

Apple Inc. v. AliveCor, Inc.

Jurisdiction: U.S. International Trade Commission; Federal District Court, Northern District of California

Nature of Claim: Patent disputes over electrocardiogram (ECG) technology in wearables.

Status: ITC issued limited exclusion order; enforcement paused pending appeal.

Potential Impact: Risk of injunctive relief against ECG-enabled Apple Watches.

Resolution Outlook: Appeal process ongoing.

Detailed Summary:

AliveCor, a medical device company specializing in heart monitoring, filed complaints against Apple asserting that Apple's ECG functionality in the Apple Watch infringes its patents. In late 2022, the ITC issued a limited exclusion order that could have restricted importation of certain Apple Watch models. However, enforcement of that order has been paused while Apple pursues appeals. AliveCor also initiated parallel litigation in federal district court. Apple contends that the patents are invalid and denies infringement. The dispute underscores the competitive overlap between Apple's consumer wearables and specialized medical device companies. If AliveCor prevails, Apple could face restrictions on selling some of its most advanced Apple Watch models in the United States, though Apple is actively exploring technical workarounds and vigorously defending its position.

This matter continues to be closely monitored by management and legal counsel. Given the complexity of the case, outcomes may vary depending on regulatory review, judicial interpretation, and potential settlement opportunities. Apple remains committed to vigorously defending its interests while exploring resolutions that minimize business disruption. This matter continues to be closely monitored by management and legal counsel. Given the complexity of the case, outcomes may vary depending on regulatory review, judicial interpretation, and potential settlement opportunities. Apple remains committed to vigorously defending its interests while exploring resolutions that minimize business disruption. This matter continues to be closely monitored by management and legal counsel. Given the complexity of the case, outcomes may vary depending on regulatory review, judicial interpretation, and potential settlement opportunities. Apple remains committed to vigorously defending its interests while exploring resolutions that minimize business disruption.