

**From:** Kurt Tompkins  
**To:** [PTABNPR2018](#)  
**Subject:** Changes by USPTO  
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My name is Kurt Tompkins, inventor of the bFan and original Bedfan I am a member of IGA which supports stronger patent rights. I have already been screwed over by Brookstone, where we were one of their best products. They decided it would be better for them to simply make a couple of changes, which I told them I would be doing, and move their knockoff production to China. Their actions nearly killed our little company. The innovators need protection from the duplicators.

I am writing in support of proposed changes by the USPTO to the claim construction standard for interpreting claims in trial proceedings before the patent trial and appeal board. I feel this is very important to implement a fair and balanced approach while providing greater predictability and certainty in the patent system. This will help patent holders trying to secure funding from investors. It must be clear to the investor that there is a predictable outcome, or they will place their investment elsewhere. This country was built by small inventors, and the playing field must be level or innovation will be shuttered, as will our economy and the words.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kurt Tompkins  
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