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Personal Audio Successfully Defends Playlist Patent through Re-Examination

US Patent Office issues a re-examination certificate for US Patent 6,199,076

Friday, November 30, 2012

BEAUMONT, Texas--

Personal Audio, LLC announced today that the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued a Re-examination Certificate for US Patent 6,199,076 (the '076 patent). The Patent Office confirmed the patentability of the five patent claims that were challenged by Apple Inc. in the re-examination proceedings. Twelve other claims were not challenged. No amendments were made to the patent during the re-examination process, and the original patent's patentability was confirmed by the USPTO. Personal Audio, LLC is a small Beaumont, TX company that continues to be on the forefront of innovation in personalized audio and video technologies.

The '076 patent relates to MP3 and MP4 players that incorporate playlist technology.

In addition to the '076 patent, the company is the owner of four other fundamental media patents, as well as several pending applications, that describe technology that can be used to offer a personalized media experience using audio downloaded over the Internet.

In July 2011, Personal Audio won a jury verdict against Apple, Inc. in Texas for infringing the '076, resulting in an \$8 million judgment plus \$4 million in interest. Other defendants in the suit, Archos and Coby, settled before trial. Samsung, Amazon, Motorola, RIM, Sirius and others have now licensed the Personal Audio technology.

Nixon & Vanderhye P.C. represented Personal Audio in the proceedings before the US Patent and Trademark Office related to this re-examination.

About Personal Audio

Personal Audio, Inc., a predecessor to Personal Audio, LLC, was founded in 1996 with a mission of offering personalized audio to listeners using portable players downloading content and playlists from the Internet. The self-funded company

worked to develop such an audio player that could download, store and manipulate audio files and related data. That system, described in patent applications filed in October, 1996, pioneered techniques now commonly used today in MP3 players, smartphones, tablets and other products that store and play audio and video files and work with downloaded playlists and podcasts.

The founder of the company was James Logan, a serial entrepreneur who previously had been a pioneer in the touch screen industry. He founded MicroTouch Systems, which became a public company and leader in the industry, and later Gotuit Media, a pioneer in the video metadata field.

In 2009, Personal Audio, LLC was founded by Logan and Call to market the innovations described in the patents. Robin, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P. was subsequently engaged to assert the patents against Apple, Inc. and other defendants. The complaint resulted in a jury trial in July 2011 and Apple was found to have infringed U.S. Patent 6,199,076. Today the Personal Audio patents are licensed by a number of major consumer electronic firms.

For more information, contact:

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