

White Consolidated Indus., 199 F.3d 1295, 1301 (Fed. Cir. 1999) illustrates a claim interpretation consistent with a feature emphasized in the specification as important to the invention.

A merely exemplary feature, because of its *exemplary* status, should not be read into claims whose words do not include that feature. By way of illustration, where the specification describes a feature, not found in the words of the claims, only to fulfill the statutory best mode requirement, the feature should be considered exemplary, and the patentee should not be unfairly penalized by the importation of that feature into the claims. A person of ordinary skill may also consider a feature merely exemplary where nothing in the written description indicates that the invention is exclusively directed toward the feature or suggests that embodiments without it are outside the scope of the invention. Sunrize Roots Enter. Co. v. SRAM Corp., 336 F.3d 1297, 1305 (Fed. Cir. 2003). However, if the specification as a whole suggests that the very character of the invention requires the limitation be a part of every embodiment, then defining a claim term in accordance with that limitation would be appropriate. Alloc, 342 F.3d at 1370.