

United States District Court  
For the Northern District of California

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN JOSE DIVISION

APPLE, INC., a California corporation,	)	Case No.: 11-CV-01846-LHK
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	ORDER GRANTING NON-PARTY IDC
	)	RESEARCH INC.'S ADMINISTRATIVE
v.	)	MOTION TO SEAL
	)	
SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD., a	)	
Korean corporation; SAMSUNG	)	
ELECTRONICS AMERICA, INC., a New York	)	
corporation; SAMSUNG	)	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AMERICA, LLC,	)	
a Delaware limited liability company,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

Before the Court is non-party IDC Research, Inc.'s (d.b.a. International Data Corporation) ("IDC") administrative motion to seal Exhibit 199 to the Declaration of Michael Wagner in support of Samsung's Opposition to Apple's Motion for a Permanent Injunction and Damages Enhancement. *See* IDC's Mot. File Under Seal ("IDC's Mot."), ECF No. 2204. In response, Samsung filed a partial opposition. *See* Samsung's Partial Opp'n IDC's Mot. ("Samsung's Partial Opp'n"), ECF No. 2208. For the reasons stated below, the Court GRANTS IDC's Motion to Seal.

**I. LEGAL STANDARD**

As this Court has explained in its previous sealing orders, courts have recognized a "general right to inspect and copy public records and documents, including judicial records and documents." *Nixon v. Warner Commc'ns, Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 & n.7 (1978). "Unless a particular court record is one 'traditionally kept secret,' a 'strong presumption in favor of access' is the starting

point.” *Kamakana v. City and Cnty. of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006) (quoting *Foltz v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 331 F.3d 1122, 1135 (9th Cir. 2003)).

To overcome this strong presumption, a party seeking to seal a judicial record must articulate a reason for sealing that outweighs the public policies favoring disclosure. *See id.* at 1178–79. Because the public’s interest in non-dispositive motions is relatively low, a party seeking to seal a document attached to a non-dispositive motion need only demonstrate a reason that constitutes “good cause.” *Pintos v. Pac. Creditors Ass’n*, 605 F.3d 665, 678 (9th Cir. 2010) (applying “good cause” standard to all non-dispositive motions, because such motions “‘are often unrelated, or only tangentially related, to the underlying cause of action’” (quoting *Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1179)).

In contrast, “the resolution of a dispute on the merits . . . is at the heart of the interest in ensuring the ‘public’s understanding of the judicial process and of significant public events.’” *Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1179 (quoting *Valley Broadcasting Co. v. U.S. Dist. Court for Dist. of Nev.*, 798 F.2d 1289, 1294 (9th Cir. 1986)). Therefore, a party seeking to seal a judicial record attached to a dispositive motion must articulate “compelling reasons” in favor of sealing. *See Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1178.

The document that IDC seeks to seal concerns Apple’s Motion for a Permanent Injunction and Damages, which directly concerns the merits of the case. Moreover, Apple’s motion to permanently enjoin the sale of 26 Samsung products is a significant public event of which the public has great interest, as evidenced by the high media and general public attention to the preliminary injunction proceedings, the trial, and the post-trial proceedings.

Accordingly, the Court will use the “compelling reasons” standard here.

## **II. IDC’S MOTION TO SEAL**

As noted above, non-party IDC seeks to seal in its entirety Exhibit 199 to the Declaration of Michael Wagner in support of Samsung’s Opposition to Apple’s Motion for a Permanent Injunction and Damages Enhancement (“Wagner PI Declaration”). Exhibit 199 consists of an entire IDC report and data spreadsheet of a worldwide quarterly mobile phone tracker for the second quarter of 2012 (the “Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker 2012Q2” or the

1 “Tracker”). *See* IDC’s Mot. at 1. While Samsung does not oppose IDC’s request to seal Exhibit  
2 199, it opposes any order that “require[s] Samsung to [] not file the tracker at all.” *See* Samsung’s  
3 Partial Opp’n at 1 (citing IDCs Mot. at 3).

4 To determine whether there are “compelling reasons” to seal Exhibit 199, this Court must  
5 examine if “such ‘court files might . . . become a vehicle for improper purposes,’ such as the use of  
6 records to . . . release trade secrets.” *Kamakana*, 447 F.3d at 1179 (citing *Nixon*, 435 U.S. at 598).  
7 For purposes of sealing, the Ninth Circuit has adopted the definition of “trade secrets” set forth in  
8 the Restatement of Torts, holding that “[a] trade secret may consist of any formula, pattern, device  
9 or compilation of information which is used in one’s business, and which gives him an opportunity  
10 to obtain an advantage over competitors who do not know or use it.” *Clark v. Bunker*, 453 F.2d  
11 1006, 1009 (9th Cir. 1972) (quoting *Restatement of Torts* § 757, cmt. b). “[P]ricing terms, royalty  
12 rates, and guaranteed minimum payment terms” clearly fall within the definition of “trade secrets”  
13 for purposes of sealing motions. *See In re Electronic Arts*, 298 Fed. App’x 568, 569 (9th Cir.  
14 2008). Additionally, “compelling reasons” may exist if sealing is required to prevent judicial  
15 documents from being used “‘as sources of business information that might harm a litigant’s  
16 competitive standing.’” *Id.* (citing *Nixon*, 435 U.S. at 598).

17 The Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker 2012Q2 is “a massive collection of recent  
18 data and analysis regarding mobile phone and smartphone markets with a wide geographic scope.”  
19 IDC Mot. at 2 (citing Decl. Crawford Del Prete Supp. IDC’s Motion to Seal (“Del Prete Decl.”)  
20 ¶¶3-6). To protect this valuable proprietary work product, IDC imposes strict controls on what its  
21 customers may do with it. Del Prete Decl. ¶ 7. If a customer wishes to distribute or otherwise use  
22 the Tracker, or any part of it, externally, it must first obtain IDC’s express written consent. *Id.* ¶ 7,  
23 Ex. A ¶2(d).

24 Apple originally purchased the Tracker from IDC for over \$400,000 under a strict  
25 confidentiality agreement. *See id.* ¶¶ 8, 15. Since its sale, IDC has not consented to Apple or  
26 Samsung using the Tracker in any manner that would cause it to become public information. *Id.*  
27 ¶ 9. IDC only gave Apple permission to produce and use the Tracker in response to a discovery  
28 request from Samsung in this litigation on the express condition that the material be marked

1 “Highly Confidential—Attorney’s Eyes Only.” *See id.* ¶ 10.

2 IDC contends that its overriding interest in maintaining the highly sensitive proprietary data  
3 and analysis that IDC features in its trackers is a compelling reason to seal the document. IDC also  
4 notes that Courts have routinely found a compelling interest in protecting the type of confidential  
5 information contained in the Tracker. IDC Mot. at 4 (citing, as an example, *In re Adobe Sys., Inc.*  
6 *Sec. Litig.*, 141 F.R.D. 155, 161-62 (N.D. Cal. 1992)).

7 As IDC’s business model revolves around gathering and selling data and reports of this  
8 nature, the Court agrees that public disclosure of the Tracker could cause IDC substantial  
9 commercial harm. First, if the Tracker were made publically available, IDC’s prospective  
10 customers would have no need to purchase it at all. *See Del Prete Decl.* ¶ 15. Second, public  
11 disclosure of the Tracker could provide a windfall to IDC’s competitors and thereby place IDC at a  
12 competitive disadvantage. *Id.* ¶ 16. In contrast to the great potential for harm to IDC, the Court  
13 finds that the public’s interest in accessing the raw data contained within the spreadsheet is  
14 relatively low. The public’s interest in understanding the outcome of this action will be sufficiently  
15 satisfied by data contained in other documents derived from the Tracker, *see Wagner PI Decl. Exs.*  
16 2, 29, but which do not reveal the full extent of the vast amount of information contained within the  
17 Tracker itself.

18 Thus, the Court finds that IDC has set forth compelling reasons to maintain the Tracker  
19 under seal. Accordingly, the Court GRANTS IDC’s Motion to Seal Exhibit 199 to the Wagner  
20 Declaration in its entirety.

21 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

22  
23 Dated: July 24, 2013

24   
25 LUCY H. KOH  
26 United States District Judge  
27  
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