UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of
CERTAIN ROBOTIC FLOOR CLEANING DEVICES AND COMPONENTS THEREOF

INVESTIGATION NO. 337-TA-1252

NOTICE OF A COMMISSION DETERMINATION NOT TO REVIEW AN INITIAL DETERMINATION EXTENDING THE TARGET DATE


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission (“Commission”) has determined not to review an initial determination (“ID”) (Order No. 48) of the presiding administrative law judge (“ALJ”) extending the target date for completion of the investigation to December 12, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Benjamin S. Richards, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20436, telephone (202) 708-5453. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at https://edis.usitc.gov. For help accessing EDIS, please email EDIS3Help@usitc.gov. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server at https://www.usitc.gov. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission instituted this investigation on March 2, 2021. 86 FR 12206 (Mar. 2, 2021). The complaint, as amended and filed by iRobot Corporation of Bedford, MA, alleges violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain robotic floor cleaning devices and components thereof by reason of infringement of claims 1–4, 6–9, 12–15, 18, 20–23, 25, and 26 of U.S. Patent No. 9,884,423; claims 1, 3, 4, 9, and 10 of U.S. Patent No. 10,813,517; claims 1, 3–6, 8–10, 12–14, 16–19, 21–23, 25 and 26 of U.S. Patent No. 10,835,096; claims 1, 8–12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 22–25, 32–34, 36, 37, 55, 56, and 62 of U.S. Patent No. 7,571,511; and claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 12, and 13 of U.S. Patent No. 10,296,007. Id. The complaint further alleges that a domestic industry exists. Id. The Commission’s notice of investigation named as respondents SharkNinja Operating LLC of Needham, MA; SharkNinja Management LLC of Needham, MA; SharkNinja
Management Co. of Needham, MA; SharkNinja Sales Co. of Needham, MA; EP Midco LLC of Needham, MA; and SharkNinja Hong Kong Co. Ltd. of Hong Kong. Id. The Office of Unfair Import Investigations is not participating in the investigation. Id.

On June 3, 2022, the ALJ issued the subject ID, which extends the target date for completion of the investigation from November 15, 2022, to December 12, 2022. No petitions for review of the ID were received.

The Commission has determined not to review the subject ID. The target date for completion of this investigation is extended to December 12, 2022. The initial determination on whether there is a violation of section 337 is therefore due no later than August 12, 2022. 19 CFR 210.42(a)(1)(i).

The Commission vote for this determination took place on August 15, 2022.

While temporary remote operating procedures are in place in response to COVID-19, the Office of the Secretary is not able to serve parties that have not retained counsel or otherwise provided a point of contact for electronic service. Accordingly, pursuant to Commission Rules 201.16(a) and 210.7(a)(1) (19 CFR 201.16(a), 210.7(a)(1)), the Commission orders that the Complainant(s) complete service for any party/parties without a method of electronic service noted on the attached Certificate of Service and shall file proof of service on the Electronic Document Information System (EDIS).


By order of the Commission.

Katherine M. Hiner
Acting Secretary to the Commission

Issued: August 15, 2022