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12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 13 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
 14 SAN JOSE DIVISION

15 IN RE PERSONALWEB TECHNOLOGIES,  
 16 LLC, ET AL., PATENT LITIGATION

**CASE NO.: 5:18-md-02834-BLF**

**FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT**

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

18  
 19 PERSONALWEB TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,  
 20 ET AL.,

**Case No.: 5:18-cv-03573-BLF**

21 Plaintiffs,

22 v.

23 BLUE APRON, LLC, a Delaware limited  
 liability company,

24 Defendant.  
 25  
 26  
 27  
 28

1 Plaintiff PersonalWeb Technologies, LLC (“Plaintiff” or “PersonalWeb”) files this First  
2 Amended Complaint (“Complaint”) for patent infringement against Defendant Blue Apron, LLC  
3 (“Defendant”). Plaintiff PersonalWeb Technologies, LLC alleges:

4  
5 **PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

6 1. PersonalWeb and Level 3 Communications, LLC (“Level 3”) are parties to an  
7 agreement between Kinetech, Inc. and Digital Island, Inc. dated September 1, 2000 (the “Agreement”).  
8 Pursuant to the Agreement, PersonalWeb and Level 3 each own a fifty percent (50%) undivided  
9 interest in and to the patents at issue in this action: U.S. Patent Nos. 6,928,442, 7,802,310, 7,945,544,  
10 and 8,099,420 (“Patents-in-Suit”). Level 3 has joined in this Complaint pursuant to its contractual  
11 obligations under the Agreement, at the request of PersonalWeb.

12 2. Pursuant to the Agreement, Level 3 has, among other rights, certain defined rights to  
13 use, practice, license, sublicense and enforce and/or litigate the Patents-in-Suit in connection with a  
14 particular field of use (“Level 3 Exclusive Field”). Pursuant to the Agreement PersonalWeb has,  
15 among other rights, certain defined rights to use, practice, license, sublicense, enforce and/or litigate  
16 the Patents-in-Suit in fields other than the Level 3 Exclusive Field (the “PersonalWeb Patent Field”).

17 3. All infringement allegations, statements describing PersonalWeb, statements  
18 describing any Defendant (or any Defendant’s products) and any statements made regarding  
19 jurisdiction and venue are made by PersonalWeb alone, and not by Level 3. PersonalWeb alleges that  
20 the infringements at issue in this case all occur within, and are limited to, the PersonalWeb Patent  
21 Field. Accordingly, PersonalWeb has not provided notice to Level 3—under Section 6.4.1 of the  
22 Agreement or otherwise—that PersonalWeb desires to bring suit in the Level 3 Exclusive Field in its  
23 own name on its own behalf or that PersonalWeb knows or suspects that Defendant is infringing or  
24 has infringed any of Level 3’s rights in the patents.

**THE PARTIES**

1  
2 4. Plaintiff PersonalWeb Technologies, LLC is a limited liability company duly organized  
3 and existing under the laws of Texas with its principal place of business at 112 E. Line Street, Suite  
4 204, Tyler, TX 75702.

5 5. Plaintiff Level 3 Communications, LLC is a limited liability company organized under  
6 the laws of Delaware with its principal place of business at 100 CenturyLink Drive, Monroe,  
7 Louisiana, 71203.

8 6. PersonalWeb’s infringement claims asserted in this case are asserted by PersonalWeb  
9 and all fall outside the Level 3 Exclusive Field. Level 3 is currently not asserting patent infringement  
10 in this case in the Level 3 Exclusive Field against any Defendant.

11 7. Defendant Blue Apron, LLC is, upon information and belief, a Delaware limited  
12 liability company having a principal place of business or regular and established place of business at  
13 5 Crosby Street, New York, NY 10013.

14  
15 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

16 8. The court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a)  
17 because this action arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1 *et seq.*

18 9. Venue is proper in this federal district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)–(c) and  
19 1400(b) because, on information and belief, Defendant has a regular and established place of business  
20 in the Southern District of New York and has committed acts of infringement in such District.

21 10. Venue is also proper in this Court because this action has been transferred to this  
22 District by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation for consolidated pretrial proceedings pursuant  
23 to 28 U.S.C. § 1407.

24 11. This court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because, in addition to the  
25 allegations in above paragraphs, on information and belief, Defendant is domiciled in the Southern  
26 District of New York. Further, Defendant purposefully directed activities at residents of New York,  
27 the claims herein arise out of and relate to those activities, and assertion of personal jurisdiction over  
28 Defendant would be fair.



1 sequence of bits.” Applied system-wide, this invention would permit any data item to be stored,  
2 located, managed, synchronized, and accessed using its content-based identifier.

3 17. To create a substantially unique, content-based identifier, Lachman and Farber turned  
4 to cryptography. Cryptographic hash functions, including MD4, MD5, and SHA, had been used in  
5 computer systems to verify the integrity of retrieved data—a so-called “checksum.” Lachman and  
6 Farber recognized that these same hash functions could be devoted to a vital new purpose: if a  
7 cryptographic hash function was applied to a sequence of bits (a “data item”), it would produce a  
8 substantially unique result value, one that: (1) virtually guarantees a different result value if the data  
9 item is changed; (2) is computationally difficult to reproduce with a different sequence of bits; and  
10 (3) cannot be used to recreate the original sequence of bits.

11 18. These cryptographic hash functions would thus assign any sequence of bits, based on  
12 content alone, with a substantially unique identifier. Lachman and Farber estimated that the odds of  
13 these hash functions producing the same identifier for two different sequences of bits (i.e., the  
14 “probability of collision”) would be about 1 in 2 to the 29<sup>th</sup> power. Lachman and Farber dubbed their  
15 content-based identifier a “True Name.”

16 19. Using a True Name, Lachman and Farber conceived various data structures and  
17 methods for managing data (each data item correlated with a single True Name) within a network—  
18 no matter the complexity of the data or the network. These data structures provide a key-map  
19 organization, allowing for a rapid identification of any particular data item anywhere in a network by  
20 comparing a True Name for the data item against other True Names for data items already in the  
21 network. In operation, managing data using True Names allows a user to determine the location of  
22 any data in a network, determine whether access is authorized, and to selectively provide access to  
23 specific content not possible using the conventional naming arts.

24 20. On April 11, 1995, Lachman and Farber filed their patent application, describing these  
25 and other ways in which content-based “True Names” elevated data-processing systems over  
26 conventional file-naming systems. The first True Name patent issued on November 2, 1999. The last  
27 of the Patents-in-Suit has expired, and the allegations herein are directed to the time period before  
28 expiration of the last of the Patents-in-Suit.



1 driven by server-side software, upon receipt of a request from a browser (user). For example, a picture  
2 of a building might be delivered as static content (a picture) whereas the latest traffic conditions may  
3 be delivered dynamically based on real time traffic information.

4 26. The speed of a browser retrieving webpage base files and incorporated asset files can  
5 be increased by the browser storing previously retrieved webpage base files and asset files in a browser  
6 “cache” on the computer running the browser. If a browser’s user later requests a previously retrieved  
7 webpage base file or requests a webpage that includes an asset file previously used by the browser in  
8 rendering the same or a different webpage (for example, by reloading a webpage or visiting the same  
9 webpage again), the browser may use the cached webpage base file or asset file rather than having to  
10 download the same file repeatedly over the Internet again.

11 27. Two computers communicating over the Internet usually are not directly connected to  
12 each other but rather interact via chains of network appliances and other computers (*e.g.*, “switches”  
13 and “intermediate” servers). Many intermediate servers have caches similar to and complementing  
14 the browser cache that store webpage base files and assets that pass through that intermediate server.  
15 If a browser or server requests a file from the intermediate server that is present in that intermediate  
16 server’s cache, the intermediate server can use the content in its cache to respond to the request rather  
17 than send the request upstream towards the web server from which the file initially originated (also  
18 called the “origin server”).

19 28. Responses to HTTP requests may include header elements (control elements) and a  
20 body (the “object” that was requested). Under HTTP, web servers can include a “cache-control”  
21 header with a response that includes a webpage or asset file. A “cache-control” header includes one  
22 or more directives that instruct browsers and intermediate server caches (“intermediate caches”) as to  
23 whether and for how long the file (object) included in the response may be cached or under what  
24 circumstances and under what conditions the cached content may be used. HTTP also provides for  
25 including other headers in responses that provide similar types of instructions to browsers and  
26 intermediate caches. Collectively, these other headers and directives in a “cache-control” header are  
27 referred to herein as “cache-control headers.”  
28

1           29.     Given that webpage content changes, sometimes rather quickly and regularly, a  
2 problem that website owners face is effectively instructing a browser that is re-rendering a previously  
3 cached webpage that one or more of its cached files for that webpage are no longer the correct and  
4 authorized content (the content of those files has changed) and similarly reauthorizing the use of those  
5 cached files whose content has not changed.

6           30.     On one hand, website owners want to encourage the browsers that render their web  
7 pages to use cached files thereby reducing the number of requests for these files that are being made  
8 to their webpage servers. Therefore, they frequently will set cache-control headers that authorize the  
9 browser to cache their webpage base files and asset files so the files are on hand when the browser  
10 needs to render that webpage again. On the other hand, website owners want the browsers to use the  
11 latest authorized files so that their users do not see the wrong content when viewing their webpage.

### DEFENDANT’S BACKGROUND

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13  
14           31.     On information and belief, Defendant has operated a website located at  
15 blueapron.com, and has done so since before expiration of the last to expire of the Patents-in-Suit,  
16 which has operated to provide authorized webpage content to its users in the manner herein described.<sup>1</sup>

17           32.     On information and belief, Defendant’s web servers utilized a system of notifications  
18 and authorizations to control the distribution of content, *e.g.*, what webpage content may be served  
19 from web servers and intermediate caches and what cached webpage content a browser is re-authorized  
20 to use to render Defendant’s webpage(s).

21           33.     On information and belief, Defendant’s system and its associated method of providing  
22 webpage content used “conditional” HTTP GET requests with If-None-Match headers and associated  
23 content-based ETag values for various webpage base files and asset files required to render various  
24 webpages of the Defendant.

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27  
28           <sup>1</sup> While the complaint is sometimes written in the present or present perfect tense, all specific  
allegations are directed to the system’s operations and the method’s performance in the relevant time  
period.



1           34.     On information and belief, Defendant's system and its associated method of providing  
2 webpage content also inserted fingerprints generated based on the content of asset files into the  
3 filenames of asset files required to render various webpages of the Defendant.

4           35.     On information and belief, Defendant's system and associated method used these  
5 ETags and fingerprints to instruct both the intermediate cache servers and the endpoint caches at  
6 browsers to verify whether they were still authorized to reuse the previously cached webpage base  
7 files of Defendant and to instruct them to obtain newly authorized content in rendering Defendant's  
8 webpage when that content had changed. In other words, whether the previously cached content was  
9 still considered valid for use by the Defendant website operator.

10          36.     On information and belief, Defendant thereby reduced the bandwidth and computation  
11 required by its origin servers and any intermediate cache servers to field user requests to render  
12 Defendant's webpages as those servers only need to serve files whose content has changed. On  
13 information and belief, this has allowed for the efficient update of cached information only when such  
14 content has changed, thereby reducing transaction overhead and bandwidth and allowing the  
15 authorized content to be served from the nearest cache.

16          37.     More particularly, on information and belief, each of Defendant's webpages included  
17 a webpage base file (*e.g.*, a main or initial HTML file) and one or more asset files referenced in the  
18 webpage base file (or referenced in other asset files that contained references to other asset files). On  
19 information and belief, the references in the webpage base file to the asset files needed to render the  
20 webpage were typically Uniform Resource Identifiers ("URIs"), which each typically included a  
21 filename, the address of a host server from which the asset file could be retrieved, and a "path" to the  
22 location of that asset file on that server.

23          38.     On information and belief, Defendant's website used a web application framework to  
24 develop and compile various webpages of the Defendant, including asset files that were used in  
25 rendering the webpages, and to generate fingerprints of the contents of asset files. On information and  
26 belief, the fingerprints of individual asset files that were part of the webpage's content were included  
27 in the respective filenames of the individual asset files. On information and belief, the modified  
28 filenames were then used as part of the URI used to access the individual asset files over the Internet.

1 On information and belief, when an asset file's content was changed, a new fingerprint was generated  
2 and included in the filename, its URI thus being changed accordingly.

3 39. On information and belief, the asset file fingerprint was generated with a hash function  
4 and used to identify content changes. Furthermore, on information and belief, asset file URIs (with  
5 respective fingerprints) were included in webpage base files or other asset files contained references  
6 to other asset files. On information and belief, static webpage base files, if any, were recompiled when  
7 any URI of a referenced asset file was changed (due to the fingerprint of the referenced asset file  
8 changing). Thus, a content change in an asset file for a given webpage would result in a change to its  
9 fingerprint, its URI, and a subsequent change to the content of any static webpage base files  
10 referencing that changed asset file for that webpage.

11 40. On information and belief, a dynamic webpage base file generated for a webpage of  
12 Defendant webpages in response to one request from a user could be the same as it was when it was  
13 generated in response to a prior request from that or another user. However, on information and belief,  
14 this would not be the case if any of the asset files referenced in the webpage base file had changed  
15 between the time of the two requests and the URIs of the changed asset files included fingerprints as  
16 described above.

17 41. On information and belief, when an asset file's content was changed, a new fingerprint  
18 was generated and included in the filename, and its URI was thus changed accordingly, resulting in a  
19 content change to any webpage base file or other asset file that referenced that URI. This, in turn,  
20 caused a new and different ETag being generated for such webpage base file or other asset file that  
21 referenced that URI.

22 42. On information and belief, for at least one of the asset files ("CBI ETag asset files"),  
23 the asset file comprised a sequence of bits and an associated ETag value was generated by Defendant  
24 by applying a hash function to the sequence of bits; wherein any two CBI ETag asset files comprising  
25 identical sequences of bits had identical associated ETag values. Thus, on information and belief,  
26 when a CBI ETag asset file's content was changed a new associated ETag value was generated by  
27 Defendant. On information and belief, Defendant caused the origin server for each CBI ETag asset  
28

1 file to serve such CBI ETag asset file with its associated Etag value in response to HTTP GET requests  
2 for the CBI ETag asset file.

3 43. On information and belief, Defendant contracted with Amazon to use Amazon's S3  
4 system to store and serve at least some of Defendant's CBI ETag files ("S3 asset files") on its behalf.  
5 On information and belief, once Defendant's S3 asset files were compiled and are complete, Defendant  
6 uploaded them to an Amazon S3 server as objects. On information and belief, such objects comprised  
7 a sequence of bits and, upon upload, an associated ETag value was generated by the S3 system on  
8 behalf of Defendant by applying a hash function to the sequence of bits, wherein any two S3 asset  
9 files comprising identical sequences of bits had identical associated ETag values. On information and  
10 belief, in this way, Defendant generated the associated ETag values for its CBI ETag asset files that  
11 were S3 asset files. On information and belief, the S3 server for each S3 asset file served the S3 asset  
12 file with the its associated ETag value to HTTP GET requests for the S3 asset file.

13 44. On information and belief, when Defendant created a webpage base file for a webpage,  
14 whether dynamic or static, that webpage base file included a sequence of bits and an associated ETag  
15 value was generated by Defendant by applying a hash function to the sequence of bits; wherein any  
16 two webpage base files comprising identical sequences of bits had identical associated ETag values.  
17 Thus, on information and belief, when a webpage base file's content was changed and a new associated  
18 ETag value was generated by Defendant, it thereafter instructed the respective service by intermediate  
19 cache servers or use by endpoint caches such as browser caches to no longer use the previous cached  
20 webpage base file's content. Conversely, when the webpage base file content had not changed and  
21 thus its ETag was unchanged, the cached asset files with fingerprints in their URIs referenced in the  
22 webpage base file had not changed and were still valid to use.

23 45. On information and belief, when an intermediate cache server or a browser requested  
24 a webpage from the Defendant for the first time, it sent an HTTP GET request with the webpage's  
25 URI and Defendant's origin server or an upstream cache server responded by sending an HTTP 200  
26 (OK) response message containing the webpage base file, along with its respective associated ETag.  
27 On information and belief, a browser then sent individual HTTP GET requests, each with an asset  
28 file's URI that was referenced in the webpage base file, and the asset files' origin servers or

1 intermediate cache servers responded by sending individual HTTP 200 responses containing the  
2 requested asset files, along with, if available, their respective associated ETags. On information and  
3 belief, upon receipt of the HTTP 200 responses, the intermediate cache server or browser cached the  
4 webpage base file and asset files with their associated URI and associated ETag values and the browser  
5 used them in rendering the requested web page of the Defendant. On information and belief, the origin  
6 servers, intermediate cache servers, and browser caches were caused to maintain databases/tables  
7 which mapped the URIs of webpage base files and asset files to their respective responses and, if  
8 applicable, associated cache-control headers and ETags.

9       46. On information and belief, by responding to an HTTP GET request for a given webpage  
10 by transmitting content of a webpage base file or asset file with an associated ETag, Defendant  
11 instructed the browser cache and all intermediate cache servers, to use an HTTP conditional GET  
12 request the next time that webpage base file or asset file is requested. More specifically, on information  
13 and belief, the browser or intermediate cache is instructed to include the ETag in the HTTP conditional  
14 GET request with an “If-None-Match” header to re-verify that they are still authorized to serve or use  
15 that content or determine that they are no longer authorized to use that content and therefore must use  
16 new content.

17       47. On information and belief, Defendant did this, for example, by causing cache-control  
18 headers to be included in HTTP responses containing its webpage base file or asset files. On  
19 information and belief, Defendant benefits from using the ETags to control the distribution of its  
20 webpage content by communicating to a downstream cache and to a browser which of Defendant’s  
21 cached webpage base files it is reauthorized to serve/use and what newly authorized files it must first  
22 obtain in serving/rendering Defendant’s webpages.

23       48. More particularly, on information and belief, when a browser again requested the  
24 Defendant’s webpage, the browser either used a cached copy, if allowed by the cache-control headers,  
25 or retrieved a new copy of the webpage base file for Defendant’s webpage. Similarly, on information  
26 and belief, for asset files referenced in the new or cached webpage base file, the browser either used a  
27 cached copy, if allowed by the cache-control headers, or retrieved a new copy of the asset files for  
28 Defendant’s webpage.

1           49.     On information and belief, for a webpage base file or an asset file stored in the  
2 browser's cache with an ETag, and based on the cache-control headers received in the original  
3 response, the browser sent a conditional GET request with an If-None-Match header using the  
4 associated ETag value and the URI for the webpage base file or asset file so as to be notified whether  
5 the browser still had Defendant's authority to render the webpage with its locally cached webpage  
6 base file or asset file. In other words, whether the cached content was still valid for use in rendering  
7 Defendant's webpage.

8           50.     On information and belief, under most circumstances, a responding intermediate cache  
9 server having content cached for the URI in the conditional GET request and having an ETag for that  
10 URI responded to the request by determining whether it had the same associated ETag value for that  
11 URI. If it had no ETag value for that URI, on information and belief, the request was passed up to an  
12 upstream intermediate cache server capable of responding or, if none, to the URI's origin server, which  
13 responded to the request. On information and belief, if the intermediate cache server did not have  
14 content cached for the URI in the conditional GET request, the request was similarly passed up to an  
15 upstream intermediate cache server capable of responding or, if none, to the URI's origin server.

16           51.     On information and belief, if the responding server had the webpage content for that  
17 URI and there was a match between the ETag it received in the request with the ETag it currently had  
18 associated for that URI, it sent back an HTTP 304 (Not Modified) response message; this message  
19 notifying the browser that the same webpage content was present at the responding server and that the  
20 browser was still authorized to use that previously cached webpage base file or asset file to render the  
21 webpage. On information and belief, upon receipt of the HTTP 304 response, the browser accessed  
22 the locally cached webpage base file or asset file in rendering the webpage.

23           52.     On information and belief, if the webpage base file's or asset file's associated ETag  
24 sent by the browser in the conditional GET If-None-Match request did not match the associated ETag  
25 maintained at the responding server (or other intermediate cache servers further upstream or the origin  
26 server) for that URI, the responding server sent back an HTTP 200 response along with the new  
27 webpage base file or asset file and its new ETag value. The HTTP 200 response indicated to the  
28 browser that it was not authorized to use (or serve, in the case of an intermediate cache server receiving

1 the HTTP 200 response) the previously cached webpage base file or asset file. In response to receiving  
2 the HTTP 200 response, the browser (or intermediate cache server) was instructed to update its  
3 respective cache with the new webpage base file or asset file and associated ETag. The browser  
4 subsequently used the new webpage base file (and the asset file URIs contained therein) or asset file  
5 to render the webpage.

6 53. Exhibit 1 to the complaint lists specific examples of files that were, on information and  
7 belief, served by or on behalf of Defendant during the relevant time period. The examples in Exhibit  
8 1 include: a webpage base file served with a content-based ETag for the webpage base file; an asset  
9 file served by S3 with a content-based ETag generated by S3 for that asset file; and an asset file  
10 referenced by a URI with a fingerprint of the asset file contained into the URI.

11 54. On information and belief, in this manner, Defendant used (1) ETag values and (2)  
12 asset files referenced by URIs with fingerprints based on the asset files' content to control the behavior  
13 of downstream intermediate cache servers and browser caches to assure that they only accessed and  
14 used Defendant's latest authorized webpage content to serve or to render its webpages.

15  
16 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

17 **INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 6,928,442**

18 55. PersonalWeb repeats and realleges paragraphs 1–54, as if the same were fully stated  
19 herein.

20 56. On August 9, 2005, United States Patent No. 6,928,442 (the "'442 patent") was duly  
21 and legally issued for an invention entitled "Enforcement and Policing of Licensed Content Using  
22 Content-Based Identifiers." PersonalWeb has an ownership interest in the '442 patent by assignment,  
23 including the exclusive right to enforce the '442 patent within the PersonalWeb Patent Field, and  
24 continues to hold that ownership interest in the '442 patent.

25 57. Defendant has infringed at least claims 10 and 11 of the '442 patent by its manufacture,  
26 use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of products or services, and/or controlling the distribution  
27 of its webpage content in the manner described herein. Defendant's infringement is literal and/or  
28

1 under the doctrine of equivalents and Defendant is liable for its infringement of the '442 patent  
2 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

3 58. For example, claim 10 covers “a method, in a system in which a plurality of files are  
4 distributed across a plurality of computers.” On information and belief, Defendant has used a system  
5 of notifications and authorizations to distribute a plurality of files, *e.g.*, Defendant’s files containing  
6 content necessary to render its webpages, across a plurality of computers such as production servers,  
7 origin servers, intermediate cache servers and endpoint caches used by browsers rendering  
8 Defendant’s webpages.

9 59. Claim 10 then recites the act of “obtaining a name for a data file, the name being based  
10 at least in part on a given function of the data, wherein the data used by the function comprises the  
11 contents of the particular file.” As set forth above, on information and belief, Defendant generated or  
12 otherwise obtained ETags for its webpage base file and asset files used to render its webpages using a  
13 hash function, wherein the ETags were based on the contents of the particular files. Moreover,  
14 Defendant caused the intermediate caches servers and endpoint caches to obtain the ETags in HTTP  
15 200 responses sent from Defendant’s origin servers. On information and belief, Defendant caused  
16 intermediate cache servers and its origin servers to obtain ETags in conditional GET messages from  
17 endpoint and intermediate caches, as described *supra*.

18 60. Claim 10 then recites the act of “determining, using at least the name, whether a copy  
19 of the data file is present on at least one of said computers.” On information and belief, as set forth  
20 above, Defendant has caused its origin servers and the intermediate cache servers between an endpoint  
21 cache and one of its origin servers to, in response to receiving a conditional GET request with an If-  
22 None-Match header, determine whether it has a file present that matches the URI in the conditional  
23 GET and to compare the ETag in the conditional GET to the ETag for that URI and determine whether  
24 a copy of the content having that ETag is present.

25 61. Claim 10 then recites the act of “determining whether a copy of the data file that is  
26 present on a at least one of said computers is an unauthorized copy or an unlicensed copy of the data  
27 file.” On information and belief, as set forth above, if there was a match, the origin or intermediate  
28 cache server determined that the copy of the file present at the downstream intermediate cache server

1 and/or the endpoint cache was an authorized or licensed copy of the data file. Conversely, if there was  
2 no match, it determined that the copy of the file present at the downstream intermediate cache server  
3 and/or the endpoint cache was an unauthorized copy of the data file. Likewise, if the browser  
4 determined that it had a file with a matching URI, the browser determined that it was still authorized  
5 to use that file.

6 62. Defendant's acts of infringement caused damage to PersonalWeb and PersonalWeb is  
7 entitled to recover from Defendant the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result of Defendant's  
8 wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial.

9  
10 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

11 **INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,802,310**

12 63. PersonalWeb repeats and realleges paragraphs 1–54, as if the same were fully stated  
13 herein.

14 64. On September 21, 2010, United States Patent No. 7,802,310 (the “’310 patent”) was  
15 duly and legally issued for an invention entitled “Controlling Access to Data in a Data Processing  
16 System.” PersonalWeb has an ownership interest in the ’310 patent by assignment, including the  
17 exclusive right to enforce the ’310 patent within the PersonalWeb Patent Field, and continues to hold  
18 that ownership interest in the ’310 patent.

19 65. Defendant has infringed at least claims 20 and 69 of the ’310 patent by its manufacture,  
20 use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of products or services, and/or controlling the distribution  
21 of its webpage content in the manner described herein. Defendant's infringement is literal and/or  
22 under the doctrine of equivalents and Defendant is liable for its infringement of the ’310 patent  
23 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

24 66. For example, claim 20 covers a “computer-implemented method operable in a system  
25 which includes a plurality of computers.” On information and belief, Defendant used the claimed  
26 computer implemented method by using a system of notifications and authorizations to control the  
27 distribution of data items, such as various webpage base file and asset files, necessary to render its  
28



1 webpages, across a plurality of computers such as production servers, origin servers, intermediate  
2 cache servers, and endpoint caches.

3         67. Claim 20 then recites “controlling distribution of content from a first computer to at  
4 least one other computer, in response to a request obtained by a first device in the system from a second  
5 device in the system, the first device comprising hardware including at least one processor, the request  
6 including at least a content-dependent name of a particular data item, the content-dependent name  
7 being based at least in part on a function of at least some of the data comprising the particular data  
8 item, wherein the function comprises a message digest function or a hash function, and wherein two  
9 identical data items will have the same content-dependent name.” On information and belief, as set  
10 forth above, Defendant has caused downstream intermediate cache servers and endpoint caches to  
11 send conditional GET requests with If-None-Match headers containing ETags that are fielded by  
12 upstream cache or origin servers. On information and belief, the ETags were content-dependent names  
13 for a data item based on hashing the data item’s contents; and when the file’s content changed a new  
14 content-dependent name was determined. On information and belief, in Defendant’s method, a first  
15 computer, such as the intermediate cache server or origin server, received such conditional GET  
16 requests from a second computer, such as a user browser or other intermediate cache server, regarding  
17 data items, such as webpage or asset files, the requests including ETags associated with the respective  
18 data items.

19         68. Claim 20 then recites “based at least in part on said content-dependent name of said  
20 particular data item, the first device (A) permitting the content to be provided to or accessed by the at  
21 least one other computer if it is not determined that the content is unauthorized or unlicensed,  
22 otherwise, (B) if it is determined that the content is unauthorized or unlicensed, not permitting the  
23 content to be provided to or accessed by the at least one other computer.” On information and belief,  
24 the first computer, such as an upstream intermediate cache server or origin server, maintained a  
25 plurality of ETags associated with Defendant’s asset and webpage base files. On information and  
26 belief, the ETag in a request and the ETag maintained by the first computer for the particular data item  
27 sought by the request were compared to determine whether the associated content present at the  
28 downstream computer was still authorized to be used/served or whether new authorized content must

1 be provided thereto. If it was determined that the data item corresponding to the received ETag was  
2 still authorized to be used, the first computer sent back an HTTP 304 response authorizing the  
3 downstream cache server or end-user cache to access the file content already present in order to serve  
4 it or to use it to render the webpage. On information and belief, if it had been determined that the data  
5 item corresponding to received E-tag was no longer authorized, the first computer sent back an HTTP  
6 200 response which indicated to the downstream cache server or end-user cache that was not  
7 authorized to access the old content and must access the new authorized file content contained in the  
8 HTTP 200 response to serve it or to use it to render the webpage.

9         69. For a further example, claim 69 covers a “system operable in a network of computers,  
10 the system comprising hardware including at least a processor, and software, in combination with said  
11 hardware.” On information and belief, Defendant has controlled the distribution of its website content  
12 across a system that included a network of computers, such as its production servers as well as origin  
13 servers, intermediate cache servers, and endpoint caches, all comprising hardware including a  
14 processor. On information and belief, Defendant has utilized software, in combination with such  
15 hardware, such as a web development framework, software utilized in implementing the HTTP web  
16 protocol, and software used on host servers that Defendant used to serve its content.

17         70. Claim 69 then recites the system “(a) to receive at a first computer, from a second  
18 computer, a request regarding a data item, said request including at least a content-dependent name  
19 for the data item, the content-dependent name being based at least in part on a function of the data in  
20 the data item, wherein the data used by the function to determine the content-dependent name  
21 comprises at least some of the contents of the data item, wherein the function that was used is a  
22 message digest function or a hash function, and wherein two identical data items will have the same  
23 content-dependent name.” On information and belief, as set forth above, Defendant has caused  
24 downstream intermediate cache servers and endpoint caches to send conditional GET requests with  
25 URIs including fingerprints that are fielded by upstream cache or origin servers. On information and  
26 belief, the URIs including fingerprints were content-dependent names for a data item calculated by  
27 hashing the file’s contents; and when the file’s content changed a new content-dependent name was  
28 determined. On information and belief, in Defendant’s system, a first computer, such as the

1 intermediate cache server or origin server, received such conditional GET requests from a second  
2 computer, such as a user browser, regarding data items, such as asset files, using content-dependent  
3 names such as URIs including fingerprints associated with the data items.

4         71. Claim 69 then recites “(b) in response to said request: (i) to cause the content-dependent  
5 name of the data item to be compared to a plurality of values; and (ii) to determine if access to the data  
6 item is authorized or unauthorized based on whether or not the content-dependent name corresponds  
7 to at least one of said plurality of values, and (iii) based on whether or not it is determined that access  
8 to the data item is authorized or unauthorized, to allow the data item to be provided to or accessed by  
9 the second computer if it is not determined that access to the data item is unauthorized.” On  
10 information and belief, the first computer, such as an upstream intermediate cache server or origin  
11 server, maintained a plurality of URI values associated with Defendant’s asset and webpage base files;  
12 compared the URI value received in a conditional GET request from the second (downstream)  
13 computer to that plurality of URI values; that comparison allowed the first computer to determine  
14 whether the content-dependent name in the request corresponded to one of the plurality of stored URI  
15 values and to determine whether access to the data item was still authorized or not. On information  
16 and belief, in particular when there was a match, the first computer determined the associated content  
17 present at the downstream computer was still authorized to be used/served or whether new authorized  
18 content must be provided thereto. If it was determined that the data item corresponding to the received  
19 URI including a fingerprint was still authorized to be used, the first computer has sent back an HTTP  
20 304 response authorizing the downstream cache server or end-user cache to access the file content  
21 already present in order to serve it or to use it to render the webpage.

22         72. Defendant’s acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb and  
23 PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendant the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result  
24 of Defendant’s wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial.

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**THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

**INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 7,945,544**

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2  
3 73. PersonalWeb repeats and realleges paragraphs 1–54, as if the same were fully stated  
4 herein.

5 74. On May 17, 2011, United States Patent No. 7,945,544 (the “’544 patent”) was duly and  
6 legally issued for an invention entitled “Similarity-Based Access Control of Data in a Data Processing  
7 System.” PersonalWeb has an ownership interest in the ’544 patent by assignment, including the  
8 exclusive right to enforce the ’544 patent within the PersonalWeb Patent Field, and continues to hold  
9 that ownership interest in the ’544 patent.

10 75. Defendant has infringed at least claims 46, 48, 52, and 55 of the ’544 patent by its  
11 manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of products or services, and/or controlling the  
12 distribution of its webpage content in the manner described herein. Defendant’s infringement is literal  
13 and/or under the doctrine of equivalents and Defendant is liable for its infringement of the ’544 patent  
14 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

15 76. For example, claim 46 covers a claimed “computer-implemented method.” On  
16 information and belief, Defendant uses the claimed computer implemented method by using a system  
17 of notifications and authorizations to locate and control the distribution of data items, such as various  
18 webpage base files and asset files, necessary to render its webpages.

19 77. Claim 46 then recites the act of “(A) for each particular file of a plurality of files:  
20 (a2) determining a particular digital key for the particular file, wherein the particular file comprises a  
21 first one or more parts.” On information and belief, each of Defendant’s webpages comprises one or  
22 more asset files and has an associated webpage base file, the webpage base file containing the URIs  
23 having fingerprints of a plurality of asset files comprising the webpage, and once the webpage base  
24 files and asset files are compiled and complete, Defendant stores them on a host system. On  
25 information and belief, the webpage base file’s associated ETag value is generated by applying a hash  
26 algorithm to the webpage base file’s contents. On information and belief, whenever a new webpage  
27 base file is generated or the webpage base file’s content changes, Defendant caused an ETag to be  
28 determined and associated to the webpage base file.

1           78. Claim 46 then recites “each part of said first one or more parts having a corresponding  
2 part value, the part value of each specific part of said first one or more parts being based on a first  
3 function of the contents of the specific part, wherein two identical parts will have the same part value  
4 as determined by the first function, and wherein the particular digital key for the particular file is  
5 determined using a second function of the one or more of part values of said first one or more parts.”  
6 On information and belief, prior to various asset files being stored on a host system, a fingerprint is  
7 generated for each of these asset files by applying a hash function to the asset file’s contents and the  
8 fingerprints are inserted into the URIs for the respective asset files. On information and belief, the  
9 webpage’s ETag value is generated by applying a second hash function to the webpage base file’s  
10 contents, which include the URIs of one or more of the asset files which comprise the webpage’s  
11 contents. On information and belief, because the respective asset files’ URIs include the fingerprints  
12 of their content, the webpage’s ETag value will change and a new associated ETag value is generated  
13 to represent the webpage’s content, when the content changes and two identical webpages having the  
14 identical content represented by their webpage base file will have the same ETag value.

15           79. Claim 46 then recites the act of “(a2) adding the particular digital key of the particular  
16 file to a database, the database including a mapping from digital keys of files to information about the  
17 corresponding files.” On information and belief, Defendant caused the origin server, intermediate  
18 caches and endpoint caches to maintain databases/tables which mapped the ETag of each webpage’s  
19 webpage base file to its URI, and information about the corresponding webpage, such as, for example,  
20 information from cache-control headers for the webpage.

21           80. Claim 46 then recites “(B) determining a search key based on search criteria, wherein  
22 the search criteria comprise a second one or more parts, each of said second one or more parts of said  
23 search criteria having a corresponding part value, the part value of each specific part of said second  
24 one or more parts being based on the first function of the contents of the specific part, and wherein the  
25 search key is determined using the second function of the one or more of part values of said second  
26 one or more parts.” On information and belief, when a downstream intermediate cache server or a  
27 browser again requested a webpage of Defendant, Defendant caused it to send a conditional GET  
28 request with an If-None-Match header with the webpage’s associated ETag value. On information

1 and belief, the received ETag value was determined using the second hash function of the webpage's  
2 webpage base file, which included URIs including fingerprints for one or more of the asset files which  
3 comprised the webpage's contents.

4 81. Claim 46 then recites "(C) attempting to match the search key with a digital key in the  
5 database." On information and belief, when the responding server received the webpage's ETag value  
6 in a conditional GET request with an If-None-Match header, it compared the received ETag with the  
7 ETag it has maintained in a database/table corresponding to the URI of the webpage's webpage base  
8 file to determine if there is matching value for that webpage.

9 82. Claim 46 then recites "(D) if the search key matches a particular digital key in the  
10 database, providing information about the file corresponding to the particular digital key." On  
11 information and belief, if the responding server had a matching ETag value for the webpage's webpage  
12 base file, the responding server sent an HTTP 304 response, which included information about the  
13 corresponding webpage, such as, for example, information from cache-control headers for the  
14 webpage.

15 83. Defendant's acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb and  
16 PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendant the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result  
17 of Defendant's wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial.

18  
19 **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

20 **INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,099,420**

21 84. PersonalWeb repeats and realleges paragraphs 1–54, as if the same were fully stated  
22 herein.

23 85. On January 17, 2012, United States Patent No. 8,099,420 (the "'420 patent") was duly  
24 and legally issued for an invention entitled "Accessing Data in a Data Processing System."  
25 PersonalWeb has an ownership interest in the '420 patent by assignment, including the exclusive right  
26 to enforce the '420 patent within the PersonalWeb Patent Field, and continues to hold that ownership  
27 interest in the '420 patent.

28

1           86. Defendant has infringed claims 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34–36, and 166 of the '420 patent  
2 by its manufacture, use, sale, importation, and/or offer for sale of products or services, and/or  
3 controlling the distribution of its webpage content in the manner recited herein. Defendant's  
4 infringement is literal and/or under the doctrine of equivalents and Defendant is liable for its  
5 infringement of the '420 patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.

6           87. For example, claim 166 covers a "system comprising hardware, including at least a  
7 processor, and software, in combination with said hardware." On information and belief, Defendant  
8 has controlled the distribution of its website content across a system that included hardware including  
9 a processor, such as its production servers as well as origin servers, intermediate cache servers, and  
10 endpoint caches; and software, in combination with such hardware, such as a web development  
11 framework, software utilized in implementing the HTTP web protocol, and the software used on host  
12 servers that Defendant used to serve its webpages.

13           88. Claim 166 then recites "(A) for a particular data item in a set of data items, said  
14 particular data item comprising a corresponding particular sequence of bits." On information and  
15 belief, Defendant's system has controlled the distribution of webpage base files and asset files  
16 necessary to render its webpages which represent particular data items, and each of these files comprise  
17 a corresponding sequence of bits.

18           89. Claim 166 then recites that for the particular data item to "(a1) determine one or more  
19 content-dependent digital identifiers for said particular data item, each said content-dependent digital  
20 identifier being based at least in part on a given function of at least some of the bits in the particular  
21 sequence of bits of the particular data item, wherein two identical data items will have the same digital  
22 identifiers as determined using said given function." On information and belief, Defendant's system  
23 has applied hash functions to each of various Defendant's webpage base files to all of the bits of the  
24 file's content to determine a fingerprint, an ETag, or both for the file's content; whereby two identical  
25 data items have the same ETag values and the same fingerprint values. On information and belief,  
26 fingerprints were included in files' URI and ETag values were associated with files' URIs.

27           90. Claim 166 then recites that for the particular data item "(a2) selectively permits the  
28 particular data item to be made available for access and to be provided to or accessed by or from at

1 least some of the computers in a network of computers, wherein the data item is not to be made  
2 available for access or provided without authorization, as resolved based, at least in part, on whether  
3 or not at least one of said one or more content-dependent digital identifiers for said particular data item  
4 corresponds to an entry in one or more databases, each of said one or more databases comprising a  
5 plurality of identifiers, each of said identifiers in each said database corresponding to at least one data  
6 item of a plurality of data items, and each of said identifiers in each said database being based, at least  
7 in part, on at least some of the data in a corresponding data item.”

8 91. On information and belief, Defendant’s system has included one or more web servers  
9 with databases containing ETag values associated with the URIs for various of the webpage base files  
10 and asset files necessary to render its webpages; moreover, Defendant’s system has used a system of  
11 conditional GET requests with If-None-Match headers and HTTP 304 and HTTP 200 responses  
12 containing the ETags, as described more particularly *supra*, to ensure that downstream caches only  
13 access authorized file content to either serve that file content further downstream or to use it to render  
14 Defendant’s webpages. On information and belief, in particular, as more fully described *supra*, the  
15 system compared the ETag received in a given conditional GET request with the ETags contained in  
16 the database to selectively determine whether the requesting computer could access the file content it  
17 already had or must access newly received authorized content.

18 92. Defendant’s acts of infringement have caused damage to PersonalWeb and  
19 PersonalWeb is entitled to recover from Defendant the damages sustained by PersonalWeb as a result  
20 of Defendant’s wrongful acts in an amount subject to proof at trial.

21  
22 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

23 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff PersonalWeb requests entry of judgment in its favor and against  
24 Defendant as follows:

25 a) Declaration that Defendant has infringed U.S. Patent Nos. 6,928,442, 7,802,310,  
26 7,945,544, and 8,099,420 as described in this action;

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1           b)       Awarding the damages arising out of Defendant's infringement of U.S. Patent Nos.  
2 6,928,442, 7,802,310, 7,945,544, and 8,099,420, together with pre-judgment and post-judgment  
3 interest, in an amount according to proof;

4           c)       An award of attorneys' fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285 or as otherwise permitted by  
5 law; and

6           d)       For costs incurred and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and  
7 proper.

8  
9           Respectfully submitted,

10 Dated:   October 4, 2018

STUBBS, ALDERTON & MARKILES, LLP

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Dated: October 4, 2018

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**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 38(b) and Local Rule 3–6, Plaintiff PersonalWeb Technologies, LLC hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues triable in this action.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 4, 2018 STUBBS, ALDERTON & MARKILES, LLP

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