

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of

**CERTAIN ROBOTIC FLOOR CLEANING
DEVICES AND COMPONENTS
THEREOF**

Inv. No. 337-TA-1252

**NOTICE: ISSUANCE OF INITIAL DETERMINATION
ON VIOLATION OF SECTION 337**

(October 7, 2022)

The Final Initial Determination (“ID”) on Violation of Section 337 of the Tariff Act, as amended, 19 U.S.C. § 1337 (“Section 337”), has been issued today.

It is a finding of the ID that Complainant iRobot Corporation (“Complainant”) has proven by a preponderance of evidence that Respondents SharkNinja Operating LLC, SharkNinja Management LLC, SharkNinja Management Co., SharkNinja Sales Co., EP Midco LLC, and SharkNinja Hong Kong Co. Ltd. (collectively, “Respondents”) have violated subsection (b) of Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, in the importation into the United States, in the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain robotic cleaning devices and components thereof.

It is a finding of the ID that Respondents have infringed asserted claims 12 and 23 of U.S. Patent No. 7,571,511 (“the ’511 patent”), and one of more of Complainant’s domestic industry products have satisfied the technical industry prong of the domestic industry requirement for the ’511 patent. However, because the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office found these claims to be invalid, Respondents have not violated Section 337 with respect to this patent. (*See* Doc. ID No. 779612 at Ex. A.).

It is a finding of the ID that Respondents have infringed asserted claims 9 and 12 of U.S.

Patent No. 9,884,423 (“the ’423 patent”), but have not infringed claim 23 of the ’423 patent. It is also a finding of the ID that one of more of Complainant’s domestic industry products have satisfied the technical industry prong of the domestic industry requirement for the ’423 patent. Because claims 9 and 12 and this patent are valid, Respondents have violated Section 337 with respect to the ’423 patent.

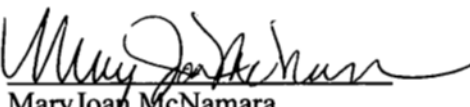
It is a finding of the ID that Respondents have infringed asserted claims 1 and 9 of U.S. Patent No. 10,813,517 (“the ’517 patent”). It is also a finding of the ID that one or more of Complainant’s domestic industry products have satisfied the technical industry prong of the domestic industry requirement for the ’517 patent. Because these claims and patent are valid, Respondents have violated Section 337 with respect to the ’517 patent.

It is a finding of the ID that Respondents have not infringed asserted claims 17 and 26 of U.S. Patent No. 10,835,096 (“the ’096 patent”), and none of Complainant’s domestic industry products have satisfied the technical prong of the domestic industry requirement for the ’096 patent. Thus, Respondents have not violated Section 337 with respect to this patent.

It is a finding of the ID that Complainant has satisfied the economic prong of the domestic industry requirement under Section 337(a)(3)(B).

With respect to claims 9 and 12 of the ’423 and claims 1 and 9 of the ’517 patent, the ID recommends: (1) a Limited Exclusion Order (“LEO”) with a standard certification provision and service and repair exception; (2) a Cease and Desist Order (“CDO”); and (3) that a bond is warranted and should be entered during the Presidential Review Period.

SO ORDERED.


MaryJoan McNamara
Administrative Law Judge