1 2 3 4 5 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 13-cv-2147-H-RBB 13-cv-2607-H-RBB IVERA MEDICAL CORPORATION. Case Nos. 11 12 Plaintiff, VS. 13 ORDER GRANTING IN PART DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR 14 FINAL JUDGMENT COVIDIEN LP, and COVIDIEN SALES, LLC, 15 [Doc. No. 23] Defendants. 16 IVERA MEDICAL CORPORATION, 17 Plaintiff, 18 VS. NEW ALLIANCE OF MEDICAL 19 DISTRIBUTORS, INC., D/B/A ALLIANCE MEDICAL, and AMTEC MEDICAL, INC., 20 21 Defendants. 22

On July 17, 2014, Defendants Amtec Medical, Inc. and New Alliance of Independent Medical Distributors, Inc. filed a motion for entry of final judgment and to preserve their rights to seek attorneys' fees after appellate review. (<u>Ivera v. New Alliance</u>), Case No. 3:13-cv-2607-H-RBB, Doc. No. 23.) On August 11, 2014, Plaintiff Ivera Medical Corporation filed its response in opposition to the

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motion. (Id., Doc. No. 24.) On August 13, 2014, Defendants filed a reply. (Id., Doc. No. 25.) On August 21, 2014, the Court vacated a hearing scheduled for August 25, 2014, and submitted the motion. (Id., Doc. No. 26.) The Court grants in part and denies in part Defendants' motion.

Background

On September 12, 2013, Plaintiff Ivera Medical Corporation filed a complaint against Defendants Covidien LP and Covidien Sales, LLC alleging infringement of U.S. Patent Nos. 7,780,794, 7,985,302, and 8,206,514 (the "patents-in-suit"). (Ivera v. Covidien (Covidien), Case No. 3:13-cv-2147-H-RBB, Doc. No. 1.) On October 29, 2013, Plaintiff filed a complaint against Defendants New Alliance of Medical Distributors, Inc. and Amtec Medical, Inc. alleging infringement of U.S. Patent Nos. 7,780,794, 7,985,302, and 8,206,514 as well. (New Alliance, Doc. No. 1.). On December 17, 2013, the Court consolidated the cases for pre-trial purposes. (Covidien, Doc. No. 12; New Alliance, Doc. No. 14.)

This consolidated action is related to similar patent infringement actions also pending before the Court. In Plaintiff Ivera's complaint against Defendants New Alliance and Amtec, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants infringed the patents-in-suit by distributing for sale "a disinfecting cap product referred to as the DualCap Solo." (New Alliance, Doc. No. 1, Compl., ¶ 15.) In related cases, Plaintiff has asserted the same patents-in-suit against Catheter Connections, Inc., an entity Plaintiff alleges to be the manufacturer of the DualCap Solo.¹ (See Catheter I, Doc. No. 1,Compl., ¶ 12; Catheter II, Doc. No. 1, Compl., ¶ 10.) Plaintiff asserts the same infringement claims against the Covidien Defendants' Kendall Disinfectant Cap and related products. (Covidien, Doc. No. 7, First Amended Compl., ¶ 14.)

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The two actions related to the present case are <u>Ivera Medical Corporation v. Catheter Connections, Inc. (Catheter I)</u>, Case No. 3:12-CV-0954-H-RBB, and <u>Ivera</u> Medical Corporation v. Catheter Connections, Inc. (Catheter II), 12-CV-1587-H-RBB (collectively, the "related cases"). The Court consolidated the related cases on February 7, 2013. (See Catheter I, Doc. No. 32, Consolidation Order.). The Court takes judicial notice of the public record regarding the related cases. Fed. R. Evid. 201.

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On January 16, 2014, the Court granted a joint motion to stay this consolidated action pending resolution of the related cases. (<u>Covidien</u>, Doc. No. 23; <u>New Alliance</u>, Doc. No. 21.) The parties agreed that resolution of the related cases would be "dispositive of the current case." (<u>Covidien</u>, Doc. No. 20, at 2; <u>New Alliance</u>, Doc. No. 18 at 2.) The Court cited the parties' joint stipulation to be bound by the outcome in the related cases as a reason for granting their joint motion to stay. (<u>Covidien</u>, Doc. No. 23, at 2; New Alliance, Doc. No. 21 at 2.)

On April 29, 2014, the Court granted summary judgment in the related cases, invalidating the asserted patent claims for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). (Catheter I, Doc. No. 98, Ord. Granting Summ. Judg.) On June 23, 2014, the Court entered final judgment against Ivera Medical Corporation and in favor of Catheter Connections, Inc. as to all asserted patent claims. (Id. Doc. No. 104.)

Discussion

Defendants move for final judgment on the grounds that the Court granted summary judgment in Catheter Connections's favor and invalidated the patents-in-suit, an order to which Plaintiff and Defendants agreed to be bound. (Doc. No. 23-1.) Plaintiff opposes and requests instead that the Court extend its stay of this case indefinitely pending resolution of the related cases on appeal. (Doc. No. 24.) Plaintiff agrees that the outcome of the related cases is still "dispositive of the outcome in this case." (Id. at 2.)

Defendants have shown good cause why the Court should lift its stay of this action and enter judgment based on the parties' agreement to be bound by the outcome of the related cases.² See Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a). The Court notes that the parties have preserved their rights to seek appellate review of the underlying decision. <u>Taylor Brands, LLC v. GB II Corp.</u>, 627 F.3d 874, 878 (Fed. Cir. 2010) ("A party who

The Defendants' motion also stipulates to dismissal of all asserted unenforceability and non-infringement counterclaims to remove the pendency of those claims as a bar to finality for purposes of appeal. (Doc. No. 23-1 at 7.) Accordingly, the Court dismisses these counterclaims without prejudice. Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(a)(2).

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consents to the substance of a judgment should indeed be presumed to have waived its right to appeal—absent an express reservation of that right on the record."); <u>Gatto v. Comm'r of Internal Revenue</u>, 1 F.3d 826, 827-28 (9th Cir. 1993) (upholding petitioners' stipulation that the result in their case be bound by the result in a related case before the Tax Court, even though there had been no case-dispositive interlocutory order in the petitioners' case).

In contrast, Defendants have not shown good cause why the Court should adjourn the deadline to seek attorneys' fees. Exercising its discretion under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54(d)(2), the Court declines to extend the time to seek attorneys' fees. See Petrone v. Veritas Software Corp., 496 F.3d 962 (9th Cir. 2007).

Accordingly, the Court orders as follows:

- 1. The Court lifts its stay of this action;
- 2. The Court dismisses without prejudice Defendants' unenforceability and non-infringement counterclaims; and
- 3. The Court grants Defendants' motion for final judgment and denies Defendants' request to adjourn the deadline to seek attorneys' fees.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: August 25, 2014

MARILYN II. HUFF, District Undge UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT