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ASTROCADE SUES ATARI AND COMMODORE FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENTS

CHICAGO--Astrocade, Inc. (formerly Astrovision, Inc.), holder of exclusive rights to Bally Manufacturing Company's home video game, announced here at the Consumer Electronics Show today that it has filed a patent infringement action against Atari, Inc. and Commodore Business Machines, Inc.

The lawsuits involve two U.S. patents owned by Bally and exclusively licensed to Astrocade for the home video game market. The patents, numbers 4,296,930 (issued Oct. 27, 1981) and 4,301,503 (issued Nov. 17, 1981), both issued to Jeffrey Frederiksen and assigned to Bally, cover a basic video display technique known as "bit mapping," which is used by Atari and Commodore in their products.

The suit seeks an injunction and an accounting of damages in an amount as yet unspecified, but thought by Astrocade to be in the millions.

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ASTROCADE LAWSUIT/2

Astrocade requested Bally, under its exclusive license, to join in the litigation as co-plaintiff. Bally refused and was therefore joined as an involuntary plaintiff in the lawsuit.

Astrocade is represented in the action by Leiberman, Rudolph, and Nowak, a law firm based in New York City.

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