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Technology Holdings, Ltd.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN DIVISION

TCL COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGY HOLDINGS, LTD,

Plaintiff,

v.

TELEFONAKTIENBOLAGET LM
ERICSSON and ERICSSON INC.

Defendants.

Case No. _____

COMPLAINT FOR:

- (1) BREACH OF CONTRACT;**
- (2) PROMISSORY ESTOPPEL;**
- (3) DECLARATORY JUDGMENT;**
- (4) VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA
CARTWRIGHT ACT;**
- (5) VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA
UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW,
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS
CODE SECTIONS 17200 ET
SEQ.;**
- (6) FRAUDULENT
MISREPRESENTATION; AND**
- (7) NEGLIGENT
MISREPRESENTATION.**

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

1 Plaintiff TCL Communication Technology Holdings, Ltd. (“TCL” or
2 “Plaintiff”) alleges as follows for its Complaint against Telefonaktienbolaget LM
3 Ericsson and Ericsson Inc. (collectively “Ericsson” or “Defendants”):

4 **INTRODUCTION**

5 1. TCL brings this lawsuit against Ericsson because of Ericsson’s
6 failure to license its standards-essential patent portfolio on fair, reasonable and non-
7 discriminatory terms (also known as “FRAND”).

8 2. TCL is the 5th largest mobile telecommunications vendor in the
9 world, with products available in over 100 countries worldwide. In the United
10 States, TCL sells its products under the “Alcatel onetouch” brand. Ericsson owns a
11 portfolio of intellectual property rights, which it licenses to manufacturers like TCL.

12 3. Ericsson has declared a number of its patents to be essential to
13 the global 2G, 3G and 4G telecommunications standards established by the
14 European Telecommunications Standards Institute (“ETSI”). In declaring its patents
15 as essential to these standards, Ericsson made public and binding commitments to
16 the international community to license those patents on FRAND terms. In reliance
17 upon Ericsson’s commitment to FRAND pricing, manufacturers like TCL have
18 made products that complied with these 2G, 3G and 4G standards.

19 4. In negotiations the parties have conducted over the past several
20 years, Ericsson has made repeated demands that violate Ericsson’s FRAND
21 commitments, including:

- 22 • Demanding rates that are far in excess of market rates.
- 23 • Discriminating against TCL and violating ETSI guidelines by
24 demanding TCL pay higher royalty rates than comparable mobile
25 phone manufacturers.
- 26 • Illegally bundling its 2G, 3G and 4G patents to extract additional
27 revenue from TCL in violation of ETSI standards.

1 5. In short, now that Ericsson has induced manufacturers to
 2 incorporate 2G, 3G and 4G technologies into their products with promises of
 3 FRAND pricing, it is attempting to exploit its market position to demand
 4 unreasonably high and discriminatory licensing fees from TCL. In an effort to apply
 5 added pressure to compel TCL to accept these unreasonable terms, and despite the
 6 ongoing licensing negotiations, Ericsson has also filed infringement suits against
 7 TCL in multiple jurisdictions around the world. As a result, TCL has no choice but
 8 to turn to the courts to establish FRAND licensing terms that will allow TCL to
 9 fairly proceed with its business.

10 **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

11 6. TCL brings this action for Ericsson's breach of its commitments
 12 to ETSI, the 3rd Generation Partnership Project ("3GPP"), and their members and
 13 affiliates – including TCL – to license intellectual property rights ("IPRs") it
 14 asserted as essential to wireless technologies known as second generation ("2G"),
 15 third generation ("3G"), and fourth generation ("4G") technologies under reasonable
 16 rates, on fair and reasonable terms, and under non-discriminatory conditions.

17 7. According to ETSI IPR Policy, if an ETSI member owns IPR,
 18 including patents, that may be considered essential to a particular standard or
 19 technical specification, ETSI requests that the owner grant irrevocable licenses on
 20 FRAND terms and conditions in return for inclusion of such IPR into the standard.

21 8. Clause 6 of ETSI's IPR Policy states:

22 When an ESSENTIAL IPR relating to a particular
 23 STANDARD or TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
 24 is brought to the attention of ETSI, the Director-
 25 General of ETSI shall immediately request the
 26 owner to give within three months an irrevocable
 27 undertaking in writing that it is prepared to grant
 28

1 irrevocable licenses on fair, reasonable and non-
2 discriminatory (“FRAND”) terms and conditions

3 9. If the essential IPR owner refuses to undertake the requested
4 commitment and informs ETSI of that decision, the ETSI General Assembly must
5 “review the requirement for that STANDARD or TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
6 and satisfy itself that a viable alternative technology is available for the
7 STANDARD or TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION” that is not blocked by that IPR
8 and satisfies ETSI’s requirements. ETSI IPR Policy, cl. 8.1.1. Absent such a viable
9 alternative, the ETSI IPR Policy requires that “work on the STANDARD or
10 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION shall cease.” *Id.*, cl. 8.1.2. In other words, ETSI
11 will not agree to incorporate a member’s technology in a standard under
12 consideration unless the member irrevocably binds itself to granting licenses on
13 FRAND terms.

14 10. Ericsson is a member of ETSI, and has submitted at least 23
15 ETSI IPR Licensing Declaration forms through which it has declared a large number
16 of its United States and foreign patents and patent applications as essential to the
17 standards for the 2G, 3G, and 4G technologies. Some of these patents and patent
18 applications are assigned to either Telefonaktienbolaget LM Ericsson or Ericsson
19 Inc. Ericsson also promised that it is “prepared to grant irrevocable licenses under
20 . . . terms and conditions which are in accordance with Clause 6.1 of the ETSI IPR
21 Policy.” As a 3GPP “Individual Member,” Ericsson was “bound by the IPR policy”
22 of ETSI, the Organizational Partner through which Ericsson participated in 3GPP.
23 Ericsson thus intentionally induced ETSI, 3GPP, their members and affiliates, and
24 anyone implementing any of the standards, including TCL, to rely on Ericsson’s
25 representation that it had granted and/or would grant licenses on FRAND terms in
26 developing, adopting and implementing the 2G, 3G, and 4G technical standards.
27 These standards have been and are implemented worldwide, including in the United
28

1 States and California, in a variety of wireless electronic devices, base stations, and
2 software that have become commonplace.

3 11. TCL invested substantial resources in developing and marketing
4 products that implement these standards worldwide, including in the United States
5 and California, detrimentally relying on the assurances of participating IPR holders
6 – including Ericsson – that any patents identified pursuant to ETSI’s IPR Policy by
7 such IPR holders would be licensed on FRAND terms, regardless of whether such
8 IPR were, in fact, used in any particular implementation. Accordingly, TCL is a
9 third-party beneficiary of Ericsson’s FRAND commitments to ETSI and 3GPP.

10 12. After intentionally locking in the industry, including
11 implementers like TCL, Ericsson then breached its promise to ETSI and its
12 members and affiliates by refusing to provide TCL a licensing rate that is consistent
13 with Clause 6 of ETSI’s IPR Policy, instead demanding royalties that are
14 discriminatory, and far higher than Ericsson otherwise could demand based only on
15 the value of its patents, as opposed to the additional value created by those patents’
16 inclusion into standards.

17 13. TCL does not accept Ericsson’s representation that any (or all) of
18 its patents that it has identified as “essential” are, in fact, necessary for the compliant
19 implementations of 2G, 3G, and 4G technologies; nor does TCL concede that the
20 particular implementations of such technologies in its products practice any Ericsson
21 patents, including those identified by Ericsson in relation to these technologies.
22 Nonetheless, TCL has relied upon the representations of Ericsson, and other
23 similarly-situated patent holders.

24 14. Because Ericsson asserted that its patents are “essential” and
25 granted to TCL and its subsidiaries a license (subject only to confirming the
26 FRAND rate), or, in the alternative, promised that it would grant a license to any
27 such patents on FRAND terms, companies that relied on Ericsson’s commitments
28

1 brand. In other markets around the world, including the United States, TCL
2 products are sold under the “Alcatel onetouch” brand.

3 18. In 2007, TCT Mobile Limited (“TCT”), a wholly-owned
4 subsidiary of TCL, was one of the first companies in the People’s Republic of China
5 (“PRC”) to sign a patent license agreement with Ericsson for what Ericsson alleged
6 as standard-essential patents (“SEPs”) covering the 2G standard.

7 19. TCT Mobile (US) Inc. (“TCT US”) is a fully-owned subsidiary
8 of TCL and has its principal place of business at 25 Edelman, Irvine, CA 92618.
9 TCT US is directly involved with the sale of 2G, 3G, and 4G mobile phones,
10 including sales of mobile handsets products under TCL and Alcatel onetouch brands
11 in the United States.

12 20. TCT Mobile Inc. (“TCT Inc.”) is a fully-owned subsidiary of
13 TCL and has its principal place of business at 25 Edelman, Irvine, CA 92618. TCT
14 Inc. is responsible for, among other things, providing liaison and backup services for
15 TCT US and other Group affiliates in the USA and for United States market analysis
16 and investigation, information collection, and communications between end
17 customers and the regional sales team.

18 21. Since 2007, TCL has been selling its mobile phones in the
19 United States. Sales of TCL’s phones have steadily increased and in 2010, Strategy
20 Analytics named TCL as one of the “fastest growing major mobile vendor[s] in the
21 world.”

22 22. In order for TCL’s mobile handsets to operate, all phones rely on
23 a number of telecommunication standards that are used in most countries around the
24 world. These standards include 2G, 3G, and the current 4G standards.
25 TCL relies on technologies described in the 2G, 3G, and 4G standards for its
26 products to operate in the marketplace.

27 23. Upon information and belief, Telefonaktienbolaget LM Ericsson
28 is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Sweden with its principal

1 place of business at Torshamnsgatan 23, Kista, 164 83 Stockholm, Sweden. Upon
2 information and belief, Ericsson's wholly-owned U.S. subsidiary, Ericsson Inc., is a
3 corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware and
4 having a principal place of business at 6300 Legacy Drive, Plano, Texas 75024.
5 Telefonaktienbolaget LM Ericsson and Ericsson, Inc. are collectively referred to
6 herein as "Ericsson" or "Defendants."

7 24. Upon information and belief, Ericsson has offices and employees
8 in California and regularly conducts business in California.

9 25. On information and belief, prior to February 2012, Ericsson,
10 through its joint venture with Sony Corp., produced and sold mobile handset devices
11 throughout the United States, including California and this District. However, in
12 February 2012, Ericsson announced the divestiture of its entire stake in that joint
13 venture. On information and belief, Ericsson has made and sold and/or makes and
14 sells base stations that are compliant with the 2G, 3G and 4G standards which are
15 part of the cellular infrastructure throughout the United States, including California
16 and this District. According to Ericsson, as of the "measurements end of 2011, [it]
17 ha[d] a 60% market share measured in LTE volumes" and is "the largest supplier of
18 LTE base stations in the United States."

19 26. In addition to its widespread sale of base stations in the United
20 States, Ericsson also aggressively monetizes its large portfolio of IPRs – including
21 patents declared to be essential to the 2G, 3G, and 4G telecommunications standards
22 – by targeting companies like TCL that sell mobile handsets to consumers in the
23 United States, and which it claims implement one or more of those patents.
24 According to Ericsson,

25 Ericsson (NASDAQ:ERIC) has the industry's strongest
26 wireless IPR portfolio, comprising 27,000 granted patents that
27 cover a wide range of technologies, from wireless access (2G,
28 3G and 4G) to WLAN and the whole Information and

1 Communications Technology (ICT) value chain. As wireless
2 access is now being added in new types of devices, Ericsson is
3 reorganizing its Licensing and Patent Development department
4 with the focus on further monetizing its IPR assets.

5 Hans Vestberg, President and CEO of Ericsson, says: “The ICT
6 industry is built on standardized and shared technologies,
7 making it possible to create a global mass market for mobile
8 telephony and mobile broadband. Today’s 6 billion mobile
9 phone subscriptions, and close to 1 billion mobile broadband
10 subscriptions, would not be possible without this industry
11 mentality....As we are entering the Networked Society, we will
12 see built-in wireless access beyond traditional devices like
13 phones, laptops and tablets, providing new services to the
14 consumers. *This provides an interesting business opportunity*
15 *for us, having this industry’s strongest patent portfolio, as **any***
16 ***company or manufacturer that wants to get in there will need***
17 ***an agreement with Ericsson**.... Ericsson is today a net receiver*
18 *of royalties and has signed more than 90 license agreements.*
19 With new devices and other industries entering the world of
20 connectivity, Ericsson targets to grow its IPR revenues above
21 the SEK 4.6 billion net revenue generated in 2010, as stated at
22 the company’s Capital Markets Day on November 9, 2011.

23 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

24 27. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this dispute
25 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332, because this is an action between citizens of different
26 states and because the value of declaratory and injunctive relief sought, the value of
27 TCL’s rights that this action will protect and enforce, and the extent of the injury to
28 be prevented exceed the amount of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

1 28. Defendants are subject to general personal jurisdiction in
2 California, consistent with the principles of due process and the California Long
3 Arm Statute, at least because Defendants maintain offices and facilities in
4 California, have employees in California, offer their products, services and patent
5 portfolios for sale and licensing in California and the United States, and regularly
6 conduct business in California. For example, in addition to its licensing activities
7 throughout the United States, including on information and belief in this District,
8 Ericsson claims to be the largest provider of LTE base stations in the United States
9 such that, according to it, no other supplier “would have the capacity to replace
10 Ericsson base stations in a commercially reasonable time” in the United States.
11 Accordingly, Defendants transact substantial business in this District and throughout
12 the United States, and thus voluntarily avail themselves of the laws of the United
13 States and California so as to be subject to the jurisdiction of this Court.

14 29. Defendants are also subject to specific personal jurisdiction in
15 California. TCT US and TCT Inc.’s principal place of business is in California and
16 Defendants granted to TCL’s subsidiaries, including, for example, at least TCT US
17 and TCT Inc., licenses to Defendants’ alleged 2G, 3G and 4G patents. Additionally,
18 TCL, on behalf of its subsidiaries located in California, has been involved in
19 attempting to obtain a FRAND rate for the license that was granted by Ericsson to
20 its alleged 2G, 3G and 4G patents. Thus, this lawsuit arises out of Defendants’
21 contacts with California at least with respect to its FRAND commitments, its failure
22 to offer a FRAND rate to TCL and its subsidiaries, and its negotiations with TCL
23 and its subsidiaries.

24 30. Venue is proper in this District pursuant at least to 28 U.S.C.
25 §§1391(a), 1391(c), and 1391(d).

26 **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

27 31. Standard development organizations (“SDOs”) are voluntary
28 membership organizations whose participants engage in the development of industry

1 standards for the benefit of their members and affiliates, including third parties
2 implementing the standards. SDOs and the standards they promulgate play a
3 significant role in the technology market by allowing companies to agree on
4 common technology standards so that compliant products implementing the
5 standards will work together. Standards also lower costs for compliant products by
6 increasing product manufacturing volume and inter-brand competition, and by
7 eliminating switching costs for consumers and/or manufacturers who want to switch
8 from products, services, or components provided by one company to those provided
9 by another company.

10 32. SDO participants enjoy significant potential benefits to having
11 their technology adopted by the SDO, independent of potential royalty income from
12 licensing their patents. These non-income benefits can include recognition of
13 leadership in the technology, increased demand for participants' products, advantage
14 flowing from familiarity with the contributed technology potentially leading to
15 shorter development lead times, and improved compatibility with proprietary
16 products using the standard. Participation also can lead to a steady stream of royalty
17 income, which although framed by FRAND principles, provides the benefit of
18 having one's technology more broadly adopted.

19 33. ETSI is an independent, non-profit SDO that is responsible for
20 the standardization of information and communication technologies, including
21 mobile cellular technologies, for the benefit of its members and affiliates.

22 34. 3GPP is a collaborative activity through a group of recognized
23 SDOs in the information and communication industry, including ETSI.

24 35. ETSI, in partnership with 3GPP, has been involved in
25 standardizing a number of 2G, 3G, and 4G mobile cellular technologies.

26 36. New mobile cellular technologies are broadly commercialized
27 only after service providers and device manufacturers agree on compatible
28 technology specifications for related products or services. For virtually all

1 successful mobile cellular technologies, that process has involved inclusive, multi-
2 participant standards development efforts conducted under the auspices of leading
3 SDOs, such as ETSI and 3GPP.

4 37. As a practical matter, the mobile cellular technologies that are
5 used to allow devices in a mobile cellular network to work together must be
6 described in standards adopted by a recognized SDO, and thereby accepted by key
7 industry members, in order to be commercially successful. For example, in order
8 for its cellular phone products to connect to a base station using 2G, 3G and 4G
9 mobile cellular technologies, TCL has to use third-party communication chips that
10 are compatible with the corresponding standards describing such mobile cellular
11 technologies.

12 38. The engineers who work on mobile cellular technologies that are
13 adopted by the SDOs are not employees of the SDOs. Instead, they are often
14 employees of companies in the mobile telecommunications industry, such as
15 Qualcomm, Samsung, Alcatel-Lucent, Nokia, Motorola, Nortel, Ericsson, TCL and
16 others that participate in the standard-setting process. Some of these SDO
17 participants file for patents that cover technologies they believe are essential to
18 implementations of the standards.

19 39. In order to reduce the likelihood that implementers of their
20 standards will be subject to abusive and anticompetitive practices by patent holders,
21 SDOs have adopted rules, policies and procedures that address the disclosure and
22 licensing of patents that SDO participants may assert as essential to the
23 implementation of the standard under consideration. These rules, policies and/or
24 procedures are set out in the IPR Policies of the SDOs.

25 40. Many IPR Policies – including those at issue in this litigation –
26 encourage or require participants to disclose on a timely basis the IPRs, such as
27 patents or patent applications, they believe are sufficiently relevant to standards
28 under consideration so as to be or become essential. These disclosures permit the

1 SDOs and their members to evaluate technologies with knowledge of disclosed IPRs
2 that may affect the costs of implementing the standard.

3 41. IPR Policies – including those at issue in this litigation – require
4 participants claiming to own relevant patents to grant licenses for those patents with
5 any implementer of the standard on FRAND terms.

6 42. As the United States Federal Trade Commission recently
7 explained in an analysis of its consent order against Google,

8 [SDOs] have this policy because the incorporation of patented
9 technology into a standard induces market reliance on that
10 patent and increases its value. After manufacturers implement a
11 standard, they can become “locked-in” to the standard and face
12 substantial switching costs if they must abandon initial designs
13 and substitute different technologies. This allows [standard-
14 essential patent] holders to demand terms that reflect not only
15 “the value conferred by the patent itself,” but also “the
16 additional value – the hold-up value – conferred by the patent’s
17 being designated as standard-essential.” The FRAND
18 commitment is a promise intended to mitigate the potential for
19 patent hold-up. In other words, it restrains the exercise of
20 market power gained by a firm when its patent is included in a
21 standard and the standard is widely adopted in the market.

22 43. Thus, IPR Policies and the members’ commitment thereto
23 encourage participants and affiliates to contribute their technologies to the standards
24 and/or to implement the standards in their products with the expectation that an
25 owner of any patented technology will be prevented from demanding unfair,
26 unreasonable, or discriminatory licensing terms, and thereby be prevented from
27 keeping parties seeking to implement the standard from doing so or imposing undue
28 costs or burdens on them. This ultimately works to the benefit of consumers, who

1 would be harmed by higher prices and less options if owners of standard-essential
2 patents were able to demand unfair, unreasonable, or discriminatory licensing terms.

3 4 2G, 3G, and 4G Mobile Cellular Standards

5 44. Ericsson's unlawful licensing demands pertain in part to patents
6 that it claims are "essential" to the 2G, 3G, and 4G standards.

7 45. The mobile cellular technologies described by the 2G, 3G and
8 4G standards (collectively the "Mobile Cellular Standards") are enabling
9 technologies for mobile voice and data communications.

10 11 2G GSM/GPRS/EDGE Technology

12 46. 2G GSM technology was a culmination of work that began in the
13 1980's as a replacement for first generation ("1G") analog cellular networks for
14 voice communications. The first 2G cellular telecom networks were commercially
15 launched on the GSM standard in Finland in 1991. The first GSM network became
16 operational in the United States in 1995.

17 47. Under the auspices of the 3GPP organization, the GSM standard
18 has since been expanded to support higher bit rates and data transfer in "packet"
19 mode through the intermediary standards GPRS (General Packet Radio Services,
20 intermediate mobile system between 2G and 3G for bit rates lower than 100 kbit/s)
21 and then EDGE (Enhanced Data rates for GSM Evolution). The introduction of
22 GPRS and EDGE into the GSM network made services such as Wireless
23 Application Protocol (WAP) access, Multimedia Message Service (MMS), e-mail
24 and World Wide Web access possible.

25 26 3G UMTS Technology

27 48. The need for greater transmission capacity and speed then led to
28 the adoption of 3G technology.

49. UMTS is a 3G standard. 3G UMTS uses WCDMA (wideband CDMA), a technology used to increase the amount of data that can be exchanged on the bandwidth of mobile telecommunications. 3G mobile phones can, in addition to classic voice calls, transmit and receive data such as, for example, downloading of music and video files. AT&T Wireless was the first operator to launch a 3G UMTS network in the United States in 2004.

50. UMTS requires the deployment of a new physical network of antennas and needs a large number of radio-interface stations in order to provide adequate coverage. Because of the absence to date of complete UMTS area coverage, the builders and operators of 3G mobile cellular communications systems are required to ensure maximum backward compatibility with 2G systems. This allows users to make connections regardless of their geographic location or type of mobile phone, and especially when operating in an area where there is no 3G network. Thus, the majority, if not all, of the marketed 3G mobile phones can also function in 2G/GSM mode (including the intermediate GPRS and EDGE standards).

51. The UMTS standard allows UMTS systems to function with pre-existing GSM, GPRS and EDGE standards. For example, operators may choose to keep certain basic elements of the GSM system when they add a UMTS radio interface to their infrastructure. Thus, both the UMTS system and the GSM system are present in many current infrastructures. From a commercial point of view, mobile phone devices utilize both the GSM and UMTS standards.

4G LTE Technology

52. The need for even greater transmission capacity and speed then led to the adoption of 4G technology.

53. LTE (Long Term Evolution) is a 4G technology based on OFDM (Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiplexing) technology. 4G LTE technology offers increased capacity and speed as compared to the 3G technology.

1 54. A 4G LTE network provides mobile ultra-broadband Internet
2 access, for example to laptops with USB wireless modems, to smartphones, and to
3 other mobile devices. The first large-scale commercial 4G LTE network was
4 launched in the United States by Verizon Wireless in 2010.

5 55. Many 4G networks are also backward compatible with 2G and
6 3G systems. This allows users to make connections regardless of their geographic
7 location or type of mobile phone, and especially when operating in an area where
8 there is no 4G network. Thus, the majority, if not all, of the marketed 4G mobile
9 phones can also function in 3G and/or 2G modes.

10
11 IPR Policies of ETSI and 3GPP

12 56. Like other SDOs, ETSI and 3GPP have developed IPR Policies
13 designed to ensure that investment in standard-compliant products is not wasted as a
14 result of essential IPR being unavailable or only available under unreasonable
15 and/or discriminatory licensing terms. These IPR Policies generally require that the
16 members disclose their ownership of patents or patent applications that are or likely
17 to become essential to practice the standard and commit to licensing these patents on
18 FRAND terms.

19 57. For example, under Article 3.1 of the 3GPP, the Organization
20 Partners requires that its IPR policies are respected by its members and that its
21 respective members must declare “their willingness to grant licenses on fair
22 reasonable terms and conditions on nondiscriminatory basis.” 3GPP’s commitment
23 to this IPR policy is further reflected in Article 55 of the 3GPP Technical Working
24 Procedures, which requests that each individual member should declare “at the
25 earliest opportunity, any IPR which they believe to be essential, or potentially
26 essential, to any work ongoing within 3GPP.”

27 58. ETSI’s IPR Policy is set forth in Annex 6 of its Rules of
28 Procedure. Clause 4.1 of the ETSI IPR Policy requires ETSI members to declare all

1 essential IPR in a timely manner. Clause 15 of ETSI's IPR Policy defines IPR to
2 mean "any intellectual property rights conferred by statute law including
3 applications therefor other than trademarks." Therefore, market participants have a
4 reasonable expectation that all potentially essential patents or patent applications
5 will be disclosed to ETSI. Clause 6.1 of ETSI's IPR Policy governs the availability
6 of licenses to essential IPR, stating that when essential IPRs are brought to the
7 attention of ETSI, ETSI shall immediately request an undertaking in writing that the
8 IPR owner is prepared to grant irrevocable licenses on FRAND terms. Clause 8 of
9 ETSI's IPR Policy states that if an IPR owner refuses to give a FRAND
10 commitment in accordance with Clause 6.1 of the IPR Policy prior to the publication
11 of the standard, ETSI will select an alternative technology to incorporate into the
12 standard, or will stop work entirely on the standard if no alternative is available.
13 Further, if an IPR owner refuses to give a FRAND commitment in accordance with
14 Clause 6.1 after publication of a standard, ETSI shall try to modify the standard so
15 that the IPR in question is no longer essential, or failing that, will involve the
16 European Commission to see what further action is required.

17
18 Ericsson's Involvement in Development of the Mobile Cellular Standards

19 59. Ericsson is a member of ETSI and 3GPP, and an alleged
20 contributor to the ETSI standard. Upon information and belief,
21 Telefonaktienbolaget LM Ericsson is a member of ETSI and Ericsson Inc. is a
22 member of Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions ("ATIS"). ETSI
23 and ATIS are organizational partners of 3GPP, and Telefonaktienbolaget LM
24 Ericsson and Ericsson Inc. are individual members of 3GPP. Ericsson declared
25 numerous IPRs to ETSI, including United States patents and patent applications
26 assigned to Telefonaktienbolaget LM Ericsson and Ericsson Inc.

27 60. In addition, upon information and belief, Ericsson Inc. has
28 played a role in the 3GPP standardization process. For example, Asok Chatterjee,

1 head of Ericsson's Strategic Standardization in the United States, was a chairman of
2 the 3GPP's Project Coordination Group ("PCG") until the end of last year. Upon
3 information and belief, Mr. Chatterjee resides in California. PCG is the 3GPP's
4 highest-level steering and coordination group and is responsible for maintaining a
5 register of IPR declarations relevant to 3GPP, received by the Organizational
6 Partners. Mr. Chatterjee also served as head of the ATIS delegation to the 3GPP for
7 11 years from 1999 to 2010, and as a delegate of the GSM association to ETSI for
8 15 years from 1995 to 2010. Upon information and belief, Mr. Chatterjee was one
9 of founders of 3GPP in 1998 and has been involved in the standardization of 2G, 3G
10 and 4G technology while holding an executive position with Ericsson Inc.

11 61. As a 3GPP "Individual Member," Ericsson is "bound by the IPR
12 policy" of ETSI, the Organizational Partner through which Ericsson participated in
13 3GPP. Ericsson declared to ETSI that a number of its patents and patent
14 applications are or are likely to become essential to one or more of the Mobile
15 Cellular Standards and that it is prepared to "grant irrevocable license under the
16 IPRs on terms and conditions which are in accordance with Clause 6.1 of the ETSI
17 IPR policy."

18 62. Ericsson has also represented to TCL that it owns rights in a
19 number of patents and pending applications that it asserts are or may become
20 "essential" to one or more of the Mobile Cellular Standards. TCL does not concede
21 that such listed patents are either "essential" to the Mobile Cellular Standards or that
22 such patents are practiced in the implementation of such standards in any TCL
23 products.

24 63. In reliance on declarations such as the ones submitted by
25 Ericsson, ETSI released the Mobile Cellular Standards. Once Ericsson disclosed
26 that it held essential patents, absent a licensing commitment from Ericsson that it
27 would grant licenses to these patents on FRAND terms, ETSI would have either: (1)
28 revised the standards to employ alternative technologies, (2) stopped working on the

standards, or (3) taken other action to ensure the Mobile Cellular Standards would be available for use by everyone on FRAND terms and conditions.

64. In submitting its declarations in accordance with ETSI's IPR Policy, Ericsson entered into a contract with ETSI for the benefit of ETSI members and any entity that implements the Mobile Cellular Standards. Ericsson is bound by its agreements to license its patents consistent with the referenced ETSI IPR Policy.

TCL's Reliance on Commitments with Respect to the Mobile Cellular Standards

65. TCT, a wholly-owned subsidiary of TCL, is a member of ETSI. TCT has declared to ETSI a number of its patents that are or are likely to become essential to the LTE standard and committed to the FRAND obligations with respect to those patents.

66. TCL implements the Mobile Cellular Standards by manufacturing mobile phone products that are compatible with the Mobile Cellular Standards.

67. TCL and other companies that have participated in the development of the Mobile Cellular Standards and/or implemented those standards relied on Ericsson's commitments that the royalties it would seek for the license to its "essential" patents would conform to the promises made by Ericsson.

68. In reliance on the integrity of the SDO process and the commitments made by Ericsson regarding the IPRs that it deems "essential," TCL began providing its mobile phone products with the 2G, 3G and/or 4G connectivity.

69. By way of example, TCL purchased and incorporated into its mobile phone products communication chipsets manufactured by third-party vendors such as Qualcomm, Broadcom and Mediatek that provide TCL's mobile phone products with 2G, 3G and/or 4G connectivity. TCL made its decision to provide its mobile phone products with GSM, GPRS, UMTS and/or LTE connectivity in reliance on, and under the assumption that, it and/or any third party

1 supplier or subsidiary could avoid patent litigation and pay for a license, on FRAND
2 terms, to any patents that Ericsson, or any other company, had disclosed as essential
3 to the Mobile Cellular Standards related to these technologies under ETSI's well-
4 publicized IPR Policy.

5
6 Ericsson's Breach of Its Contractual Obligation to License
7 Its Identified Patents on FRAND Terms

8 70. Regardless of whether there exists any actual use of Ericsson
9 patent claims in any specific implementation that is compatible with the applicable
10 Mobile Cellular Standards, Ericsson has represented that it possesses patents
11 essential to such implementations. On that basis, Ericsson was required to license
12 its identified patents in all respects consistent with its binding assurances to ETSI,
13 3GPP, and participants and implementers of the applicable Mobile Cellular
14 Standards.

15 71. In willful disregard of the commitments it made to ETSI and
16 3GPP, Ericsson has refused to extend to TCL a FRAND rate for the license for any
17 of Ericsson's identified patents. Instead, Ericsson is exploiting the significant
18 economic power it gained as a result of the purported inclusion of its technology
19 into the Mobile Cellular Standards by demanding royalty payments that are wholly
20 disproportionate to the royalty rate that its patents should command under any
21 reasonable royalty determination, and far in excess of any independent value they
22 would have absent their inclusion into the standards.

23 72. For its part, TCL has negotiated in good faith with Ericsson in an
24 attempt to obtain FRAND rates for the licenses to all patents that Ericsson has
25 declared to be essential to the Mobile Communication Standards. The most senior
26 members of TCL, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, have
27 invested significant effort and time in these endeavors. Notwithstanding TCL's
28 genuine efforts to obtain a FRAND rate, the negotiation process has been a very

1 long, disappointing, and frustrating one. Despite all of the effort that TCL has
2 exerted through the numerous negotiations to obtain FRAND rates for the alleged
3 SEPs that Ericsson has declared before ETSI, Ericsson has never offered a rate on
4 FRAND terms.

5 73. In 2012, the negotiations over the FRAND rate for a new
6 agreement between Ericsson and TCL intensified, including regarding the FRAND
7 rate for products sold in the United States. TCL unambiguously expressed its
8 readiness to agree to a FRAND rate with Ericsson for 2G and 3G patents. At
9 Ericsson's request, TCL agreed to also negotiate a FRAND rate for Ericsson's
10 alleged 4G essential patents.

11 74. In the particular market segment that TCL is in, the profit margin
12 is typically within 2% of the sales price. Therefore, the addition of a mere 1% paid
13 in royalty can significantly erase profit margin and competitiveness in the market
14 place for TCL. It is therefore essential for TCL to obtain FRAND rates for the 2G,
15 3G and 4G licenses that Ericsson has granted or will grant. TCL also cannot pay
16 unfairly higher royalty rates than any of its competitors. A repeat of the unfair terms
17 in the current 2G SEPs agreement with Ericsson in the ongoing FRAND rate
18 negotiations for 2G, 3G, and 4G SEPs will have catastrophic consequences for TCL
19 in the market place, including payment of an unfair and unreasonable royalty rate
20 for products sold by TCL in the United States and this District.

21 75. Ericsson has refused and failed to agree to a FRAND rate.
22 Among other unfair and unreasonable terms, Ericsson is attempting to force TCL to
23 agree to royalties rates based on the final sales price of TCL's mobile devices, rather
24 than the 2G, 3G or 4G chip which implements the wireless standards at issue in this
25 case. Improperly using the royalty base of the wireless device instead of the price of
26 the chip violates Ericsson's FRAND commitments.

27 76. Similarly, the 4G rate that Ericsson has demanded in the
28 negotiations is not only much higher than what Ericsson publicly announced it

1 would offer for the 4G SEPs, but also high enough to put TCL in a discriminatory
2 market position. When TCL confronted Ericsson with its own publicly
3 acknowledged rate, Ericsson groundlessly accused TCL of purposefully delaying the
4 conclusion of a FRAND license. Ericsson also claimed that the 4G royalty rates in
5 its proposal are the same for everyone in the industry, and yet TCL's requests for an
6 assurance have been ignored by Ericsson.

7 77. Upon information and belief, several companies with much
8 larger market shares in 3G and 4G shipments than TCL have never paid a single
9 penny in royalties to Ericsson. Nor has Ericsson approached these companies to pay
10 a FRAND rate. TCL is one of several implementers that Ericsson has attempted to
11 force into non-FRAND licenses, despite its FRAND commitment to treat all market
12 participants fairly, reasonably and non-discriminatively. Indeed, Ericsson has
13 initiated legal actions against TCL in, for example, Brazil, Argentina, France and
14 Russia, in an attempt to force TCL to accept a non-FRAND rate, such as the "as-is"
15 rate proposed by Ericsson. These unwarranted actions have cost TCL millions of
16 dollars, and detracted from TCL's intentions of obtaining a FRAND rate with
17 Ericsson as expediently as possible.

18 78. Ericsson also insists on a high "bundled" royalty rate for its 2G,
19 3G and 4G asserted essential patents. This bundled rate is to be applied to the
20 selling price of *all* of TCL's 2G, 3G and 4G devices. However, upon information
21 and belief, TCL already has alternative sources for a license to Ericsson's patents for
22 its 3G devices, including a pass-through license from Qualcomm. Thus, TCL has
23 the choice of obtaining access to Ericsson's 3G patents through a third-party chip
24 maker at a cost that is significantly less than what Ericsson insists that TCL pay for
25 the license.

26 79. TCL buys some of the 3G chips that are used in manufacturing
27 its 3G mobile devices from Qualcomm, which has a license to Ericsson's alleged 3G
28 essential patents that expressly extends to Qualcomm customers such as TCL.

1 Accordingly, TCL is the beneficiary of an alternative, cheaper source of a license to
2 Ericsson's 3G asserted essential patents. Indeed, although TCL purchases a portion
3 of its 3G chips from non-Qualcomm suppliers, TCL could switch from those
4 suppliers to Qualcomm and thereby avoid paying any royalties to Ericsson for any
5 3G chips and devices. Nonetheless, Ericsson continues to use its market power and
6 its 2G patents to attempt to impose a non FRAND rate for its 3G patents by
7 bundling them with the 2G patents. TCL has requested a separate rate for
8 Ericsson's 2G patents, which Ericsson has withheld unless and until TCL also pays
9 for Ericsson's 3G-related patents at an inflated cost.

10 80. More specifically, TCL requested a separate rate (or separate
11 license) for Ericsson's 2G claimed essential patents, but was refused a separate,
12 unbundled license. Not only has Ericsson refused TCL's request for separate
13 licenses for 2G, 3G, and 4G patents, respectively, but it also has refused to offer
14 even a discount toward a 3G license reflecting the fact that most of TCL's 3G
15 products are already licensed through another source.

16 81. Ericsson's bundled rate also fails to account for the reduced
17 value of Ericsson's asserted essential patents to TCL's products. Many of
18 Ericsson's alleged 2G patents have already expired and/or will expire shortly.
19 Additionally, as smartphones have developed over the years, 2G technology has
20 become a substantially lesser portion of the overall functionality and features of the
21 products. Nonetheless, Ericsson has leveraged its economic power over its 2G
22 asserted essential patents in an attempt to extort not only a higher than FRAND rate
23 for Ericsson's assert 2G SEPs, but also a higher bundled royalty for (1) the sale of
24 TCL's 3G-compliant products on which Ericsson is not legally entitled to any
25 royalties, and (2) the sale of TCL's 4G-compliant products.

26 82. Absent the lock-in created by Ericsson's FRAND commitments
27 to ETSI and 3GPP, which gave Ericsson undue economic leverage to engage in a
28

1 patent holdup, Ericsson would not have been in a position to exploit its 2G asserted
2 essential patents to attempt to extort such unreasonable terms from TCL.

3 83. TCL now faces a high risk of exclusion from the downstream
4 markets, including in the United States and this District, for devices that allegedly
5 utilize Ericsson's claimed essential patents. Ericsson has already pursued
6 injunctions against TCL in other jurisdictions, and TCL is informed and believes
7 that Ericsson has sought similar exclusionary remedies against certain device
8 manufacturers and/or sellers in the United States. TCL has incurred substantial
9 damage due to Ericsson seeking these exclusion orders against TCL. Moreover, if
10 TCL does not acquiesce to Ericsson's unreasonable bundled rates, it and TCT US
11 run the imminent risk of being sued by Ericsson and of having their products
12 excluded from the U.S. market, despite Ericsson's FRAND commitments.

13 84. This is precisely the type of patent hold-up that the Federal Trade
14 Commission, the United States Department of Justice and other regulatory agencies
15 around the world have warned – and continue to warn – against. Indeed, Ericsson
16 all but touts its ability to exploit the standards markets, subsequent to intentionally
17 locking in the industry by deceptively representing that it would offer licenses on
18 FRAND terms.

19 85. According to Ericsson's President and CEO, the fact that "[t]he
20 [Information and Communications Technology] industry is built on standardized
21 and shared technologies" provides Ericsson with "an interesting business
22 opportunity ..., having this industry's strongest patent portfolio, *as any company or*
23 *manufacturer that wants to get in there will need an agreement with Ericsson....*"
24 (Emphasis added.) Ericsson has expended significant efforts on refocusing its
25 business strategy on "further monetizing its IPR assets" to grow this revenue source,
26 which according to Ericsson earned the company SEK 4.6 billion in net revenues in
27 2010. That amount translates into nearly three quarters of a billion U.S. Dollars for
28 just that one year.

1 86. Notably, Ericsson is among hundreds of companies with
2 purported essential patents relevant to these technologies. If each such company
3 with a FRAND commitment was permitted to charge such excessive royalties, the
4 royalty burden on downstream products would leave little room for profitability and
5 further investment in device innovation. Not only would device manufacturers like
6 TCL be harmed in their business, but so too would consumers, who ultimately
7 would suffer either in terms of higher device prices or less innovation.

8 87. If TCL agreed with what Ericsson has labeled as “rock bottom”
9 rates for a smart phone royalty, TCL would be required to pay a royalty rate well in
10 excess of 10% of the average sale price of a device for its SEPs licenses. After
11 adding the royalties from non-SEP patent licensors, including those needed to make
12 a smart phone work properly, the number would be well in excess of 20% of the
13 average sales price of a device, thereby destroying the competitiveness of TCL
14 products in the market place.

15 88. Ericsson’s demands constitute a breach of its ETSI and 3GPP
16 commitments and contractual obligations flowing therefrom and they are unlawful,
17 unfair and/or fraudulent.

18 **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

19 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

20 **(Breach Of Contract)**

21 89. TCL realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set
22 forth in all of the preceding paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein.

23 90. Ericsson entered into contractual commitments with ETSI, 3GPP
24 and their respective members, participants, and implementers relating to the Mobile
25 Cellular Standards.

26 91. Each third party that would potentially implement the Mobile
27 Cellular Standards was an intended beneficiary of those contracts.

28

1 92. Ericsson has granted to TCL a license, but has refused to offer a
2 FRAND rate. In the alternative, Ericsson was contractually obligated to offer a
3 license to its identified patents consistent with the applicable IPR policy of ETSI
4 and 3GPP, including a license on FRAND terms.

5 93. Ericsson breached these contracts by refusing to agree to a
6 FRAND rate to its identified patents under reasonable rates, with reasonable terms,
7 and on a non-discriminatory basis, and by failing to provide separate rates for each
8 of the 2G, 3G, and 4G standards.

9 94. As a result of Ericsson's contractual breach, TCL has been
10 injured in its business or property, and is threatened by imminent loss of profits, loss
11 of customers and potential customers, and loss of goodwill and product image.

12 95. TCL has suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable injury
13 by reason of the acts, practices, and conduct of Ericsson alleged above until and
14 unless the Court enjoins such acts, practices, and conduct.

15 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

16 **(Promissory Estoppel)**

17 96. TCL realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set
18 forth in all of the preceding paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein.

19 97. Ericsson made a clear and definite promise to licensees through
20 its commitments to ETSI and 3GPP that it had granted, or would grant, licenses to
21 any essential patents under reasonable rates, with reasonable terms, and on a non-
22 discriminatory basis.

23 98. The intended purpose of Ericsson's promises was to induce
24 reliance upon this promise so that companies like TCL would produce mobile phone
25 products compatible with the relevant standards. Ericsson knew or should have
26 reasonably expected to know that it would induce reliance on these promises by
27 companies such as TCL.

28

1 99. TCL developed and marketed its products and services in
2 reliance on Ericsson's promises, including making its products and services
3 compliant with ETSI and 3GPP standards, including the Mobile Cellular Standards,
4 in various TCL product offerings.

5 100. Ericsson is estopped from reneging on these promises to ETSI
6 and 3GPP under the doctrine of promissory estoppel.

7 101. TCL has been harmed as a result of its reasonable reliance on
8 Ericsson's promises and is threatened by the imminent loss of profits, loss of
9 customers and potential customers, and loss of goodwill and product image.

10 102. TCL has suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable injury
11 by reason of the acts and conduct of Ericsson alleged above until and unless the
12 court enjoins such acts, practices and conduct.

13 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

14 **(Declaratory Judgment)**

15 103. TCL realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set
16 forth in all of the preceding paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein.

17 104. There is a dispute between the parties concerning whether
18 Ericsson has offered FRAND rates for the license(s) to TCL patents consistent with
19 Ericsson's declarations and the referenced policy of ETSI and 3GPP.

20 105. The dispute is of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant the
21 issuance of a declaratory judgment.

22 106. TCL is entitled to a declaratory judgment that Ericsson has not
23 offered license terms to TCL conforming to applicable legal requirements, including
24 failing to offer a FRAND rate to TCL.

25 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

26 **(Violation of California Cartwright Act)**

27 107. TCL realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set
28 forth in all of the preceding paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein.

1 108. The conduct described herein violates the prohibition against
2 trusts under the California Cartwright Act, Business and Professions Code section
3 16720 et. seq., including, without limitation, the prohibition against carrying out
4 restrictions in trade or commerce, tying, etc.

5 109. Ericsson knowingly entered into a binding agreement with ETSI
6 and 3GPP, whereby those SDOs agreed to incorporate Ericsson's asserted essential
7 patents into Mobile Cellular Standards; and Ericsson, contrary to its demonstrated
8 intention, granted irrevocable licenses and/or agreed to grant irrevocable licenses to
9 those technologies on FRAND terms. Ericsson's unlawful conduct flows from these
10 agreements. Ericsson knew that the SDOs and implementers would detrimentally
11 rely on Ericsson's FRAND agreements. By virtue of the FRAND obligations it
12 ostensibly undertook, Ericsson thus induced ETSI and 3GPP to refrain from
13 adopting alternative technologies or revising the standards so as to avoid Ericsson's
14 asserted essential patents.

15 110. If, prior to inclusion of its IPRs in the standards at issue, Ericsson
16 had made known its intention to withhold FRAND licenses, ETSI and 3GPP would
17 have been required to consider alternative technologies, and to revise or even
18 abandon the standard altogether so as to avoid Ericsson's IPRs. Thus, Ericsson
19 acted willfully to eliminate other viable technologies from ETSI's and 3GPP's
20 consideration and caused them to instead adopt Ericsson's technology into the
21 Mobile Cellular Standards.

22 111. As a result of the ensuing standardization, Ericsson gained
23 significant market power, which it would not have had absent the asserted inclusion
24 of its patents into the Mobile Cellular Standards. When the standards became
25 widely adopted and thus TCL and others became locked in, Ericsson then proceeded
26 to exploit that market power by demanding unreasonable license terms, including
27 excessive and extortionist royalties, in violation of its agreements with ETSI and
28

1 3GPP. These excessive royalties have raised TCL's costs and have resulted in
2 higher prices to consumers.

3 112. Among other unreasonable terms, Ericsson also has sought to
4 bundle the licensing of its 2G-related patents to TCL's agreement to also license
5 Ericsson's 3G and 4G-related patents, and has refused to offer a separate license or
6 FRAND rate to its 2G-related patents or a discount for the 3G and 4G-related
7 patents.

8 113. Although Ericsson claims that both its 2G- and 3G-related
9 patents are essential to Mobile Cellular Standards, Ericsson has a lesser degree of
10 economic power with respect to its 3G-related patents, at least with respect to those
11 buyers, like TCL, that have an alternative source for a license to Ericsson's 3G-
12 related patents, including through Qualcomm. Although Ericsson knows that its
13 3G-related patents are available more cheaply to TCL from sources other than
14 Ericsson, Ericsson also knows that the only way it can force TCL to pay an inflated
15 royalty is to use its 2G-related patents as leverage to force TCL to also take a license
16 to its 3G-related patents.

17 114. 2G, 3G, and 4G-related patents are relevant to separate Mobile
18 Cellular Standards. For example, where 3G service is available, there is no need for
19 2G service. Moreover, a consumer cannot use 3G technology if it only has a 2G
20 device. And, many, if not all, 3G-related patents are not necessary to the practice
21 the 2G Mobile Cellular Standard. 3G networks are faster, and can handle more data
22 transmission than 2G networks. A consumer would not deem the two technologies
23 and networks to be interchangeable. Accordingly, 2G related patents can be and
24 should be licensed separately from 3G and 4G-related patents.

25 115. Although the 2G Mobile Cellular Standard has an ever-
26 decreasing contribution to the overall operation of TCL's devices, that capability is
27 nonetheless added to achieve backward compatibility in the areas where 3G or 4G
28 networks are unavailable and thus a cellular device technically could revert to a 2G

1 network. In practice, however, TCL's devices have very limited functionality in a
2 service area with only 2G networks. Accordingly, even if Ericsson's 2G patents
3 arguably have any relevance to the functionality of TCL's devices, their contribution
4 to those products is at best minimal. As such, they would capture only a fraction of
5 the royalties demanded by Ericsson.

6 116. Ericsson is seeking to bundle its 2G and 3G patents in order to
7 justify its inflated royalty demand which it could not otherwise justify for just its
8 3G-related patents based on its FRAND commitments. In doing so, Ericsson is
9 forcing TCL to take a license to technology that is more cheaply available to TCL
10 from other sources, including from Qualcomm. Ericsson is seeking millions of
11 dollars in licensing fees from TCL for the bundled license.

12 117. Ericsson is demanding a single, higher, non-FRAND bundled
13 royalty rate, even though TCL already is licensed to the same 3G related patents
14 through Qualcomm, and without regard to the actual value, if any, of Ericsson's
15 patents to TCL's products. Accordingly, Ericsson is leveraging its market power in
16 its 2G asserted essential patents to gain leverage in a separate market for patents
17 related to the 3G Mobile Cellular Standard where it does not otherwise possess
18 market power to separately force TCL to take a non-FRAND license.

19 118. Ericsson's demand for a higher and bundled rate for both its 2G
20 and 3G patents also lacks any efficiency justification in light of the fact that TCL is
21 already licensed to the same 3G patents when it uses Qualcomm chips, and can
22 divert all of its 3G-compliant chip purchases to the latter, thus saving the higher cost
23 of an Ericsson license. However, because Ericsson refuses to license its 2G-related
24 patents without the 3G patents, it is thus forcing TCL to pay for the 3G patents
25 whether or not TCL has an alternative licensing source for those patents, and even
26 though Ericsson has no legal right to seek royalties on the bulk of TCL's 3G-
27 compliant devices.

28

119. As a result of Ericsson's illegal conduct, TCL has been injured in its business or property, and is threatened by imminent loss of profits, loss of customers and potential customers, and loss of goodwill and product image. Consumers are also injured by reason of Ericsson's conduct because they are forced to pay higher prices that reflect the cost of Ericsson's illegal licensing practices.

120. TCL has suffered and will continue suffer irreparable injury by reason of the acts, practices, and conduct of Ericsson alleged above until and unless the Court enjoins such acts, practices, and conduct.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of California Unfair Competition Law, Business and Professions Code sections 17200 et seq.)

121. TCL realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs, as though full set forth herein.

122. Ericsson's conduct as alleged herein constitutes unlawful, unfair or fraudulent acts and practices in violation of the UCL in that it violates, *inter alia*, one or more federal, state or other laws, including, without limitation, breach of its contractual commitments to ETSI, patent holdup, and fraud. Ericsson deceived ETSI and 3GPP into adopting its technologies by ostensibly and deceptively agreeing to license its technology on FRAND terms. After inducing those SDOs to adopt its technologies, and to refrain from considering alternatives or revising the standards to exclude Ericsson's technology, it then breached its obligations by seeking excessive and non-FRAND royalties and terms. TCL relied to its detriment on Ericsson's FRAND agreements and thus expended significant resources to make devices that implement the Mobile Cellular Standards that allegedly include Ericsson's technology. It is now being held at ransom and forced into accepting a non-FRAND rate and/or into accepting license agreements that reflect value well beyond what is directly attributable to Ericsson's purported technology, and reflect

1 the additional hold-up value attributable to the asserted inclusion of those
2 technologies into the relevant standards.

3 123. As a result of the unlawful, unfair or fraudulent acts and
4 practices of Ericsson, TCL has suffered injury in fact and has lost, and continues to
5 lose, money or property.

6 124. The above-described, ongoing course of unlawful, unfair and/or
7 fraudulent conduct by Ericsson constitutes a continuing threat to TCL. TCL is thus
8 entitled to injunctive relief preventing Ericsson from continuing its wrongful course
9 of conduct, and requiring Ericsson to offer TCL license terms consistent with its
10 FRAND commitments. TCL is further entitled to additional relief including,
11 without limitation, restitution from Ericsson.

12 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **(Fraudulent Misrepresentation)**

14 125. TCL realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set
15 forth in all of the preceding paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein.

16 126. In light of the importance of standardization to the increasingly
17 technology-driven global economy, and the need to make such technologies widely
18 available, SDOs require that members make promises and enter into agreements that
19 they will license their technology to be included in a standard on FRAND terms.
20 SDOs reasonably rely upon such promises to ensure that members that have their
21 technologies included in the standards – to the exclusion of alternatives – do not
22 later abuse their market position to exclude rivals and other implementers from
23 downstream product markets.

24 127. Ericsson knowingly, or recklessly and without regard to its truth,
25 made a false promise to ETSI and 3GPP that it would license its technology on
26 FRAND terms so as to induce those SDOs to adopt its technology.

27 128. Ericsson knew that absent such a promise, ETSI and 3GPP
28 would not have adopted its technology, and were obligated to search for alternatives,

1 and to revise or even abandon the standard altogether if a viable alternative could
2 not be found that avoided Ericsson's technology.

3 129. Ericsson thus intended to induce, and did induce, ETSI and
4 3GPP to rely on Ericsson's false promise and allegedly adopt Ericsson's technology
5 into the Mobile Cellular Standards.

6 130. ETSI, 3GPP, and other industry participants, including TCL, had
7 no knowledge of the falsity of Ericsson's promise, and reasonably and detrimentally
8 relied on Ericsson's promise to offer a FRAND rate and/or grant a FRAND license.
9 In reliance upon Ericsson's promise to offer FRAND licenses, TCL expended
10 substantial resources in research and development, manufacturing and marketing of
11 devices that comply with the Mobile Cellular Standards which allegedly incorporate
12 Ericsson's patents.

13 131. Once the technologies were widely adopted, and the industry
14 became locked into the standards that allegedly incorporate Ericsson's patents,
15 Ericsson reneged on its promise by exploiting its new-found market power to
16 demand unreasonable and excessive royalties and terms, far in excess of the patents'
17 own value. Indeed, Ericsson's goal is to increasingly monetize its IPRs because it
18 believes that every company that enters the markets for information and
19 communications-related technologies will have to get a license from Ericsson, or
20 face exclusion from those markets.

21 132. As a result of Ericsson's false promises, TCL has been injured in
22 its business or property, and is threatened by imminent loss of profits, loss of
23 customers and potential customers, and loss of goodwill and product image.

24 133. TCL has been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial,
25 and also seeks exemplary damages for Ericsson's unlawful and fraudulent conduct.
26
27
28

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Negligent Misrepresentation)

134. TCL realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in all of the preceding paragraphs, as though fully set forth herein.

135. Ericsson at least negligently made a false promise to ETSI and 3GPP that it would license its technology on FRAND terms so as to induce those SDOs to adopt its technology.

136. Ericsson knew that absent such a promise, ETSI and 3GPP would not have adopted its technology, and were obligated to search for alternatives, and revise or even abandon the standard altogether if a viable alternative could not be found that avoided Ericsson's technology.

137. Ericsson thus intended to induce, and did induce, ETSI and 3GPP to rely on Ericsson's false promise and allegedly adopt Ericsson's technology into the Mobile Cellular Standards.

138. ETSI, 3GPP, and other industry participants, including TCL, reasonably and detrimentally relied on Ericsson's promise to offer a FRAND rate and/or grant a FRAND license. For example, in reliance upon Ericsson's promise to offer FRAND rates, TCL expended substantial resources in research and development, manufacturing and marketing of devices that comply with the Mobile Cellular Standards which allegedly incorporate Ericsson's patents.

139. Once the technologies were widely adopted, and the industry became locked into the standards that allegedly incorporate Ericsson's patents, Ericsson reneged on its promise by exploiting its new-found market power to demand unreasonable and excessive royalties and terms, far in excess of the patents' own value.

140. As a result of Ericsson's misrepresentation, TCL has been injured in its business or property, and is threatened by imminent loss of profits, loss of customers and potential customers, and loss of goodwill and product image.

141. TCL has been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, TCL prays for relief as follows:

A. Adjudge and decree that Ericsson is liable for breach of contract;

B. Adjudge and decree that Ericsson is liable for promissory
estoppel;

C. Determine the FRAND rates that TCL is entitled to for each of
the 2G, 3G and 4G standards;

D. Enjoin Ericsson from further demanding excessive royalties from
TCL that are not consistent with Ericsson's FRAND obligations;

E. Decree that Ericsson has not offered royalties to TCL under
reasonable rates, with reasonable terms and conditions that are demonstrably free of
any unfair discrimination;

F. Decree that TCL is entitled to license from Ericsson any and all
patents that Ericsson deems "essential" and/or has declared "essential" to the Mobile
Cellular Standards under reasonable rates, with reasonable terms and conditions that
are demonstrably free of any unfair discrimination;

G. Enjoin Ericsson from forcing TCL to take a bundled license to
2G and 3G patents Ericsson deems essential to the Mobile Cellular Standards;

H. Enter judgment against Ericsson for the amount of damages that
TCL proves at trial, including, as appropriate, exemplary and/or treble damages;

I. Enter a judgment awarding TCL its expenses, costs, and
attorneys' fees under applicable laws;

J. Order restitution, including, *inter alia*, restitution of any illegally
paid license fees paid by TCL to Ericsson for any past or present licenses that do not
comport with Ericsson's FRAND commitments; and

1 K. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and
2 proper.
3

4 Dated: March 5, 2014

5 SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP
6

7 By /s/ Stephen S. Korniczky
8 STEPHEN S. KORNICZKY
9 MARTIN R. BADER
10 MATTHEW W. HOLDER
11 Attorneys for Plaintiff,
12 TCL Communication Technology Holdings, Ltd.
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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that TCL hereby demands a trial by jury.

Dated: March 5, 2014

SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP

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