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Stratasys Successfully Defends Validity of FDM Patents

U.S. Patent Trial and Appeal Board denies Afinia's attempts to challenge validity of Stratasys IP

MINNEAPOLIS & REHOVOT, Israel--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [Stratasys Ltd.](#) (Nasdaq:SSYS), a leading global provider of 3D printing and additive manufacturing solutions, announced that the U.S. Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) of the United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) has denied Afinia's requests for inter partes review of three important FDM® technology patents directed to liquefier structure, temperature control, and tool paths for constructing part perimeters.

Inter partes review is a proceeding in which the PTAB reviews the validity of claims in a patent. In denying Afinia's requests, the PTAB reasoned that Afinia "has not demonstrated a reasonable likelihood of prevailing," with respect to any of the challenged claims, in the Stratasys patents. This decision is particularly notable in that, based on current PTAB statistics (published by the USPTO), the PTAB denies only about one of four inter partes review requests.

"We are very pleased with the U.S. Patent Trial and Appeal Board's decision," said Soonhee Jang, Stratasys Vice President and Chief IP Counsel. "These dismissals are evidence of the strength of our patent portfolio."

These same three patents are asserted by Stratasys in the case of *Stratasys, Inc. v. Microboards Technology, LLC dba Afinia*, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota where Stratasys continues to pursue a relief from the court involving Afinia's infringement on three Stratasys patents.

Stratasys Inc.'s co-founder and chief innovation officer, Scott Crump, invented Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM), a technology that prints three dimensional objects from computer models by building them up in layers. Stratasys FDM solutions are the most widely adopted 3D printing solutions in the industry. The company will continue to significantly invest in technology, product and solution development, in order to make 3D printing more accessible and widely adopted by current and future users.

Stratasys Ltd. (Nasdaq:SSYS), headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Rehovot, Israel, is a leading global provider of 3D printing and additive manufacturing solutions. The company's patented FDM® and PolyJet™ 3D Printing technologies produce prototypes and manufactured goods directly from 3D CAD files or other 3D content. Systems include 3D printers for idea development, prototyping and direct digital manufacturing. Stratasys subsidiaries include MakerBot and Solidscape, and the company operates the digital parts manufacturing service, Stratasys Direct Manufacturing. Stratasys has more than 3,000

employees, holds over 800 granted or pending additive manufacturing patents globally, and has received more than 25 awards for its technology and leadership. Online at: www.stratasys.com or <http://blog.stratasys.com>.

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