From: Jackson, Kara
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Subject: U.S. TRADEMARK APPLICATION NO. 86693803 - VERANDA - TMB-7855 - Request for Reconsideration Denied - Return to TTAB - Message 1 of 5
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Files: 1-1.jpg, 1-2.jpg, 1-3.jpg, 2-01.jpg, 2-02.jpg, 2-03.jpg, 2-04.jpg, 2-05.jpg, 2-06.jpg, 2-07.jpg, 2-08.jpg

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# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO) OFFICE ACTION (OFFICIAL LETTER) ABOUT APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION

U.S. APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 86693803

**MARK: VERANDA** 

**CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:** 

JOHN S HALE

**GIPPLE & HALE** 

6718 WHITTIER AVE STE 200

MCLEAN, VA 22101-4531

**GENERAL TRADEMARK INFORMATION:** 

http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/index.jsp

**VIEW YOUR APPLICATION FILE** 

APPLICANT: MARBLE SYSTEMS, INC.

**CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET NO:** 

TMB-7855

**CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:** 

gipple.hale@verizon.net

### REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION DENIED

**ISSUE/MAILING DATE: 10/26/2016** 

The trademark examining attorney has carefully reviewed applicant's request for reconsideration and is denying the request for the reasons stated below. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.63(b)(3); TMEP §§715.03(a)(ii)(B), 715.04(a). The following made final in the Office action dated March 25, 2016 are maintained and continue to be final: Section (d) Refusal – Likelihood of Confusion. *See* TMEP §§715.03(a)(ii)(B), 715.04(a).

In the present case, applicant's request has not resolved the outstanding issue nor does it raise a new issue or provide any new or compelling evidence with regard to the outstanding issue in the final Office action. In addition, applicant's analysis and arguments are not persuasive nor do they shed new light on the issues. Accordingly, the request is denied.

Specifically, in its September 27, 2016 request for reconsideration, applicant argues, that registrant's "non-metal building materials for use in building decks; non-metal fencing; non-metal lattices" do not include the applied-for "ceramic tiles; ceramic tiles for flooring, facing, lining and coverings; glazed ceramic tiles; mosaic art tiles made of marble; natural stone tiles" because the term "decks" in the registrant's identification of goods does not include "covered patios or pool areas." Applicant also argues the goods of the registrant are "totally different" because "one does not or would not construct decks, fencing, and lattice of ceramic and/or mosaic tiles."

In the present case, the attached evidence from Merriam-Webster Dictionary, <a href="https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/deck">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deck</a> shows that a deck is a "flat a flat floored roofless area adjoining a house" or a "concrete or tile area surrounding a swimming pool" and a patio is an "area that adjoins a dwelling." Thus, the registrants "Non-metal building materials for use in building decks" encompasses and applies to building materials used in the building of outdoor areas adjoined to a house or dwelling.

Next, with respect to applicant's and registrant's goods, the question of likelihood of confusion is determined based on the description of the goods stated in the application and registration at issue, not on extrinsic evidence of actual use. *See Stone Lion Capital Partners, LP v. Lion Capital LLP*, 746 F.3d 1317, 1323, 110 USPQ2d 1157, 1162 (Fed. Cir. 2014) (quoting *Octocom Sys. Inc. v. Hous. Computers Servs. Inc.*, 918 F.2d 937, 942, 16 USPQ2d 1783, 1787 (Fed. Cir. 1990)).

In this case, the identification set forth in the application and registration has no restrictions as to nature, type, channels of trade, or classes of purchasers. Therefore, it is presumed that these goods "travel in the same channels of trade to the same class of purchasers." *In re Viterra Inc.*, 671 F.3d 1358, 1362, 101 USPQ2d 1905, 1908 (Fed. Cir. 2012) (quoting *Hewlett-Packard Co. v. Packard Press, Inc.*, 281 F.3d 1261, 1268, 62 USPQ2d 1001, 1005 (Fed. Cir. 2002)). Further, the evidence demonstrates that the applicant's narrow "ceramic tiles; ceramic tiles for flooring, facing, lining and coverings; glazed ceramic tiles; mosaic art tiles made of marble; natural stone tiles are presumed to be encompassed within registrant's broad "non-metal building materials for use in building decks." Specifically, the evidence shows entities commonly offer natural stone and ceramic tiles as an option for non-metal materials that can be used building decks. In addition to the evidence attached to the previous office actions, please see the additional attached evidence:

- Build Direct, <a href="https://www.builddirect.com/p/Kontiki-Interlocking-Deck-Tiles-Elements-Earth-Series">https://www.builddirect.com/p/Kontiki-Interlocking-Deck-Tiles-Elements-Earth-Series</a>, (entity offering natural stone tiles for building decks)(October 26, 2016);
- Floor & Décor, <a href="https://www.flooranddecor.com/outdoor-tile">https://www.flooranddecor.com/outdoor-tile</a>, (entity offering ceramic and natural stone tiles as material for outdoor decks)(October 26, 2016)
- Pavers and Decks, <a href="http://www.paversanddecks.com">http://www.paversanddecks.com</a>, (Offering natural stone tiles, namely, travertine, for use in building patios)(October 26, 2016);

Further, where the marks of the respective parties are identical, as in this case, the degree of similarity or relatedness between the goods needed to support a finding of likelihood of confusion declines. *See In re i.am.symbolic, Llc*, 116 USPQ2d 1406, 1411 (TTAB 2015) (citing *In re Shell Oil Co.*, 992 F.2d 1204, 1207, 26 USPQ2d 1687, 1689 (Fed. Cir. 1993)); TMEP §1207.01(a).

Finally, applicant argues its goods are "expensive to purchase and are installed by sophisticated professionals, thereby reducing the likelihood of confusion." The sophistication of potential consumer is not dispositive. When the relevant consumer includes both professionals and the general public, the standard of care for purchasing the goods is that of the least sophisticated potential purchaser. Stone Lion Capital Partners, LP v. Lion Capital LLP, 746 F.3d. 1317, 1325, 110 USPQ2d 1157, 1163 (Fed. Cir. 2014); Alfacell Corp. v. Anticancer, Inc., 71 USPQ2d 1301, 1306 (TTAB 2004). The additional evidence attached herein corroborates this interpretation. Specifically, the attached internet articles from Tile Lines, http://www.tilelines.com/design/wainscoting/outdoor-applications/, (offering instructions and tips for installing tile on outdoor decks and flooring)(October 26, 2016); Daltile, http://www.daltile.com/inspiration-and-diy/, (discussing how many homeowners choose natural stone or ceramic tiles for decks)(October 26, 2016); DIY Network, http://www.diynetwork.com/howto/rooms-and-spaces/floors/under-foot-outdoor-flooring-buyers-guide, (listing tile and natural stone as options for homeowners in building their own decks)(October 26, 2016); Tiling Treasure, http://www.tiling-treasures.com/interlocking-floor-tile.html, (describing natural stone and ceramic tiles specially designed for exterior use) (October 26, 2016) shows the relevant consumer ranges from the experienced professional to amateur "do-it yourself" homeowners.

Even if consumers of the compared goods could be considered sophisticated and discriminating, it is settled that "even sophisticated purchasers are not immune from source confusion, especially in cases such as the present one involving identical marks and related goods [and/or services]." *In re i.am.symbolic, Llc,* 116 USPQ2d 1406, 1413 (TTAB 2015) (citing *In re Research & Trading Corp.,* 793 F.2d 1276, 1279, 230 USPQ 49, 50 (Fed. Cir. 1986)); *see also In re Shell Oil Co.,* 992 F.2d 1204, 1208, 26 USPQ2d 1687, 1690 (Fed. Cir. 1993). The identity of the marks and the relatedness of the goods "outweigh any presumed sophisticated purchasing decision." *In re i.am.symbolic, Llc,* 116 USPQ2d at 1413 (citing *HRL Assocs., Inc. v. Weiss Assocs., Inc.,* 12 USPQ2d 1819, 1823 (TTAB 1989), *aff'd,* 902 F.2d 1546, 14 USPQ2d 1840 (Fed. Cir. 1990)); *see also Stone Lion Capital Partners, LP v. Lion Capital LLP,* 746 F.3d 1317, 1325, 110 USPQ2d 1157, 1163-64 (Fed. Cir. 2014).

In view of the above, the refusal under Trademarks Act Section 2(d) is maintained. If applicant has already filed a timely notice of appeal with the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, the Board will be notified to resume the appeal. See TMEP §715.04(a).

If no appeal has been filed and time remains in the six-month response period to the final Office action, applicant has the remainder of the response period to (1) comply with and/or overcome any outstanding final requirement(s) and/or refusal(s), and/or (2) file a notice of appeal to the Board. TMEP §715.03(a)(ii)(B); see 37 C.F.R. §2.63(b)(1)-(3). The filing of a request for reconsideration does not stay or extend the time for filing an appeal. 37 C.F.R. §2.63(b)(3); see TMEP §§715.03, 715.03(a)(ii)(B), (c).

/Kara E. Jackson/

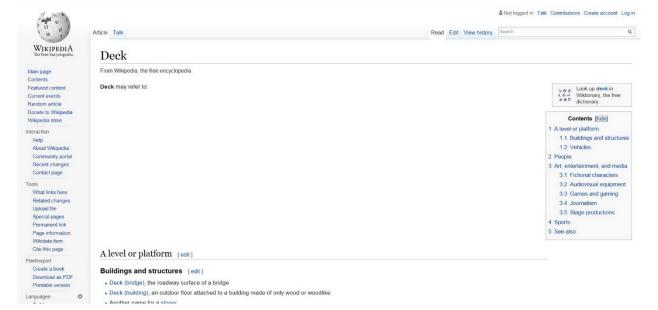
Kara E. Jackson

**Examining Attorney** 

Law Office 120

(571)272-4358

Kara.Jackson@uspto.gov



### https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deck 10/26/2016 06:05:07 PM

Ceština Dansk Deutsch Français 한국어 Islenska Nederlands 日本語

Another name for a storey

- Another name for a storey
  The concrete or tile area surrounding a swimming pool
  Deck arch bridge, a type of bridge
  Observation dock, a platform situated upon a tall architectural structure or natural feature
  Orthotropic dock
  Roof dock, the framing and sheathing to which roofing material is applied
  Rooftop dock, also called a rooftop terrace

### Vehicles [edit]

- . Deck (ship), a floor of a ship
  - · The flight deck of an aircraft carrier
  - Gun deck, a term originally referred to a deck aboard a ship that was primarily used for mounting a cannon
  - Promenade deck, a deck found at most passenger ships
  - Well deck, a deck that is low than decks fore and aft, usually at the main deck
- Bus deck, referring to the number of passenger levels on a bus

### People [edit]

- Deck (surname)
   Deck McGuire (born 1989), American baseball player

### Art, entertainment, and media [edit]

### Fictional characters [edit]

Deck Afta, a character from the anime Space Runaway Ideon

### Audiovisual equipment [edit]

- Cassette deck, a type of tape machine for playing and recording compact cassettes
- Head unit
- Phonograph turntable
- Tape deck, a sound recording and playback device

### https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deck 10/26/2016 06:05:07 PM Games and gaming [edit] Deck (cards), a collection of cards Game deck, a video game system Journalism [edit] • Deck (news), a phrase, sentence or several sentences near the title of an article or story Stage productions [edit] Sports [edit] The flat surface of a skateboard See also [edit] All pages beginning with "Deck" All pages with titles containing Deck Double decker (disambiguation) Deque - Double-ended queue This disambiguation page lists articles associated with the title Deck If an internal link led you here, you may wish to change the link to point directly to the intended article. Categories: Disambiguation pages

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# Simple Definition of PATIO : a Ifat area of ground that is covered with a hard material (such as bricks or concrete), is usually behind a house, and is used for sitting and relaxing Source. Merriam-Webster's Learner's Dictionary: Full Definition of PATIO plural patios 1 : COURTYARD; especially : an inner court onen in the sky. Examples of PATIO in a sentence Source Strong PATIO in the center of the apartment complex> Origin and Etymology of PATIO PATIO Synonyms

### http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/patio 10/26/2016 06:05:46 PM

Spanish First Known Use: 1828	Synonyms close, courtyard, enclosure (also inclosure), court, quad, quadrangle, yard	
Other Architecture Terms  buttress, casita, cornice, fanlight, garret, lintel, parapet, pilaster, plinth		-
Phrases related to PATIO		
Related Phrases		
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### Definition of PATIO for Students

plural

### patios

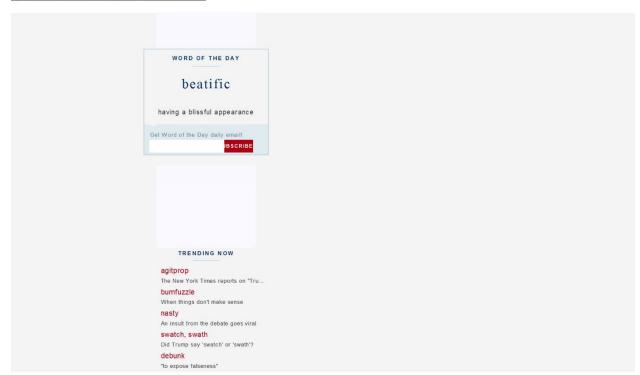
: an open area next to a house that is usually paved

### Learn More about PATIO

Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for patio Spanish Central: Translation of patio Nglish: Translation of patio for Spanish speakers Britannica.com: Encyclopedia article about patio

### Seen and Heard

What made you want to look up patio? Please tell us where you read or heard it (including the quote, if possible).



SEE ALL BROWSE DICTIONARY	
pathos	
path-reversal principle	
pathway	
-pathy	
WORD GAMES	
Take a 3-minute break and test your skills!  Vhich is a synonym of hiegmatic?  hot-blooded stole clandestine flustered  Can you spell these 10 commonly misspelled words?  TAKE THE QUIZ	



Test Your Knowledge - and learn some interesting things along the way.

TAKE THE QUIZ



'Breech' vs. 'Breach' Mind the gap and hold on to your butts



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How to Use the Subjunctive in English

If I were you, I'd watch this



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It is in fact a real word (but that doesn't mean you should use it).

noose moose geese geese geese goose geese goose moose nose geese goose gees
noose moose moose

### Weird Plurals

One goose, two geese. One moose, two... moose. What's up



October Words of the Day Quiz Our monthly word of the day

quiz!

TAKE THE QUIZ

WORD GAMES

Words from Animals Quiz Sick of election news? Come look at pictures of baby animals.

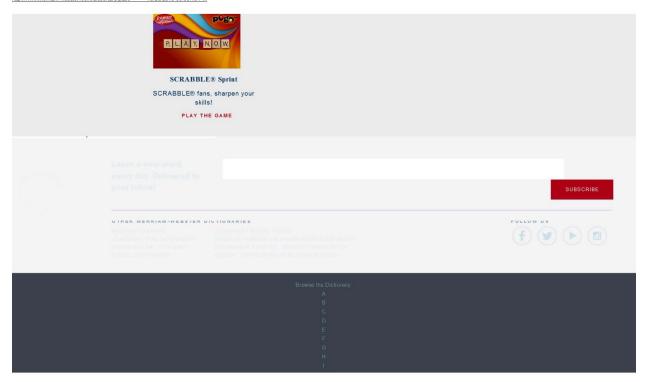
TAKE THE QUIZ



### Spell It

Can you spell these 10 commonly misspelled words?

TAKE THE QUIZ



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K
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P
Q
R
S
S
T
U
V
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## Simple Definition of DECK

a flat surface that forms the main outside floor of a boat or ship

one of the levels on a bus, ship, etc.

one of the seating levels in a sports stadium

Source: Merriam-Webster's Learner's Dictionary

### Full Definition of DECK

1 .

a platform in a ship serving usually as a structural element and forming the floor for its compartments

2

something resembling the deck of a ship: as

a

### Examples of DECK in a sentence

We stood on the deck and watched dolphins swim near the ship.

A number of passengers had come on deck.

a seat on the streetcar's top deck

a cabin on B deck

We sat in the lower deck.

We ate out on the deck.

### Origin and Etymology of DECK

Middle English dekke covering of a ship, from Middle Dutch "dec covering, probably from Middle Low German vordeck, from vordecken to cover,

### Other Building Terms

batten, cistern, hearth, lath, transom, wainscot

### **DECK Synonyms**

Synonyms balcony, sundeck, terrace

Related Words

# deck

### Simple Definition of DECK

to decorate (something)

to knock (someone) down by hitting very hard

Source: Merriam-Webster's Learner's Dictionary

### Full Definition of DECK

transitive verb

1 obsolete

COVE

2

### Examples of DECK in a sentence

We spent hours decking the chapel with flowers before the wedding.

He decked him with one punch.

### Origin and Etymology of DECK

Dutch dekken to cover; akin to Old High German decchen

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### **DECK Synonyms**

Synonyms

adorn, array, beautify, bedeck, bedizen, blazon, caparison, decorate, do, doll up, do up, drape,

### Synonym Discussion of DECK

ADORN, DECORATE, ORNAMENT, EMBELLISH, BEAUTIFY, DECK, GARNISH mean to enhance the appearance of something by adding something unessential. ADORN implies an enhancing by something beautiful in itself <a diamond necklace adorned her neck>. DECORATE suggests relieving plainness or monotony adding beauty of color or design <a href="decorate">decorate</a> a birthday cake>. ORNAMENT and EMBELLISH imply the adding of something extraneous, ORNAMENT stressing the heightening or setting off of the original <a white house ornamented with green shutters>, EMBELLISH often stressing the adding of superfluous or adventitious ornament <a href="decorate">decorate</a> and the superfluous ornamented with green shutters>, EMBELLISH often stressing the adding of superfluous or adventitious ornament <a href="decorate">decorate</a> and the superfluous ornament <a href="decorate">decorate</a> and t

floral borders>. BEAUTIFY adds to EMBELLISH a suggestion of counterbalancing plainness or ugliness <will beautify the grounds with flower beds>. DECK implies the addition of something that contributes to gaiety, splendor, or showiness <a house all decked out for Christmas>. GARNISH suggests decorating with a small final touch and is used especially in referring to the serving of food <an entrée garnished with parsley>.

### Phrases related to DECK

### **Related Phrases**

decked out

hit the deck

observation deck

### **DECK Defined for Kids**

deck

noun \'dek\

### **Definition of DECK for Students**

1

: a floor that goes from one side of a ship to the other

: something like the deck of a ship <the deck of a house>

# deck

verb

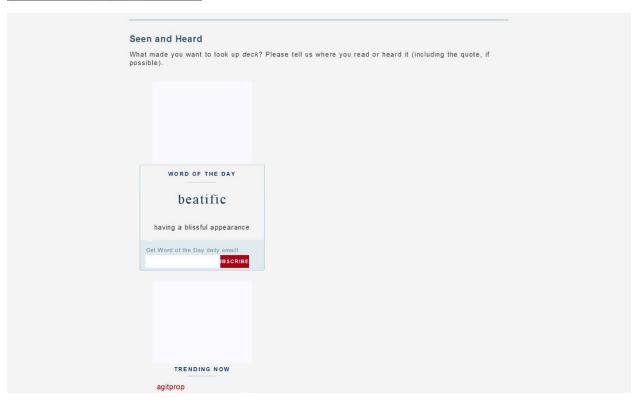
### Definition of DECK for Students

### decked decking

: to dress or decorate especially in a fancy way <The house is decked out for the holidays.>

### Learn More about DECK

Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for deck Spanish Central: Translation of deck Nglish: Translation of deck for Spanish speakers Britannica English: Translation of deck for Arabic speakers



http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/deck	10/26/2016 06:06:06 PM	
	The New York Times reports on "Tru	
	bumfuzzle	
	When things don't make sense	
	nasty	
	An insult from the debate goes viral	
	swatch, swath	
	Did Trump say 'swatch' or 'swath'?	
	debunk	
	"to expose falseness"	
	SEE ALL BROWSE DICTIONARY	
	decimal system	
	decimate	
	decimating factor	
	decimeter	
	* 1	
	WORD GAMES	
	WORD GAMES	
	Take a 3-minute break and test your skills!	
	Vhich is a synonym of hiegmatic?	

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Mind the gap and hold on to your



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lose geese goose gees 1005e moose moose 12 geese goose geese g 12 moose moose moose geese goose geese goose geese goose gees

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October Words of the Day Quiz



Words from Animals Quiz



True or False?