Likelihood of Confusion

The Examining Attorney has cited Registration No. 4806474 for the mark APERTURE1 against Applicant's BRAND APERTURE mark under Section 2(d) of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1052(d) on the grounds that there may be a likelihood of confusion between the respective marks. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examining Attorney's initial finding, and requests that the citation be withdrawn based on the arguments presented below.

The Examining Attorney must determine whether the goods and services for which the marks are used are of such a nature that they would likely be encountered by the same persons who could mistakenly believe that they originate from the same source. In rendering this assessment, the Examining Attorney should consider a number of factors, including, who the services are marketed to, and who the respective intended customers are. Trademark Manual of Examining Procedure Section 1207.01(a)(1). See, e.g., Local Trademarks, Inc. v. Handy Boys, Inc., 16 USPQ2d 1156 (TTAB 1990)(LITTLE PLUMBER for liquid drain opener held not confusingly similar to LITTLE PLUMBER for advertising services); Quartz Radiation Corp. v.

Comm/Scope Co., 1 USPQ2d 1668 (TTAB 1986) (QR for coaxial cables held not confusingly similar to the same work for lamps, tubes, and other products related to the photocopying field.)

As identified in its description, Applicant's amended services are as follows:

"Brand research and analytics, namely, brand evaluation services, brand concept and brand development services for corporate and individual clients"

Conversely, the relevant Registrant's services cover:

"Marketing services, namely, advisory and consultancy services in the area of customer strategy and measurable engagement"

It is clear that Registrant's services directed to marketing and consultancy are distinguishable from Applicant's "brand evaluation, brand concept and brand development" services to end users. Applicant's services assist companies in their "branding" techniques while Registrant's services assist companies with marketing their goods and/or services. In addition, Applicant's mark <u>BRAND</u> APERTURE is telltale of its services in that it assists a company or individual with successful branding of their goods and/or services. It is even less likely that relevant consumers of Registrant's services would confuse their marketing and consumer engagement with the branding services of Applicant. The marks are also visually distinguishable, i.e., BRAND APERTURE and APERTURE1. The only commonality between the two is the term APERTURE.

The Examining Attorney must determine whether the goods or services for which the marks are used are of such a nature that they would likely be encountered by the same persons who could mistakenly believe that they originate from the same source. In rendering this assessment, the Examining Attorney should consider a number of factors, including, who the goods are marketed to, and who the respective intended customers are. *See, e.g.,* Local Trademarks, Inc. v. Handy Boys, Inc., 16 USPQ2d 1156 (TTAB 1990)(LITTLE PLUMBER for liquid drain opener held not confusingly similar to LITTLE PLUMBER for advertising services); Quartz Radiation Corp. v. Comm/Scope Co., 1 USPQ2d 1668 (TTAB 1986)(QR for coaxial cables held not confusingly similar to the same work for lamps, tubes, and other products related to the photocopying field.)

Applicant maintains that the services of the respective parties are marketed, sold and presented in entirely different channels of trade, i.e., marketing vs. branding. Both sets of services are of a distinctive nature, and thus, distinguishable to consumers. Applicant would be reaching potential "start-up" customers having an interest mainly in "branding" themselves or their company, not marketing. Applicant and Registrant will promote their services to different end users so as to preclude any potential for confusion. The potential customers for each distinct set of services are sophisticated and possess sufficient knowledge so as to minimize any potential for confusion.

Applicant also notes that there are other APERTURE marks on the Principal Register that coexist with the cited registration APERTURE1, as follows:

MARK REG. NO.	SERVICES
APERTURE 2731926	Class 35: Business consulting services in the field of facility, space, personnel and technology management and in the field of computer software programming and implementation to assist facility and technology personnel management
global aperture 3843582	Class 35: Providing information services in the field of business strategic planning, namely, business initiative structuring, business management consulting, business meeting management training, and business venture management, excluding services in the field of facility, space, personnel and technology management, and excluding services in the field of computer software programming and implementation to assist facility and technology personnel management
EMOTIONAL APERTURE MEASURE 4982375	Class 35: Business management consulting in the field of team development; Business organization and management consulting; Consulting services in business organization and management; Consulting services in the field of human resources development, namely, for the promotion of employee retention, career growth, and increased productivity for employees and employers

It is not uncommon for the Trademark Office to allow similar marks in the same International Class for related goods to coexist on the Principal Register. This appears to be the case with the cited registration. It is requested that the same consideration be afforded to the Applicant.

Conclusion

In view of the arguments presented here, Applicant requests that the subject application be approved and moved on to publication.



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TTAB Status

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TESS)

APERTURE

Word Mark

APERTURE

Goods and Services

IC 035. US 100 101 102. G & S: BUSINESS CONSULTING SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF FACILITY, SPACE,

PERSONNEL AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT AND in the field of COMPUTER SOFTWARE PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION TO ASSIST FACILITY AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL

MANAGEMENT. FIRST USE: 19890800. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 19890800

Mark

Drawing Code

(1) TYPED DRAWING

Serial

Number

76448258

Filing Date

September 10, 2002

Current **Basis**

1A

Original

1A

Filing Basis

Published for April 8, 2003 Opposition

Registration 2731926

Number Registration

Date

July 1, 2003

Owner

(REGISTRANT) Aperture Technologies, Inc. CORPORATION DELAWARE 9 Riverbend Drive South Stamford **CONNECTICUT 06907**

(LAST LISTED OWNER) VERTIV IT SYSTEMS, INC. CORPORATION DELAWARE 4991 CORPORATE DRIVE

HUNTSVILLE ALABAMA 35805

Assignment Recorded

ASSIGNMENT RECORDED

Attorney of Record

Michael P. Brennan and Lisa M. DuRoss

Prior 2432645 Registrations

Type of Mark SERVICE MARK

Register

PRINCIPAL

Affidavit Text SECT 15. SECT 8 (6-YR). SECTION 8(10-YR) 20140111.

Renewal

1ST RENEWAL 20140111

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Indicator

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Word Mark

GLOBAL APERTURE

Goods and Services

IC 035. US 100 101 102. G & S: Providing information services in the field of business strategic planning, namely, business initiative structuring, business management consulting, business meeting management training, and business venture management, excluding services in the field of facility, space, personnel and technology management, and excluding services in the field of computer software programming and

implementation to assist facility and technology personnel management. FIRST USE: 20081205. FIRST USE

IN COMMERCE: 20081205

Mark Drawing

Code

(3) DESIGN PLUS WORDS, LETTERS, AND/OR NUMBERS

Design Search

Code

26.05.09 - Triangles made of geometric figures, objects, humans, plants or animals

26.05.15 - Four or more triangles; Triangles - four or more

26.05.21 - Triangles that are completely or partially shaded

26.05.25 - Triangles with one or more curved sides

Trademark

Search Facility Classification

SHAPES-COLORS-3-OR-MORE Design listing or lined for three or more colors

SHAPES-TRIANGLES Triangular shaped designs and marks including incomplete triangles

Code

Serial Number 77641445

Filing Date

December 30, 2008

Current Basis

1A

Original Filing Basis

1A

Published for

Opposition

June 22, 2010

Registration Number

3843582

Registration Date September 7, 2010

Owner

(REGISTRANT) Global Aperture, Inc. CORPORATION CALIFORNIA #8-437 800 S. Pacific Coast Highway

Redondo Beach CALIFORNIA 902774778

Attorney of Record

Marc E. Hankin

Description of

Mark

The color(s) black, blue, gold and gray is/are claimed as a feature of the mark. The mark consists of a black triangle with curved sides centered between a gold triangle with curved sides, a blue triangle with curved sides and a gray triangle with curved sides, all above the stylized black wording "GLOBAL APERTURE".

Type of Mark

SERVICE MARK

Register

PRINCIPAL

Affidavit Text

SECT 15. SECT 8 (6-YR).

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TESS)

Emotional Aperture Measure

Word Mark EMOTIONAL APERTURE MEASURE

Services

Goods and IC 035. US 100 101 102. G & S: Business management consulting in the field of team development; Business organization and management consulting; Consulting services in business organization and management; Consulting services in the field of human resources development, namely, for the promotion of employee retention,

career growth, and increased productivity for employees and employers. FIRST USE: 20100600. FIRST USE IN

COMMERCE: 20100600

Standard Characters Claimed

Mark **Drawing**

(4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

Code

Serial Number

86768880

Filing Date September 25, 2015

Current **Basis**

1A

Original 1A Filing Basis

Published

for April 5, 2016

Opposition

Registration 4982375 Number

Registration June 21, 2016 **Date**

(REGISTRANT) Sanchez- Burks, Jeffrey INDIVIDUAL UNITED STATES 1410 West Washington Street Ann Arbor Owner

MICHIGAN 48103

Attorney of Record

JungJin Lee

Type of SERVICE MARK Mark

Register

PRINCIPAL-2(F)

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