This is a response to the Office Action issued by the Examining Attorney regarding application "iLC" (serial number 88270390) for the likelihood of confusion with the registered mark "iLC" (registration number 5227064) and "iLC" (registration number 1975637). As for the likelihood of confusion with the registered mark "iLC" (registration number 5227064), the applicant states that although the trademark applicants are different, the two marks are actually owned by different shareholders of the same company. Both parties have signed a trademark coexistence agreement. (details of which can be found in the attachment.) Meanwhile, applicant believes that there is no likelihood of consumer confusion, and respectfully request a reconsideration of registration for serial number 88270390.



(pending mark)

(registered mark)

There is no denying that both marks are share the same letter "ILC", however, we holds that it is unlikely to cause any confusion among customers based on the following reasons:

First, the whole appearances and design styles are different enough for customers to recognize them easily. As is shown, the pending mark is clearly shown as "iLC" surrounding with a circle, however, the registered mark gives us an impression of "ILG" or "HC" with lightning design connecting the three letters. Visually, we trust every one can easily notice that these two brand are different and the design style also indicate there is no relationship between them, for we know the same owner will use the same or similar design style on their logos.

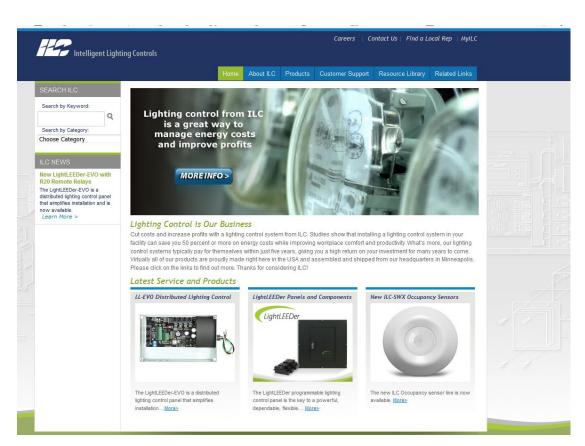
Second, goods for these two brands are less related and less compared. According to our investigation, we learn that the registered mark "ILC" is a brand for lighting sensors, lighting panels and so on, which are high tech products. On the contrary, the pending brand seeks protection for goods of lights and bulbs, which are common use in our daily life. Although both brands' products are related with lighting device, they are in completely two different level. The registered brand is for professional while the pending brand is for common domestic electrical appliance. In other words, the registered brand's potential customers are of professional knowledge enterprises and manufacturers, not for domestic use. Differently, the pending mark's target customers are all grown-ups and the products are more common products in supermarkets, department stores and convenience store as well. Thus, there is no actual overlap between the markets of the Applicant and the Registrant. Due to this reason, we insist that these two brand has their own potential group of consumers who will not compare these two brands at the same time. In other words, it is less possible for anyone to confuse them.

And by browsing the website, we know that the registered mark "ILC" is an acronym from "Intelligent Lighting Control", while the pending mark "ILC" symbolize "I LOVE CHINA". For those who has known the registered brand "ILC" (Intelligent Lighting Control) before, they are well educated and also familiar with Intelligent Lighting Control products, thus they will know that bulbs or lights with pending brand are not from Intelligent Lighting Control even though the

brand is printed "ILC". They can easily know the different design. And most of time, when one buys lights or bulbs, we tend to search the product name not the brand name, because we hope to compare the price for different brands. But when we buy intellectual light sensor or smart light panel, we would pay more attention to the brand and its background because these smart device is more expensive and we hope to buy one of high quality. That is, we care more about the quality than the price when we buy high-tech products. As a result, we might tend to search such kind of product via a brand name plus its generic. In this way, we can quickly seek out the product we want and make a comparison efficiently. In stand of this aspect, we hold that customers will not confuse this two brand, either.

Though the pending mark and the cited registered mark shares the same letter "ILC", no one will confuse these two brands because of their different appearance and design style, less related and compared goods. In light of the foregoing, applicant respectfully requests that the Examining Attorney reconsider the pending application for publication.

## Attachement:



1. The Registrant' s website: <u>http://www.ilc-usa.com/index.php</u>



2. The applicant's website: www.ilctech.com



<image><image><image><image><image><image><image>

OUR PRODUCTS



## About us

## **ABOUT US**

ILC™ is dedicated to providing innovative consumer products that make everyday living easier. We study people—lefties and righties, male and female, young and old—interacting with products and we identify opportunities for meaningful improvement. Our thoughtful, "question everything" process and relentless attention to detail uncover the best solutions for life's everyday tasks.

UNIVERSAL DESIGN iLC<sup>TM</sup> was founded on the philosophy of Universal Design, which means the design of products usable by as many people as possible. Today, ILC<sup>TM</sup> offers 500+ products covering many areas of the home, all created based on this principle. The company has been recognized globally as an example of how a well-executed Universal Design philosophy not only creates products that are beneficial to end users but is also a sensible business model.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY We at iLC™ believe that corporate social responsibility and economic success can go hand in hand. As such, we are committed to applying the principles of ethical sustainability in all of our daily activities.

HONESTY

HONESTY We embrace honest communication by sticking to the facts, fulfilling our promises and admitting our failures. RESPECT We always show the utmost respect for our colleagues, the company and our competitors. FRUGALITY We use resources visely. With effective planning, communication and optimized processes we strive to minimize costs across all areas of the business. TEAMWORK