PATENT DAMAGES FEBRUARY 2009

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THE CONTEXT

2700 PATENT SUITS FILED PER YEAR

- 86% SETTLE BEFORE TRIAL
- 8% SUMMARY JUDGMENTS [USUALLY FOR ACCUSED INFRINGER]
- 1% SETTLE AT JURY TRIAL
- 3% JUDGMENTS ON JURY VERDICT [50 VERDICTS PER YR. 3/4 FOR THE PATENTEE]
- 2% JUDGMENTS ON BENCH TRIALS

DAMAGE AWARDS [POSTED ON patstats.org]

- WE COLLECT AT THE JURY LEVEL
 - FINAL JUDGMENTS ARE OFTEN HIGHER DUE TO INTEREST AND ENHANCEMENT
 - FINAL JUDGMENTS ARE SOMETIMES LOWER DUE TO REMITTITURS
- WE UPDATE EVERY 2-3 MONTHS, SINCE 1/1/2005, LISTING CASE NAMES AND COURTS



VERDICTS ARE MODEST

- PATENTEES WIN ABOUT 75% OF VERDICTS
- COUNTING ONLY THE WINS, THE



- DISTRICT-BY-DISTRICT LOOK:
 - NOT MUCH BETTER

• YEAR-TO-YEAR TREND: MODEST



THE RULES OF LAW ARE PRETTY SIMPLE

- FOR LOST PROFITS: "SON OF PANDUIT"
 - CAUSALITY AND AMOUNT ARE ALL THAT IS NEEDED
 - SPLIT AWARDS (PROFITS FOR SOME INFRINGING SALES, REAS. ROY. FOR OTHERS, LOST ROYALTY REVENUE FOR OTHERS) ARE COMMON

TIME TO ABANDON THE GEORGIA-PACIFIC GRAB-BAG

• NEVER INTENDED FOR JURY CARTE-BLANCHE

- RULE SHOULD BE SIMPLY: PORTION OF THE VALUE ADDED
 - AS COMPARED TO NEXT-BEST ALTERNATIVE
 - THE JUDGE SHOULD SUPERVISE THE AWARD

WHERE ARE WE IN DAMAGES DOCTRINE?

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• CORNELL UNIV. v. HEWLETT-PACKARD

ENTIRE MARKET VALUE RULE:





ENTIRE MARKET VALUE RULE:

IS ARTIFICIAL

• IS A RULE WHOSE TIME SHOULD BE GONE

 VALUE ADDED IS ALL WE NEED, WITH JUDICIAL SUPERVISION

BUT...

- PATENT DAMAGES AWARDS ARE MODEST
- ON AVERAGE, THEY DON'T JUSTIFY THE EXPENSE AND INTRUSION OF PATENT LITIGATION
- THE INJUNCTION MIGHT JUSTIFY IT
 - -70% GRANT RATE AFTER eBAY