

United States Patent Office Orders Review of Frontline's '151 Patent



people management

MONTOURSVILLE, PA – January 31, 2013 - On January 23, 2013, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) granted a petition by CRS Advanced Technology which challenged the validity of claims 3, 6, 7, 16, 24, and 33 of U.S. Patent Number 6,675,151 (the '151 patent), which is owned by Frontline Technologies, Inc. and was originally issued in 2004. The USPTO granted the petition to review those claims of the '151 patent because CRS had demonstrated that "it is more likely than not that the challenged claims are unpatentable under [35 U.S.C.] § 101 because they encompass only abstract unpatentable subject matter."

The USPTO's decision addressed whether Frontline's invention solves a technical problem using a technical solution. The USPTO concluded that the '151 patent does not recite a technological feature that is novel and unobvious, and therefore held that the '151 patent is a covered business method patent and is eligible for review under the USPTO's newly-instituted transitional covered business method patent program.

Finding the claims unpatentable would have a positive impact for CRS in the on-going patent infringement case of Frontline Placement Technologies, Inc. vs. CRS, Inc.

ABOUT CRS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY:

For more than 25 years, CRS has been the trusted leader in providing automated absence management and substitute placement solutions. CRS serves over 1.5 million users throughout the United States and Canada with its flagship software product, SubFinder, best known in the education and library markets. For more information, please visit www.crsadvancedtechnology.com or call 800.782.3463.