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Jury Clears Feit Of Infringing Nichia LED Light Patent

By Adam Lidgett

Law360 (January 24, 2023, 5:48 PM EST) -- A California federal jury has found that Feit Electric did not infringe a Nichia Corp. patent on LED lightbulbs, after a trial in the case concluded last week.

The jury in the case said in a verdict form dated Thursday, but not entered until Monday on the court docket, that it found Nichia failed to show that light bulb company Feit Electric Co. Inc. infringed four claims in U.S. Patent No. 9,752,734. The decision was the end of a seven-day jury trial in the case, court records showed.

Because the jury found no infringement, U.S. District Judge George Wu instructed them not to rule on numerous other specific questions about infringement and Feit's arguments that the patent is invalid.

Nichia had alleged in the case that Feit products relating to LED lightbulbs infringed the patent-atissue, according to the court's jury instructions.

The jury finding came after a California federal judge held in **December** that South Korean LED manufacturer Seoul Semiconductor Co. Ltd. had to compensate lightbulb company Feit for costs it incurred in defending now-dropped claims in another patent infringement lawsuit.

Counsel for Nichia and Feit did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Tuesday.

The patent-in-suit is U.S. Patent No. 9,752,734.

Nichia is represented by Jeffrey A. Kobulnick and Jessica W. Rosen of Lewitt Hackman Shapiro Marshall & Harlan and Robert P. Parker, Martin Zoltick, Jenny Colgate, Michael Jones, Mark Rawls, D. Lawson Allen and Nicole DeAbrantes of Rothwell Figg Ernst & Manbeck PC.

Feit is represented by Salil Bali of Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth PC and Kal Shah, Mircea A. Tipescu, Simeon G. Papacostas, Louis Constantinou, Samuel J. Ruggio and Tracey L. Starck of Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff LLP.

The case is Nichia Corporation v. Feit Electric Company Inc., case number 2:20-cv-00359, in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

--Editing by Emily Kokoll.

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