**

Opposition No. 91226479

Opposition No. 91226481

Opposition No. 91226482

Opposition No. 91227318

Opposition No. 91227320

*Bayer HealthCare LLC*

*v.*

*DigestSource, LLC*

**Nicole Thier, Paralegal Specialist:**

On May 20, 2016, Applicant filed a consented motion to consolidate Opposition Nos. 91226478, 91226479, 91226481, 91226482, 91227318, and 91227320. The Board notes initially that Applicant has filed its answer in each proceeding for which consolidation is sought.

When cases involving common questions of law or fact are pending before the Board, the Board may order consolidation of the cases. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 42(a); *Regatta Sport Ltd. v. Telux-Pioneer Inc.*, 20 USPQ2d 1154 (TTAB 1991); and *Estate of Biro v. Bic Corp.*, 18 USPQ2d 1382 (TTAB 1991). In determining whether to consolidate proceedings, the Board will weigh the savings in time, effort, and expense which

may be gained from consolidation, against any prejudice or inconvenience which may be caused thereby.

Consolidation is discretionary with the Board, and may be ordered upon motion granted by the Board, or upon stipulation of the parties approved by the Board, or upon the Board's own initiative. *See, e.g., Hilson Research Inc. v. Society for Human Resource Management*, 27 USPQ2d 1423 (TTAB 1993).

It is noted that the parties to these proceedings are identical, and the issues are similar or related. Accordingly, the motion to consolidate is granted. Opposition Nos. 91226478, 91226479, 91226481, 91226482, 91227318, and 91227320 are hereby consolidated and may be presented on the same record and briefs. *See Hilson Research Inc. v. Society for Human Resource Management, supra*; and *Helene Curtis Industries Inc. v. Suave Shoe Corp.*, 13 USPQ2d 1618 (TTAB 1989).

The Board file will be maintained in Opposition No. 91226478 as the “parent case.” From this point on, only a single copy of all motions and papers should be filed, and each such motion or paper should be filed in the parent case only, but caption all consolidated proceeding numbers, listing the “parent case” first.<sup>1</sup>

Despite being consolidated, each proceeding retains its separate character and requires entry of a separate judgment. The decision on the consolidated cases shall take into account any differences in the issues raised by the respective pleadings; a copy of the decision shall be placed in each proceeding file.

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<sup>1</sup> The parties should promptly inform the Board of any other Board proceedings or related cases within the meaning of Fed. R. Civ. P. 42, so that the Board can consider whether further consolidation is appropriate.

Upon consolidation, the Board will reset dates for the consolidated proceeding, usually by adopting the dates as set in the most recently instituted of the cases being consolidated. Trial dates remain as set forth below.

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Deadline for Discovery Conference       | <b>6/22/2016</b>  |
| Discovery Opens                         | <b>6/22/2016</b>  |
| Initial Disclosures Due                 | <b>7/22/2016</b>  |
| Expert Disclosures Due                  | <b>11/19/2016</b> |
| Discovery Closes                        | <b>12/19/2016</b> |
| Plaintiff's Pretrial Disclosures        | <b>2/2/2017</b>   |
| Plaintiff's 30-day Trial Period Ends    | <b>3/19/2017</b>  |
| Defendant's Pretrial Disclosures        | <b>4/3/2017</b>   |
| Defendant's 30-day Trial Period Ends    | <b>5/18/2017</b>  |
| Plaintiff's Rebuttal Disclosures        | <b>6/2/2017</b>   |
| Plaintiff's 15-day Rebuttal Period Ends | <b>7/2/2017</b>   |

In each instance, a copy of the transcript of testimony together with copies of documentary exhibits, must be served on the adverse party within thirty days after completion of the taking of testimony. Trademark Rule 2.125.

Briefs shall be filed in accordance with Trademark Rules 2.128(a) and (b). An oral hearing will be set only upon request filed as provided by Trademark Rule 2.129.