

Case Study

Breaking Barriers:

How We Cracked the Code to **Patent Invalidation**



Background

A prominent semiconductor company approached us with a patent invalidation case involving an advanced electrical circuit design. The patent in question disclosed a system featuring multiple fuses that enable the circuit to maintain a low standby current absorption state while allowing a rapid transition to a full operating state. The invention was central to power efficiency improvements in semiconductor devices, making the challenge of invalidating it crucial for the client.

Client's Requirements

The client had specific requirements and faced significant challenges in deciphering the complex circuit structure disclosed in the patent. The difficulty was further compounded by the lack of direct keyword references in the patent documentation, making traditional keyword-based search strategies ineffective.

Challenge

Upon examination, the case revealed three robust prior art references categorized under Tier-X citations, as highlighted by the examiner. However, these references were not sufficiently exhaustive to challenge the patent's validity.



Our Strategic Approach

- Conducted a detailed analysis of relevant IPC classifications and conceptual frameworks to refine the search direction.
- Identified key power control circuit domain competitors, including Samsung, Texas Instruments, Infineon Technologies, Intel, and Apple, to focus on industry leaders.
- Expanded the search scope beyond traditional keyword-based methods by analyzing competitor product landscapes and technological advancements.

Impact

- Successfully uncovered a novelty-destroying prior art from Infineon Technologies, invalidating the patent claims.
- Strengthened the client's legal position, enabling them to challenge the patent's validity with solid evidence.
- Provided the client with a strategic advantage in a competitive and high-stakes technology domain.



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