

BL O/070/16

10 February 2016

## PATENTS ACT 1977

PARTIES Sean Jackson, Brian Clark and Chris Thompson

ISSUE Reference under section 8 and rule 10(2) in respect of patent application GB1316875.2

HEARING OFFICER Peter Slater

## DECISION

- 1 Patent application GB1316875.2 ("the application") entitled "Systems and methods for keyword research and content analysis" was filed on 23 September 2013 in the name of Sean Jackson being the sole proprietor and inventor at the time of filing. The application was published on 16 April 2014 as GB2506994.
- 2 The application claims priority from two earlier US patent applications 14/032716 and 61/705026, the earliest priority date of which being 24 September 2012. During the prosecution of 14/032716, Brian Clark and Chris Thompson were added as joint inventors and applicants alongside Sean Jackson.
- 3 Sean Jackson, the proprietor has now filed a reference under section 8 asking for the application to proceed jointly in the names of Sean Jackson, Brian Clark and Chris Thompson. His reference is accompanied by an application under rule 10(2), to have Brian Clark & Chris Thompson added as joint inventors.
- 4 This request is similar to that allowed in the United States and is accompanied by the written consent of all parties. I therefore can see no reason why I should reject this reference, and order that the application proceed in the names of Sean Jackson, Brian Clark and Chris Thompson as joint applicants. Furthermore, I find that Brian Clark and Chris Thompson should be mentioned as joint inventors in the published patent application. I therefore order, in accordance with rule 10(1), that an appropriate addendum naming Sean Jackson, Brian Clark & Chris Thompson as joint inventors, be prepared for the published application.