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Genesis Wins ITC Complaint Vs. Taiwanese Rivals Over LCD Controller Patent

By **Marius Meland**

Law360 (August 23, 2004, 12:00 AM EDT) -- Taiwanese chip makers MStar Semiconductor, Media Reality Technologies (MRT) and Trumpon Microelectronics infringed a patent for liquid crystal display (LCD) controllers held by rival Genesis Microchip, the U.S. International Trade Commission said in a final determination.

As expected, the ITC issued an exclusion order, to take effect in October, banning any imports into the U.S. of products using patent-infringing IC controllers from the three companies.

The final determination comes in the wake of two initial determinations from April and May, in which the ITC ruled that the respondents infringed the patent in question.

The patent in question is U.S. Patent No. 5,739,867 entitled "Method and Apparatus for Upscaling an Image in Both Horizontal and Vertical Directions," Genesis said.

Genesis Microchip makes image processing systems enabling improved picture quality for a variety of consumer and PC-display products. The patent covers a technology used to provide low-cost scaling solutions for flat-panel monitors and entry-level flat-panel televisions.

Genesis sued its rivals over the patents in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California in March 2002. Both MRT and SmartASIC filed countersuits in the case, but SmartASIC settled the lawsuit in January 2003.

In that case, Genesis is represented by attorneys for Fish & Richardson P.C. MRT is represented by Pillsbury Winthrop LLP. Trumpon Microelectronics is represented by Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal. SmartAsic is represented by Townsend Townsend and Crew LLP and Jeffrey J. Chang & Associates.

The case is Genesis Microchip (Delaware) Inc. v. Media Realty Technologies, Inc. et al, case no. 3:02-cv-01300, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.

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