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7 Rapid Funk, LLC

9 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
10 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

12 RAPID FUNK, LLC,  
13 Plaintiff,

14 v.

15 AMAZON.COM, INC., DNA RESPONSE,  
16 INC., JAY FRANCO & SONS, INC.,  
17 JAY@PLAY INTERNATIONAL HK LTD,  
18 SPIRAL TOYS, INC., TOYS “R” US, INC.  
19 and WAL-MART STORES INC.

20 Defendants.

Case No. 2:15-cv-06449

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT  
INFRINGEMENT**

**Jury Trial Demanded**

RUSS, AUGUST & KABAT

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1 This is an action for patent infringement arising under the Patent Laws of the  
2 United States of America, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.* in which Plaintiff Rapid Funk,  
3 LLC (“Rapid Funk” or “Plaintiff”) makes the following allegations against  
4 Defendants Amazon.com, Inc. (“Amazon”), DNA Response, Inc. (“DNA  
5 Response”), Jay Franco & Sons, Inc. (“Jay Franco & Sons”), Jay@Play  
6 International HK, Ltd. (“Jay@Play”), Spiral Toys, Inc. (“Spiral Toys”), Toys “R”  
7 Us, Inc. (“Toys R Us”) and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. (“Walmart”) (collectively,  
8 “Defendants”).

9 **I. PARTIES**

10 1. Plaintiff Rapid Funk, LLC is Nevada Limited Liability Company,  
11 having a business address at P.O. Box 1598, Carson City, NV 89702.

12 2. On information and belief, Defendant Amazon.com, Inc. is a  
13 Delaware corporation having a principal place of business at 410 Terry Avenue  
14 North, Seattle, WA 98109.

15 3. On information and belief, Defendant DNA Response, Inc. is a  
16 Washington corporation having a principal place of business at 211 First Avenue  
17 South, Suite 205, Seattle, WA 98104.

18 4. On information and belief, Defendant Jay Franco & Sons, Inc. is a  
19 New York corporation having a principal place of business at 295 Fifth Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
20 Floor, New York, NY 10016.

21 5. On information and belief, Defendant Jay@Play International HK,  
22 Ltd. is a subsidiary of defendant Jay Franco & Sons.

23 6. On information and belief, Defendant Spiral Toys, Inc. is a Nevada  
24 corporation with its principal place of business at 29130 Medea Lane, No. 1207,  
25 Agoura Hills, CA 91301.

26 7. On information and belief, Defendant Toys “R” Us, Inc., is a  
27 Delaware corporation having a principal place of business at One Geoffrey Way,  
28 Wayne, NJ, 07470.

1 8. On information and belief, Defendant Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is a  
2 Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 702 Southwest 8<sup>th</sup>  
3 Street, Bentonville, AK 72716.

4 **II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

5 9. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, Title 35  
6 of the United States Code. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction  
7 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

8 10. On information and belief, Defendants are each subject to this Court's  
9 specific and general personal jurisdiction pursuant to due process and/or the  
10 California Long Arm Statute, due to each having availed itself of the rights and  
11 benefits of California by engaging in activities, including: (i) conducting  
12 substantial business in this forum; and (ii) engaging in other persistent courses of  
13 conduct, and/or deriving substantial revenue from goods and services provided to  
14 individuals in California and in this Judicial District.

15 11. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b), 1391(c),  
16 and 1400(b). On information and belief, each Defendant has engaged in activities  
17 including: transacting business in this district and purposefully directing business  
18 activities, including the sale of infringing goods, to this district.

19 12. The Defendants are properly joined in this lawsuit, under 35 U.S.C. §  
20 299, because they have each engaged in acts of infringement with respect to or  
21 arising out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transactions or  
22 occurrences relating to the making, using, importing in the United States, offering  
23 for sale, or selling of the same accused product and questions of fact common to all  
24 Defendants will arise in this action.

25 **COUNT I**

26 **INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,942,637**

27 13. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-12  
28 above, as if fully set forth herein.

RUSS, AUGUST & KABAT

1           14. Plaintiff is the owner and assignee of United States Patent No.  
2 8,942,637 (“the ‘637 patent”) titled “Comfort Device, System and Method with  
3 Electronic Message Display,” attached hereto as Exhibit A. The ‘637 patent was  
4 duly and legally issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on  
5 January 27, 2015. Plaintiff is the owner and assignee, possessing all substantial  
6 rights, to the ‘637 patent.

7           15. Each Defendant has infringed and continues to infringe, directly and  
8 indirectly, the ‘637 patent by, among other things, making, using, offering for sale,  
9 selling and/or importing unlicensed systems and/or products, covered by one or  
10 more claims of the ‘637 patent. Such unlicensed products include, by way of  
11 example and without limitation, comfort devices imported, offered for sale and/or  
12 sold in this country by each Defendant, including without limitation the  
13 “CloudPets” line of comfort devices, which is covered by one or more claims of  
14 the ‘637 patent, including but not limited to claim 1. By making, using, offering  
15 for sale, selling, and/or importing such systems and products, covered by one or  
16 more claims of the ‘637 patent, each Defendant has injured Plaintiff and each  
17 Defendant is liable to Plaintiff for infringement of the ‘637 patent pursuant to 35  
18 U.S.C. § 271.

19           16. The “CloudPets” comfort devices, which are made, used, offered for  
20 sale, sold and/or imported by each Defendant, infringes at least claim 1 of the ‘637  
21 patent because “CloudPets” includes a message playing system comprising a  
22 comfort device having a soft body and configured to be held or hugged to provide  
23 comfort to a device user; an electronic circuit disposed within the body of the  
24 comfort device, the electronic circuit including a wireless communication circuit  
25 for receiving wireless electronic message communications; a display device  
26 connected to the electronic circuit for displaying one or more messages associated  
27 with wireless electronic message communications received by the wireless  
28 communication circuit; and a further display device connected to the electronic

1 circuit and controlled by the electronic circuit to display an indication that a  
2 message is available to be played, wherein the further display device that displays  
3 an indication that a message is available to be played is separate from the display  
4 device that displays the one or more messages received.

5 17. Spiral Toys was placed on notice of its infringement of the ‘637  
6 Patent no later than July 16, 2015 as a result of a letter from the inventor of the  
7 ‘637 patent, Sean Roach, undersigned by Mr. Roach’s attorney, to Mr. Mark  
8 Meyers, CEO of Spiral Toys, specifically identifying the ‘637 patent and Spiral  
9 Toys’ “CloudPets” products.

10 18. Spiral Toys undertook its actions of, *inter alia*, making, using,  
11 offering for sale, selling and/or importing unlicensed systems and products despite  
12 an objectively high likelihood that such activities infringed the ‘637 patent, which  
13 has been duly issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and is  
14 presumed valid. Since at least the time of the written communications from Mr.  
15 Roach in July 2015, Spiral Toys has been aware of an objectively high likelihood  
16 that its actions constituted, and continue to constitute, infringement of the ‘637  
17 patent and that the ‘637 patent is valid. Despite that knowledge, on information  
18 and belief, Spiral Toys has continued its infringing activities. As such, Spiral Toys  
19 willfully infringed the ‘637 patent.

20 19. Spiral Toys, Jay@Play and Jay Franco & Sons also each actively  
21 induce infringement of the ‘637 patent, under 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), by instructing  
22 users to perform at least the infringing act of using the CloudPets comfort device  
23 through offering the “CloudPets App.” To the extent the “CloudPets App” may be  
24 an element that infringes a claim of the ‘637 patent, each Defendant contributes to  
25 the infringement of such claim, under 35 U.S.C. § 271(c) by offering to sell or  
26 selling the CloudPets product and/or CloudPets App, which is a component of a  
27 patented machine, manufacture, combination or composition. Each Defendant has  
28 knowledge of the ‘637 patent and knowledge of infringement since, at the latest,

RUSS, AUGUST & KABAT

1 the date of this complaint. Spiral Toys had knowledge of the ‘637 patent and  
2 knowledge of infringement since, at the latest, July 16, 2015,

3 20. The inventor Mr. Roach has and continues to undertake attempts to  
4 commercialize products relating to and/or embodying the ‘637 patent. Mr. Roach  
5 has designed a prototype through a major design and manufacturing company, and  
6 is currently sourcing and marketing in this country a product relating to and/or  
7 embodying one or more claim of the ‘637 patent. Each Defendant’s infringement  
8 thus has and continues to irreparably harm and injure Mr. Roach and Plaintiff.

9 21. As a result of each Defendant’s infringement of the ‘637 patent,  
10 Plaintiff has suffered monetary damages and is entitled to a money judgment in an  
11 amount adequate to compensate for each Defendant’s infringement, but in no event  
12 less than a reasonable royalty for the use made of the invention by each Defendant,  
13 enhancement of damages due to Spiral Toys’ willful infringement, and interest and  
14 costs as fixed by the Court.

15 22. Plaintiff is also entitled to injunctive relief under 35 U.S.C. § 283,  
16 including a permanent injunction against each Defendant.

17  
18 **III. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

19 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter:

20 1. A judgment in favor of Plaintiff that each Defendant has infringed, either  
21 literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, the ‘637 patent;

22 2. A judgment in favor of Plaintiff that each Defendant has indirectly  
23 infringed, either by contributing to infringement and/or inducing infringement, the  
24 ‘637 patent;

25 3. A judgment in favor of Plaintiff that Spiral Toys has willfully infringed  
26 the ‘637 patent;

27 4. A judgment and order requiring each Defendant to pay Plaintiff its  
28 damages, costs, expenses, and pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as

1 provided under 35 U.S.C. § 284 for each Defendant’s infringement of the ‘637  
2 patent;

3 5. A judgment and order against Spiral Toys for treble damages pursuant to  
4 35 U.S.C. § 284;

5 6. A judgment and order that this case is exceptional and requiring  
6 Defendants to pay Plaintiff reasonable experts’ fees and attorneys’ fees pursuant to  
7 35 U.S.C. § 285;

8 7. An order permanently enjoining each Defendant from infringing, directly  
9 or indirectly, the ‘637 patent, including through making, selling, offering for sale  
10 and/or importing “CloudPets” products; and

11 8. Any and all other relief as the Court may deem appropriate and just under  
12 the circumstances.

13 **IV. DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

14 Plaintiff requests a trial by jury of any issues so triable.

15  
16 DATED: August 24, 2015

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