

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.

In the Matter of

**CERTAIN MOBILE ELECTRONIC
DEVICES AND COMPONENTS THEREOF**

Inv. No. 337-TA-1525

NOTICE OF INSTITUTION OF INVESTIGATION

Institution of investigation pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1337

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a complaint was filed with the U.S. International Trade Commission on September 3, 2026, under section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, on behalf of trinamiX Sensing LLC of Austin, Texas and trinamiX GmbH of Germany. A supplement to the complaint was filed on September 17, 2026. The complaint, as supplemented, alleges violations of section 337 based upon the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, and the sale within the United States after importation of certain mobile electronic devices and components thereof by reason of the infringement of certain claims of U.S. Patent No. 12,530,925 (“the ’925 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 12,288,421 (“the ’421 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 12,456,334 (“the ’334 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 12,361,760 (“the ’760 patent”); U.S. Patent No. 12,298,394 (“the ’394 patent”); and U.S. Patent No. 12,332,352 (“the ’352 patent”). The complaint further alleges that an industry in the United States exists and/or is in the process of being established as required by the applicable Federal Statute.

The complainants request that the Commission institute an investigation and, after the investigation, issue a limited exclusion order and cease and desist orders.

ADDRESSES: The complaint, except for any confidential information contained therein, may be viewed on the Commission’s electronic docket (EDIS) at <https://edis.usitc.gov>. For help accessing EDIS, please email EDIS3Help@usitc.gov. Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission’s TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at (202) 205-2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at <https://www.usitc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Office of the Secretary, Docket Services Division, U.S. International Trade Commission, telephone (202) 205-1802.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

AUTHORITY: The authority for institution of this investigation is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, and in section 210.10 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 CFR 210.10 (2025).

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION: Having considered the complaint, the U.S. International Trade Commission, on October 5, 2026, ORDERED THAT –

(1) Pursuant to subsection (b) of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, an investigation be instituted to determine whether there is a violation of subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 337 in the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or the sale within the United States after importation of certain products identified in paragraph (2) by reason of infringement of one or more of claims 1, 5-8, 17, and 21-24 of the '925 patent; claims 1, 5-9, 11, 17, 20, 21, 23, and 24 of the '421 patent; claims 1, 7, 11, 13, and 15 of the '334 patent; claims 1, 4-6, 8-10, 13, and 15 of the '760 patent; claims 1, 5, 6, 15, 18, and 19 of the '394 patent; and claims 1, 2, 9, 14, 16, 23, and 28 of the '352 patent, and whether an industry in the United States exists and/or is in the process of being established as required by subsection (a)(2) of section 337;

(2) Pursuant to section 210.10(b)(1) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 CFR 210.10(b)(1), the plain language description of the accused products or category of accused products, which defines the scope of the investigation, is "iPhones and iPads and components thereof, such as its processor and TrueDepth camera with a Vertical-Cavity Surface-Emitting Laser ('VCSEL'), a flood illumination VCSEL, and a near-infrared camera module, incorporating face authentication, 3D-sensing, and/or material detection capabilities";¹

(3) For the purpose of the investigation so instituted, the following are hereby named as parties upon which this notice of investigation shall be served:

(a) The complainants are:

trinamiX Sensing LLC
7800 Shoal Creek Boulevard
Suite 200N
Austin, TX 78757
USA

trinamiX GmbH
Industriestraße 35
67063 Ludwigshafen am Rhein
Germany

(b) The respondent is the following entity alleged to be in violation of section 337, and is the party upon which the complaint is to be served:

Apple Inc.
One Apple Park Way

¹ Commissioner Pappas would have delegated public interest so as to build a robust record as to whether or not there would be an impact to United States consumers in light of the role that the patented technology plays in terms of privacy, safety, and security.

Cupertino, CA 95014

(4) For the investigation so instituted, the Chief Administrative Law Judge, U.S. International Trade Commission, shall designate the presiding Administrative Law Judge.

The Office of Unfair Import Investigations will not participate as a party in this investigation.

The Commission is interested in the development of a thorough record on domestic industry in this investigation to facilitate a holistic review of all relevant considerations. Accordingly, the presiding administrative law judge may wish to consider what information will be necessary to make a determination with respect to complainant's domestic industry allegations under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of section 337(a)(3) based on an industry that exists and/or is in the process of being established; including the extent to which these allegations rely on expenditures made by third parties; and the extent to which expenditures are made outside the United States related to the domestic industry article(s) by any entity.

Responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation must be submitted by the named respondent in accordance with section 210.13 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 19 CFR 210.13. Pursuant to 19 CFR 201.16(e) and 210.13(a), such responses will be considered by the Commission if received not later than 20 days after the date of service by the Commission of the complaint and the notice of investigation. Extensions of time for submitting responses to the complaint and the notice of investigation will not be granted unless good cause therefor is shown.

Failure of the respondent to file a timely response to each allegation in the complaint and in this notice may be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to appear and contest the allegations of the complaint and this notice, and to authorize the administrative law judge and the Commission, without further notice to the respondent, to find the facts to be as alleged in the complaint and this notice and to enter an initial determination and a final determination containing such findings, and may result in the issuance of an exclusion order or a cease and desist order or both directed against the respondent.

By order of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa R. Barton', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Lisa R. Barton
Secretary to the Commission

Issued: October 6, 2026