Case summary

Pony

Patentee of an invention regarding supply of spectacle lenses (the Invention)

- Patent No. 20221027
- Filing Date: September 24, 2007
- Registration Date: April 23, 2008



Donkey

Company using a spectacle lens edging system called

"Meganetic" (the System)

• Started to use the System on October 1, 2021.

On January 31, 2022, Pony filed a patent infringement lawsuit against Donkey, seeking:

Injunction against the use of the System

What is "bevel"?

The term "bevel" refers to a convex protrusion formed on the edge surface (the side surface of the edge) of a spectacle lens along with the circumference of the spectacle lens.



What is "bevel"?

The reason for forming a "bevel" on a spectacle lens is to prevent a spectacle lens from coming off a spectacle frame.



Processing of spectacle lenses

When lenses are processed at an optician's shop

An optician's shop has both frames and unprocessed lenses. Unprocessed lenses are processed at the optician's shop.



Processing of spectacle lenses

When lenses are processed at a lens processing factory

An optician's shop has frames.

A lens processing factory has unprocessed lenses.

The lens processing factory processes the unprocessed lenses.



The lens processing factory cannot confirm that the processed lenses will be accommodated in the rim.

Problems of conventional technology / Purpose of the Invention

Problems:

- Possibility that the processed lenses delivered to the optician's shop from the lens processing factory are too large to fit in the rim
- Possibility that the processed lenses have some defects such as fitting loosely, leaving gaps between the processed lens and the rim

Purpose:

To provide a spectacle lens edging system that allows spectacle lenses to be fitted to the rim of a spectacle frame with a high degree of certainty and efficiency, even when the spectacle lenses are processed at a location where the spectacle frame is not immediately at hand.

Scope of claims

- **A** A spectacle lens edging system comprising: a frame measurement unit for measuring a three-dimensional shape of a rim of a spectacle frame; and a lens edging unit, connected to the frame measurement unit via a network, for beveling a spectacle lens,
- *B* wherein the frame measurement unit comprises:
- **B1** a frame tracer configured to obtain rim shape data regarding the threedimensional shape of the rim;
- **B2** a measurement terminal configured to calculate the rim circumferential length along a groove of the rim based on the rim shape data and to transmit data of the rim circumferential length to the lens edging unit, and

Scope of claims

- **C** wherein the lens edging unit comprises:
- *C1* an edger configured to bevel a spectacle lens based on prescribed edging conditions;
- **C2** a lens shape measurer configured to obtain lens shape data regarding the three-dimensional shape of the beveled spectacle lens; and
- **C3** an edger terminal configured to calculate the lens circumferential length along the bevel top of the beveled spectacle lens based on the lens shape data and to determine that the beveled spectacle lens can be fitted to the rim of the spectacle frame if the difference between the lens circumferential length and the rim circumferential length received from the measurement terminal of the frame measurement unit is within a prescribed range.





Comparison of the Invention and the System



Whether the System Satisfies Elements of the Invention (Arguments of plaintiff)

Frame measurement unit

Lens edging unit

The Data Management Device of the System corresponds to the "measurement terminal" of the "frame measurement unit" of the Invention.

Elements B2 (a measurement terminal configured to calculate the rim circumferential length), and C3 (the rim circumferential length received from the measurement terminal of the frame measurement unit) are satisfied.



Whether the System Satisfies Elements of the Invention (Arguments of defendant)

Frame measurement unit

The shop PC of the System corresponds to the "measurement terminal" of the "frame measurement unit " of the Invention.

Lens edging unit

The Data Management Device of the System corresponds to the "lens edging unit" of the Invention.

Elements B2 (a measurement terminal configured to calculate the rim circumferential length), and C3 (the rim circumferential length received from the measurement terminal of the frame measurement unit) are NOT satisfied.



Whether patent infringement is established or not (Arguments of plaintiff (1))



Whether patent infringement is established or not (Arguments of plaintiff (2))



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Whether patent infringement is established or not (Arguments of Defendant)

