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[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. 5243655 — Response to Assertion of Infringement

Dear Counsel,

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence asserting infringement of U.S. Patent No. 5243655 (the "5243655 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

Analysis of U.S. Patent 5,243,655

Date of Analysis: April 26, 2026

Overview

This report provides a summary of United States Patent 5,243,655, titled "System for encoding and decoding data in machine readable graphic form." The analysis is based on the full text of the patent as filed and issued.

Key Patent Information

- Title: System for encoding and decoding data in machine readable graphic form
- Assignee: Symbol Technologies, Inc.
- Inventor: Ynjiun P. Wang
- Filing Date: March 16, 1992
- Issue Date: September 7, 1993
- Abstract: The patent describes a system for representing and recognizing data in a machine-readable graphic image format. Data is encoded into a two-dimensional bar...

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 5243655 Patent:

Analysis of Prior Art for U.S. Patent 5,243,655

To: File

From: Senior Patent Analyst

Date: April 29, 2026

Subject: Prior Art Review for U.S. Patent 5,243,655 ("the '655 patent")

This memorandum outlines the prior art cited during the prosecution of U.S. Patent 5,243,655. Each reference has been reviewed to assess its potential impact on the patent's claims, specifically regarding anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The core invention of the '655 patent resides in a system and method for encoding data into a specific two-dimensional stacked bar code symbol (referred to as PDF417) and, more critically, decoding it. The decoding method is robust against skewed scan lines that may cross multiple rows of the symbol. Key features of this decoding method, as recited in the claims, include the use of "row indicator codewords" and distinct "clusters" of codewords to identify the correct row for each decoded symbol character, allowing for the reconstruction of a complete data matrix from partial or angled scans.

Cited U.S. Patent References

1. U.S. Patent 4,794,239 (Allais)

• Title:...

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:

Analysis of Obviousness for U.S. Patent 5,243,655 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

This analysis evaluates whether the claimed invention in U.S. Patent 5,243,655 ("the '655 patent") would have been obvious to a Person Having Ordinary Skill in the Art (PHOSITA) at the time of the invention, based on the prior art references cited during prosecution.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 103, an invention is unpatentable 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. This analysis requires not only identifying individual elements of the claims in the prior art but also establishing a motivation for a PHOSITA to combine those elements to arrive at the claimed invention.

A PHOSITA in early 1992 would be an engineer or computer scientist familiar with barcode symbologies, data encoding techniques, error correction codes, and the design and operation of optical scanning systems, including the emerging field of two-dimensional barcodes and the...

4. Litigation History of the Patent

Public records reflect that the 5243655 Patent has been the subject of the following litigation, which informs our view of the asserted claims and your client's enforcement posture:

• Symbol Technologies, Inc. v. Lemelson Medical, Education & Research Foundation, LP — 2:99-cv-00397 · United States District Court for the District of Nevada · Judgment

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]

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