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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. 6161149 — Response to Assertion of Infringement

Dear Counsel,

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence asserting infringement of U.S. Patent No. 6161149 (the "6161149 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

Patent Analyst Report: US 6161149

Date of Analysis: 2026-05-11

This report provides a concise summary of United States Patent 6161149, including its key bibliographic details and an overview of its independent claims.

I. Bibliographic Information

- Title: Centrifugal communication and collaboration method
- Assignee: The patent lists "Sampo IP LLC" as a current assignee. The original assignee was "GroupServe Inc".
- Inventors: Theodore B. Achacoso, D. Wayne Silby
- Filing Date: 1998-03-13
- Issue Date: 2000-12-12
- Abstract: A system and method for communicating information among members of a distributed discussion group having peripheral communication devices involves...

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 6161149 Patent:

Prior Art Analysis for US Patent 6,161,149

To: File

From: Senior Patent Analyst

Date: 2026-05-11

Subject: Analysis of Prior Art Cited in US Patent 6,161,149

This memorandum details the most relevant prior art cited against US Patent 6,161,149 ("the '149 patent"), focusing on the potential for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102. The analysis is based on the independent claims (1, 14, 20, 23) of the '149 patent, which has a priority date of March 13, 1998. The core invention is a "centrifugal" communication system where a central agent stores a user's message, then "pushes" a notice with a direct link (channel) to that message to intended recipients, and stores subsequent replies to create a persistent, threaded conversation.

1. US Patent 5,790,790 to Smith et al. ("Smith '790")

- Full Citation: US Patent 5,790,790, "Method and apparatus for creating and distributing electronic messages having links to other electronic messages."
- Dates: Filed: October 25, 1995; Issued: August 4, 1998. (Qualifies as prior art).
- Brief Description: Smith '790 describes an email-based system...

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 of U.S. Patent 6,161,149 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

To: File

From: Senior Patent Analyst

Date: 2026-05-11

Subject: Obviousness Analysis of US Patent 6,161,149 based on Cited Prior Art

This memorandum provides an analysis of the obviousness of the claims of U.S. Patent 6,161,149 ("the '149 patent") under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The analysis considers whether the differences between the claimed subject matter and the prior art would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art (a "POSITA") at the time the invention was made. The priority date is March 13, 1998.

A POSITA at that time would have had a bachelor's degree in computer science or a related field and several years of experience in client-server architecture, web application development (including CGI scripting, HTTP, and HTML), and database design. The POSITA would also be familiar with existing collaboration tools such as email, Usenet newsgroups, listservs, and early web-based forums.

1. Obviousness of Independent Claims 1, 14, and 20

These claims cover the core system and method of a...

4. Litigation History of the Patent

Public records reflect that the 6161149 Patent has been the subject of the following litigation, which informs our view of the asserted claims and your client's enforcement posture:

- Sampo IP, LLC v. E*Trade Financial Corporate Services Inc. et al. — U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas · filed 2013-05-06
- Sampo IP, LLC v. Ambit Energy Holdings, LLC et al. — U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas · filed 2013-05-13
- Sampo IP, LLC v. Blackboard, Inc. et al. — 2:13-cv-00601 · U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia · filed 2013-11-12
- Sampo IP, LLC v. Facebook, Inc. et al. — U.S. District Court of Delaware · filed 2014-02-10

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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