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Meta, EssilorLuxottica Sued in Smart Glasses Patent Case



A pair of Ray-Ban Meta smart glasses in a Ray-Ban eyewear store in Rome.

Photographer: Alessia Pierdomenico/Bloomberg

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By [Chris Welch](#)

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[Meta Platforms Inc.](#), the reigning leader in the growing smart glasses category, is being sued by another glasses maker over patent infringement in a case that also targets eyewear giant [EssilorLuxottica SA](#) and its Oakley subsidiary.

In a complaint filed in a federal Massachusetts court on Friday, [Solos Technology Ltd.](#) accused Meta and the other parties of willfully violating several patents that cover “core technologies in the field of smart eyewear.” The company is seeking “multiple billions of dollars” in damages and an injunction that could potentially disrupt sales of Ray-Ban Meta products.

Representatives for Meta and EssilorLuxottica did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Patent battles are becoming more common in this segment as smart glasses have gained in popularity. Earlier this month, the Chinese brand Xreal [filed](#) an infringement suit in the US against one of its competitors, Viture. Meanwhile, Meta is facing a different patent infringement suit over the [muscle-signal technology](#) used by the Neural Band that controls its Ray-Ban Display glasses.

Read More: [Xreal Files Patent Suit Against Rival Smart Glasses Maker Viture](#)

Solos’ earliest hardware efforts date back a decade and were [focused](#) on smart eyewear for cyclists. More recent models like the “AirGo” series have offered built-in artificial intelligence features like translation and ChatGPT integration. On its website, Solos highlights an IP portfolio of over 100 patents and patent applications.

The infringement filing mostly focuses on the Ray-Ban Meta Wayfarer Gen 1, but says “defendants’ later releases are derivative of the Gen 1

platform and continue to implement Solos' patented technologies, resulting in ongoing and continuous infringement.”

Solos claims that Oakley employees were introduced to its preliminary glasses technology as early as 2015, with a former senior executive later receiving a commercial pair for testing purposes in 2019. Similarly, the complaint alleges that EssilorLuxottica met with Solos personnel throughout 2017 and gained knowledge of the company's concepts and road map.

As for Meta, Solos alleges that MIT Sloan Fellow Priyanka Shekar published a 2021 research study titled “Audio Wearable Product Strategy: Expanding User Experience for Solos Smart Glasses” and then brought that knowledge to Meta when she joined the company as a product manager. Her study cited Solos' patents as one of the company's strengths.

“By the time Meta jointly commercialized smart-glasses products in or around 2021 with EssilorLuxottica, both sides had accumulated years of direct, senior-level and increasingly detailed knowledge of Solos' smart-glasses technology,” the complaint said.

Solos' own attempts at cracking the consumer smart glasses market haven't been as successful as Meta's. The company's products generally have [unfavorable Amazon customer reviews](#), and on the social platform Reddit, some users have complained about [lackluster customer support](#).

The Ray-Ban Meta portfolio, by contrast, receives widely positive customer feedback. Meta and EssilorLuxottica have discussed doubling their manufacturing output to meet demand, Bloomberg [reported](#) earlier this month.

Read More: [Meta Seeks Doubling of Ray-Ban AI-Glasses Output on Demand](#)