

**SAMPLE — NOT LEGAL ADVICE.** This response letter was generated automatically from publicly available analysis. It has NOT been reviewed by a licensed attorney and SHOULD NOT BE SENT to any party without substantial review and customization by qualified patent counsel. Use as a starting point only.

**[Your Name]**

[Your Title]

[Your Company]

[Street Address, City, State ZIP]

May 14, 2026

**[Opposing Counsel Name]**

[Firm Name]

[Address]

**Re: U.S. Patent No. 11871811 — Response to Assertion of Infringement**

Dear Counsel,

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence asserting infringement of U.S. Patent No. 11871811 (the "11871811 Patent"). After preliminary review, we have substantial concerns about the validity, enforceability, and scope of the asserted claims, summarized below. We reserve all rights and defenses.

## **1. Subject Patent — Summary**

An analysis of U.S. Patent No. 11,871,811 reveals the following information. No records of litigation involving this patent were found in the CAFC dockets as of the current date.

Summary of U.S. Patent No. 11,871,811

Title: Rapid-entry footwear having a stabilizer and an elastic element

Assignee: Fast IP LLC

Inventors: Michael Pratt, Craig Cheney

Filing Date: September 21, 2023

Issue Date: January 16, 2024

Abstract: A rapid-entry shoe having an elastic element to enlarge a foot opening of the rapid-entry shoe and also having a stabilizer to prevent a rear portion of the rapid-entry shoe from collapsing downward.

Plain-Language Overview of Independent Claims

This patent has two...

## **2. Validity Concerns under 35 U.S.C. § 102 — Prior Art**

We have identified prior-art references that, in our preliminary view, anticipate one or more asserted claims of the 11871811 Patent:

## Analysis of Prior Art Cited in U.S. Patent 11,871,811

Based on a review of the prior art references cited by the USPTO examiner during the prosecution of U.S. Patent No. 11,871,811, the following patents are identified as most relevant to the claimed invention. This analysis assesses their potential to anticipate claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102, which requires that a single prior art reference disclose each and every element of a claimed invention.

---

### 1. U.S. Patent No. 9,629,416 B2 ("416 Patent")

- Full Citation: M.J. Eull, et al., "Slip-on footwear with fit features," U.S. Patent No. 9,629,416 B2, issued Apr. 25, 2017 (filed Oct. 6, 2009).
- Assignee: Red Wing Shoe Company, Inc.
- Brief Description: The '416 patent describes slip-on footwear, such as a work boot, designed for easy entry and removal while providing a secure fit. It features a heel counter for support and one or more elastic gore panels near the ankle opening. The design aims to provide the convenience of a slip-on with the snug fit of a laced boot.
- Potential Anticipation Analysis:  
This reference is highly...

## 3. Obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Independent of § 102, we believe the asserted claims are obvious in view of combinations of prior art that a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine:

### Obviousness Analysis Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Under 35 U.S.C. § 103, a patent claim is invalid if the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art (a "POSITA"). An obviousness rejection typically involves combining two or more prior art references to arrive at the claimed invention, provided there was a motivation to combine these references with a reasonable expectation of success.

The following analysis considers the independent claims of U.S. Patent No. 11,871,811 ('811 patent) in light of the prior art cited during its prosecution.

---

### Analysis of Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 requires:

- A sole and an upper.
- A unitary stabilizer extending from the sole toward the rear of the foot opening.
- A plurality of elastic elements (at least two) positioned forward of the rear portion.
- These elastic elements must be separated by a non-elastic portion of the upper.

Primary Combination: Pratt ('632 Application) in view of...

## 4. Litigation History of the Patent

Public records reflect that the 11871811 Patent has been the subject of the following litigation, which informs our view of the asserted claims and your client's enforcement posture:

- HandsFree Labs Licensing, LLC et al. v. Skechers U.S.A., Inc. — 2:25-cv-00744 · U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas · filed 2025-07-24 · Pending

## 5. Request

In light of the foregoing, we request that your client (i) provide a detailed claim chart identifying each accused product or service and mapping every limitation of each asserted claim, (ii) identify any prior art known to your client, including any references cited during prosecution or reexamination, and (iii) substantiate the basis for any damages or licensing demand. We are prepared to discuss the matter further once we have received and reviewed the foregoing.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

**DISCLAIMER. This document is a machine-generated sample. The factual assertions, prior-art citations, and legal arguments above are AI-produced and may contain errors, omissions, or outdated information. Do not transmit this letter, in whole or in part, to any party. This is not legal advice; no attorney-client relationship is created by its existence. Consult a licensed patent attorney before responding to any patent-infringement assertion.**

*Generated May 14, 2026 by [ihatepatenttrols.com](http://ihatepatenttrols.com) — sample only.*