

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

MYMAIL, LTD.,

PLAINTIFF,

V.

NETGEAR, INC.

DEFENDANT.

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

Plaintiff, MyMail, Ltd., by and through their undersigned counsel, submits this Complaint against the above-named Defendant, as follows:

**NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is a patent infringement action to stop Defendant's infringement of United States Patent No. 8,732,318 (the "318 patent" or "patent-in-suit").

**THE PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff, MyMail, Ltd. ("MyMail"), is a Texas Limited Partnership with an office and place business at 5344 County Road 3901, Athens, TX 75752.

3. Defendant, Netgear, Inc. is a Delaware corporation, with upon information and belief, a place of business at 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134.

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 et seq., including 35 U.S.C. §§ 271, 281, 283, 284, and 285. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this case for patent infringement pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).

5. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant, including because Defendant has minimum contacts within the State of Delaware; Defendant has purposefully availed itself of the

privileges of conducting business in the State of Delaware; Defendant regularly conducts business within the State of Delaware; and Plaintiff's cause of action arises directly from Defendant's business contacts and other activities in the State of Delaware, including at least by virtue of Defendant's infringing methods and apparatuses, which are at least sold and/or used in the State of Delaware. Further, this Court has general jurisdiction over Defendant, including due to its continuous and systematic contacts with the State of Delaware. Further, on information and belief, Defendant is subject to the Court's jurisdiction, including because Defendant has committed patent infringement in the State of Delaware.

6. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1400(b).

7. More specifically, on information and belief, Defendant is subject to the Court's jurisdiction, including because Defendant has committed patent infringement in this District. Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271, Defendant infringes the patent-in-suit by, without authority, its practicing the accused methods described herein in this District. Further, Defendant solicits customers/users in this District. On information and belief, Defendant has customers/users who are residents of this District and who purchase, acquire, and/or use Defendant's infringing products in this District.

## INTRODUCTION

A. MyMail, Ltd.

8. MyMail was co-founded in 2003. Its executive team includes Thomas Selgas, a visionary and named inventor on the patent-in-suit. MyMail is an intellectual property development and licensing company which provides secure, internet related technologies which have brought essential communications capabilities to cell phones, web browsers, and the backbone of the internet.

9. The technologies developed and owned by MyMail enable substantial cost savings to companies, including Internet Service Providers, Content Providers (*i.e.*, ‘publishers’), and Affinity Marketers (*i.e.*, ‘Advertisers’), by allowing them to transparently manage network connections, network credentials of their end-user clients, and the use of dynamic toolbar operations.

10. MyMail is the current assignee of the patent-in-suit and has standing to bring this lawsuit, including the right to recover damages for past, present, and future infringement of the patent.

*B. Patent-in-Suit*

11. Mr. Selgas is the first listed co-inventor on the patent-in-suit, which is U.S. Patent No. 8,732,318 (the “‘318 Patent”), and a true and correct copy of the ‘318 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Mr. Selgas and the other inventors filed a provisional patent application with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) on June 19, 1997. The ‘318 Patent was filed as application No. 10/417,821 on April 16, 2003. The ‘318 Patent is a division of application No. 09/100,619, filed on June 19, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,571,290.

12. The Abstract of the ‘318 Patent states the following:

The present invention comprises a method of and apparatus for simplifying the process of access to a network for a roaming computer user, divides the responsibility of servicing a given user wanting to access the network between multiple parties and minimizes the possibility of improper dissemination of email header data as well as improper use of network resources (including server systems) by non-clients

13. As of the priority date of the ‘318 Patent, Internet users were becoming highly mobile and the need to access the Internet from various locations was increasing, some of which locations do not have a local phone number for communicating with the normally used locations did not have a local phone number for communicating with the normally used ISP. Such a user either had to pay the cost of a long distance call or access a different ISP after modifying the

appropriate data the operating system's networking, dial-up-networking, or communications properties used to accomplish such access. Such modification always invites a chance for erroneous data entry in the process and the accompanying time required to rectify the situation. '318/2:53-62.

14. In view of these issues and others, there existed a need to quickly and easily access the Internet from various locations, being able to access ISPs providing different types of services, using various adaptors (*i.e.*, modem or LAN card) and being able to choose whether preference should be given to items such as cost and quality of service, without the user having to be concerned about correctly modifying associated data and parameters such as phone numbers, IDs, passwords, etc. used by the Internet software. '318/3:27-34. It should be noted that the invention applies to any network or interconnected set of networks including the Internet. '318/4:54-59.

15. As noted in the '318 patent, the recited technology solves all or some of at least the following ten problems:

- a. Eliminates the need for a computer user to configure and reconfigure computer networking software for network access through a multiplicity of ISPs and Network Access 65 Providers (NAP) (companies which own the telephone networks and modem banks such as AT&T, GTE, UUNet, PSI, etc.).
- b. Allows a Network Re-seller such as an Internet Service Provider to offer network access via a multiplicity of Network Access Providers based on cost, location, availability, reliability, etc.
- c. Allows a Network Re-seller to balance network loads through a multiplicity of Network Access Providers and across a multiplicity of network computer servers.
- d. Eliminates the need for a computer user to know or configure network access telephone numbers or network access protocol identification numbers.
- e. Eliminates the need for a computer user or mobile computer user to reconfigure remote network access software to connect to a network from a remote location.

- f. Allows multiple users to use a single computer each with their own unique networking attributes and unique network identity.
- g. Allows separate and distinct identifications (ID) and passwords for different services and network functions such as PAP IDs and PAP password, Email ID and password, etc.
- h. Provides a user with true network anonymity by assigning independent non-user specific identifications and passwords for such things as PAP authentication, FTP and Email logins, News Server logins, and network server logins.
- i. Provides Email anonymity by transmitting and receiving all email through a third party (broker) wherein, if appropriate, aliases may be used for all un-encrypted data and these aliases may be changed periodically by the system in a manner transparent to the user.
- j. Eliminates third party email relay (SPAMMING) by transparently authenticating each user-system prior to giving access to a sendmail server.

‘318/4:59-5:31.

16. The technology recited in the claims of the ‘318 Patent provides an inventive concept and does not claim an abstract idea. The inventive concept greatly enhances and facilitates technological methods which comprise obtaining a set of network access information comprising modifying a stored set of network access information using new information downloaded, via the network, to a network access device from an access provider connected to said network; and the network access device re-accessing the network via a given network service provider (NSP) using the modified set of network access information.

17. The technology recited in the claims of the ‘318 Patent improves the functioning of computers, it improves computer capabilities, and it improves over existing technological processes, including with respect to network access and security, wherein new access information is downloaded via the network and network access is re-established using the new access information.

18. One inventive component of the ‘318 Patent is improving network access and security in ways that are necessarily rooted in computer, specifically network, technology to overcome

problems specifically arising in the realm of computer networks. The claims recite an invention that was not merely a routine or conventional use of conventional devices and technologies. The claimed invention was not practiced by others prior to the '318 Patent's invention, nor was it a well-known, fundamental economic or conventional business practice, nor was it a practice to which general-purpose computer components were added after the fact.

19. Claim 5 of the '318 Patent covers the following:

A method for obtaining a set of network access information comprising the steps of:

- modifying a stored set of network access information using new information downloaded, via the network, to a network access device from an access provider connected to said network; and
- the network access device re-accessing the network via a given network service provider (NSP) using the modified set of network access information.

20. Neither claim 5 nor any other claims of the '318 Patent is directed to an abstract idea. Neither claim 5 nor any other claims of the '318 Patent preempt any abstract idea or otherwise preempt anything that would render them unpatentable. For example, one is free to practice the prior art of record and the prior art referenced in the specification. The '318 Patent's claims do not improperly inhibit further discovery by tying up any building blocks of human ingenuity or technological work.

21. Claim 5 of the '318 Patent covers, among other things, specific applications of specific methods for obtaining a new or modified set of network access information via the network and re-accessing the network using the modified set of network access information, including in order to achieve the aims of the invention as stated above, and to overcome the shortcomings in the prior art, including prior art network access and security methods, as noted above. This claim comprises, among other things, specific applications or improvements to technologies in the marketplace, including improvements to the existing network access and security methods.

Properly understood, the claimed technology constitutes the application of certain ideas, and it necessitates the use of discrete computer hardware and software components configured and programmed in a particular way that enable performance of the specified functions.

22. Further, including when claim 5 is viewed as a whole at the time of the invention, there are sufficient unconventional, non-routine, novel, meaningful, and inventive claim limitations to claim 5 that are sufficient to ensure that the claim in practice amounts to significantly more than merely a patent on any abstract idea or patent ineligible concept. Those unconventional, non-routine, novel, meaningful, and inventive claim limitations comprise the following: modifying a stored set of network access information using new information downloaded, via the network, to a network access device from an access provider connected to said network, wherein the network access device re-accesses the network via a given network service provider (NSP) using the modified set of network access information.

23. Further, claim 5 can only be implemented by a special purpose computer, which is integral to the claimed invention, facilitating the process in a way that a person making calculations or computations could not, including that such calculations or computations could not be performed solely in the human mind. A special computer is integral to claim 5, including because special programming is necessary to perform the claimed steps. Further, claim 5 is necessarily rooted in computer technology because computer technology is the only way to perform the claimed steps, including that, as noted above, claim 5 relates to specific use of network technology.

24. The '318 Patent claims cannot be practiced by a human alone and there exists no human analogue to the methods claimed in the '318 Patent. The claims are specifically directed to, *inter alia*, network access and security, wherein new access information is downloaded via the

network and network access is re-established using the new access information. These things exist only in the context of computers, and specifically computer networks.

25. The invention of claim 5 uses computer technology to overcome the shortcomings of prior art methods, as noted above, including state of the art network access and security methods, which lacked, among other things, the ability to perform the foregoing steps. As such, claim 5 overcomes a technical problem and effects an improvement to a specific technology or technical field, namely computer networks and networking. One such inventive component of the '318 Patent is improving network access and security in ways that are necessarily rooted in computer technology to overcome problems specifically arising in the realm of computer networks, including the Internet. The claims recite an invention that was not merely a routine or conventional use of the Internet.

26. Claim 5 is not directed to a longstanding commercial practice nor does it merely apply generic or general purpose computers to prior art systems or methods. Including as noted above, prior art methods were incapable of the functionality of the method of claim 5. The technology claimed in the '318 Patent does not preempt all types of network access and security or anything else. For example, the prior art cited on the face of the '318 Patent remains available for practice by Defendant, and the '318 Patent claims do not preempt practice of those prior art methods.

#### **COUNT I – INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,732,318**

27. Plaintiff refers to and incorporates herein the allegations in the above paragraphs.

28. The '318 Patent, entitled "Method of Connecting a User to a Network," was duly and legally issued by the USPTO on May 20, 2014 after full and fair examination.

29. The claims of the '318 Patent cover, *inter alia*, methods, including associated with computers and computer networks, for obtaining a set of network access information comprising



modifying a stored set of network access information using new information downloaded, via the network, to a network access device from an access provider connected to said network; and the network access device re-accessing the network via a given network service provider (NSP) using the modified set of network access information.

30. Defendant has infringed and is now infringing, including literally, jointly, and/or equivalently, the '318 Patent, including at least claim 5, in this judicial district, the State of Delaware, and elsewhere, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271 through actions comprising the practicing, making, using, offering for sale, and/or selling, without authority from Plaintiff, methods and devices implementing methods, including associated with computers and computer networks, for obtaining a set of network access information comprising modifying a stored set of network access information using new information downloaded, via the network, to a network access device from an access provider connected to said network; and the network access device re-accessing the network via a given network service provider (NSP) using the modified set of network access information. For example, the accused Defendant devices support Wi-Fi Protected Setup ("WPS") and can connect to WPS-enabled wireless networks. When connected to a WPS-enabled network in which a guest device leaves the network, the accused Defendant devices perform a method of obtaining a set of network access information comprising modifying a stored set of network access information (*e.g.*, WLAN credentials) using new information downloaded, via the network, from an access provider connected to said network, followed by re-accessing the network via a network service provider using the modified set of network access information.

31. Defendant has infringed and is now infringing, including literally, jointly, and/or equivalently, the '318 Patent, including at least claim 5, in this judicial district, the State of

Delaware, and elsewhere, in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271 through actions comprising the practicing, making, using, offering for sale, and/or selling, without authority from Plaintiff, methods and devices implementing methods, including associated with computers and computer networks, for obtaining a set of network access information comprising modifying a stored set of network access information using new information downloaded, via the network, to a network access device from an access provider connected to said network; and the network access device re-accessing the network via a given network service provider (NSP) using the modified set of network access information. For example, the accused Defendant devices support Wi-Fi Protected Setup (“WPS”) and can connect to WPS-enabled wireless networks. When connected to a WPS-enabled network in which a guest device leaves the network, the accused Defendant devices perform a method of obtaining a set of network access information comprising modifying a stored set of network access information (*e.g.*, WLAN credentials) using new information downloaded, via the network, from an access provider connected to said network, followed by re-accessing the network via a network service provider using the modified set of network access information. Additionally, for example, the accused Defendant devices support Wi-Fi Protected Access (“WPA/WPA2”) functionality and can connect to WPA/WPA2-enabled wireless networks. Without limitation, when connected to a WPA/WPA2-enabled wireless network in which a device is deauthenticated or dissociated, the accused Defendant devices perform a method of obtaining a set of network access information comprising a stored set of network access information (*e.g.*, a Group Temporal Key) using new information downloaded, via the network, from an access provider connected to said network, followed by re-accessing the network via a network service provider using the modified network access information.

32. Defendant infringes the ‘318 Patent by and through at least its practicing of the patented

method, included via its making, using, offering for sale, and/or selling routers and other networkin devices, comprising WPS functionality and/or WPA/WPA2 functionality, including the products comprising A6100, A6200, A6210, A7000, ABC1000, AC1450, CENTRIA (WNDR4700/4720), CG3300D, CGD24G, CGD24G-1CHNAS, EX2700, EX3700, EX3800, EX3920, EX6100, EX6120, EX6150, EX6200, EX6400, EX6920, EX7000, EX7300, JNDR3000, JR6100, JR6150, ME101, ME103, ME103BDL1NA, PR2000, R4500, R6050, R6100, R6200, R6200v2, R6250, R6250v2, R6300-2CHNAS, R6300v1, R6300v2, R6700, R6900, R7000, R7500, R7500v2, R7900, R7900P, R8000, R8000P, VMC3030, VMC3040, VMC3040S, VMC4030, WAB102, WAG102, WAG302v1, WAG302v2, WAGL102, WC7520, WFS709TP, WG102, WG102CTPRv2, WG103, WG302-150, WG302v1, WG302V2, WG602v1, WG602v2, WG602v3, WG602v4, WGL102, WMS5316, WN1000RP, WN2000RPT, WN2500RP, WN3000RP, WN3500RP, WN604, WN604-1KMUKS, WN802T, WN802Tv2, WNA1000M, WNA1100, WNA3100, WNA3100M, WNDA3100, WNDA4100, WNDAP330, WNDAP350, WNDAP360, WNDAP380R, WNDAP380Rv2, WNDAP620, WNDR3300v1, WNDR3300v2, WNDR3400-1CANAS, WNDR3400v1, WNDR3400v2, WNDR3400v3, WNDR3600v3, WNDR3700v1, WNDR3700v2, WNDR3700v3, WNDR3700v4, WNDR3700v5, WNDR37AVv1, WNDR37AVv2, WNDR3800, WNDR4000, WNDR4300, WNDR4300v2, WNDR4500, WNDR4500v2, WNDR4500v3, WNR3500CEIF, WNR3500v1, WNR3500v2, and WNR854T.

33. Additionally, or in the alternative, upon information and belief, Defendant has induced infringement of the '318 Patent in this judicial district, the State of Delaware, and elsewhere, by intentionally inducing direct infringement of the '318 Patent, including by aiding or abetting the infringement of its end users and/or customers, by and through at least Defendant's practicing,

making, using, offering for sale, selling, without authority from Plaintiff, methods and devices implementing methods, including associated with computers and computer networks, comprising at least the above-described products. Upon information and belief, such aiding and abetting comprises providing hardware, software and/or instructions. Upon information and belief, such induced infringement has occurred since Defendant became aware of the '318 Patent, which is at a minimum is in connection with the filing of this lawsuit.

34. Additionally, or in the alternative, upon information and belief, Defendant contributed to infringement of the '318 Patent in this judicial district, the State of Delaware, and elsewhere, by actions comprising making, selling, and/or offering for sale at least the above-described products, which at a minimum are used in practicing the methods of the '318 Patent. These products contribute to the direct infringement of the '318 Patent by customers and/or other end users in this judicial district, the State of Delaware, and elsewhere. Upon information and belief, these products are especially made or especially adapted for uses and practices which constitute infringement of the '318 Patent. These products are not staple articles or commodities of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing uses, including at least because they are especially made or especially adapted for uses and practices which constitute infringement of the '318 patent.

35. On information and belief, Defendant's contributory infringement comprises its knowledge that the above-mentioned products are especially made or especially adapted for uses and/or practices which constitute infringement of the '318 Patent and they are not staple articles or commodities of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing uses. Such knowledge is evidenced by the fact that infringement of the '318 Patent from the use of the products is clear, evident, and unmistakable to anyone aware of both the '318 Patent and of the details of the uses

and practices employed in connection with the products. It is similarly clear, evident, and unmistakable to anyone aware of both the '318 Patent and of the details of the uses and practices employed in connection with the products that they are especially made or especially adapted for uses and/or practices which constitute infringement of the '318 Patent and they do not comprise staple articles or commodities of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing uses. Defendant would necessarily be aware of the details of the methods used and practiced in connection with the products at the time it became aware of the '318 Patent, and at that point it would have necessarily become clear and unmistakable to Defendant that at least its customers and end users were infringing the '318 Patent, that the products are, at a minimum, contributing to such infringement, and that the products are especially made or especially adapted for uses and practices which constitute infringement of the '318 Patent, and they are not staple articles or commodities of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing uses. Since Defendant became aware of the '318 patent, it has necessarily possessed such knowledge.

36. On information and belief, Defendant has had at least constructive notice of the '318 Patent pursuant to the Patent Act. Further, it is likely that Defendant became aware of the '318 patent well before the filing of this suit and perhaps at least months ago upon being informed of other suits filed by MyMail, for activities infringing the '318 Patent comprising methods for obtaining a set of network access information with at least substantial similarities to Defendant's infringing activities. To the extent Defendant continues its infringing activities comprising obtaining a set of network access information in an infringing manner post-notice, such infringement is necessarily willful and deliberate. Plaintiff believes and contends that Defendant's continuance of its clear and inexcusable infringement of the '318 Patent post notice is willful, wanton, malicious, bad-faith, deliberate, consciously wrongful, flagrant, and/or

characteristic of a pirate.

37. On account of the foregoing, Plaintiff contends such activities by Defendant qualify this as an egregious case of misconduct beyond typical infringement, entitling Plaintiff to enhanced damages. Thus, Plaintiff requests an award enhanced damages, including treble damages, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284. Plaintiff reserves the right to take discovery regarding Defendant's first actual notice of the '318 Patent, including as related to whether Defendant's infringement is or was willful, and to the extent such notice preceded this suit being filed.

### **DAMAGES**

38. Each of Defendant's aforesaid activities have been without authority and/or license from Plaintiff.

39. By way of their infringing activities, Defendant has caused and continue to cause Plaintiff to suffer damages, and Plaintiff is entitled to recover from Defendant the damages sustained by Plaintiff as a result of Defendant's wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial, which, by law, cannot be less than a reasonable royalty, together with interest and costs as fixed by this Court under 35 U.S.C. § 284.

40. Plaintiff also requests that the Court make a finding that this is an exceptional case entitling Plaintiff to recover their attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285.

### **JURY DEMAND**

41. Plaintiff hereby requests a trial by jury pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on all issues so triable.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

42. Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court find in their favor and against Defendant, and that the Court grant Plaintiff the following relief:

- A. An adjudication that one or more claims of the patent-in-suit has been directly and/or indirectly infringed, either literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, by Defendant;
- B. An award to Plaintiff of damages adequate to compensate Plaintiff for Defendant's past infringement, together with pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, and any continuing or future infringement through the date such judgment is entered, including interest, costs, expenses, and an accounting of all infringing acts including, but not limited to, those acts not presented at trial;
- C. That this Court declare that Defendant's infringement has been, and continues to be, willful, including that Defendant acted to infringe the patent-in-suit despite an objectively high likelihood that its actions constituted infringement of a valid patent and, accordingly, award enhanced damages, including treble damages, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- D. That this Court declare this to be an exceptional case and award Plaintiff reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 285; and
- E. A judgment and order requiring Defendant to pay Plaintiff its damages, costs, expenses, fees, and prejudgment and post-judgment interest for Defendant's infringement of the patent-in-suit as provided under 35 U.S.C. §§ 284 and/or 285; and
- F. Any and all further relief for which Plaintiff may show itself justly entitled that this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: August 25, 2017

STAMOULIS & WEINBLATT LLC

/s/ *Stamatios Stamoulis*

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