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11 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
12 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

13 FIRENET TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,

14 Plaintiff

15 v.

16 FORTINET, INC.,

17 Defendant

18 **Case No.: 5:19-cv-798**

19 **COMPLAINT FOR PATENT**  
20 **INFRINGEMENT**

21 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

1 Plaintiff FireNet Technologies, LLC (“FireNet” or “Plaintiff”), by way of this  
2 Complaint against Defendant Fortinet, Inc. (“Fortinet” or “Defendant”), alleges as follows:

3 **PARTIES**

4 1. Plaintiff FireNet is a limited liability company organized and existing under the  
5 laws of the State of Georgia, having its principal place of business at The Forum, Suite 140, 3930  
6 E. Jones Bridge Road, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092.

7  
8 2. On information and belief, Defendant Fortinet is a Delaware corporation, having  
9 its principal place of business at 899 Kifer Road, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

10 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

11 3. This is an action under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1, *et*  
12 *seq.*, for infringement by Fortinet of U.S. Patent No’s. 6,317,837; 7,739,302; 8,306,994; and  
13 8,892,600 (“Patents-in-Suit”).

14 4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and  
15 1338(a).

16  
17 5. Fortinet is subject to the personal jurisdiction of this Court because, *inter alia*, on  
18 information and belief, (i) Fortinet is registered to conduct business in the State of California; (ii)  
19 Fortinet is headquartered in the State of California; and (iii) Fortinet has committed and  
20 continues to commit acts of patent infringement in the State of California, including by making,  
21 using, offering to sell, and/or selling accused products and services in the State of California,  
22 and/or importing accused products and services into the State of California.

23  
24 6. Venue is proper as to Fortinet in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b)  
25 because, *inter alia*, on information and belief, Fortinet maintains a regular and established place  
26 of business in this judicial district, and Fortinet has committed and continues to commit acts of  
27 patent infringement in this judicial district, including by making, using, offering to sell, and/or  
28

1 selling accused products and services in this district, and/or importing accused products and  
2 services into this district.

3 **BACKGROUND**

4 7. On November 13, 2001, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and  
5 lawfully issued U.S. Patent No. 6,317,837, entitled “Internal Network Node With Dedicated  
6 Firewall” (the “’837 Patent”). A copy of the ’837 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

7  
8 8. On June 15, 2010, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and  
9 lawfully issued U.S. Patent No. 7,739,302, entitled “Network Attached Device With Dedicated  
10 Firewall Security” (the “’302 Patent”). A copy of the ’302 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

11 9. On November 6, 2012, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and  
12 lawfully issued U.S. Patent No. 8,306,994, entitled “Network Attached Device With Dedicated  
13 Firewall Security” (the “’994 Patent”). A copy of the ’994 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

14  
15 10. On November 18, 2014, the United States Patent and Trademark Office duly and  
16 lawfully issued U.S. Patent No. 8,892,600, entitled “Network Attached Device With Dedicated  
17 Firewall Security” (the “’600 Patent”). A copy of the ’600 Patent is attached hereto as Exhibit  
18 D.

19 11. FireNet is the assignee and owner of the right, title, and interest in and to the  
20 Patents-in-Suit, including the right to assert all causes of action arising under said patents and the  
21 right to any remedies for infringement.

22 **NOTICE**

23  
24 12. By letter dated June 12, 2018, FireNet notified Fortinet of the existence of the  
25 Patents-in-Suit, and of infringement thereof by Fortinet and Fortinet’s customers. FireNet’s  
26 letter identified exemplary infringing Fortinet products and an exemplary infringed claim for  
27 each of the Patents-in-Suit. FireNet’s June 12, 2018 letter invited FortiNet to hold a licensing  
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1 discussion with FireNet.

2 13. By letter dated January 23, 2019, FireNet again notified Fortinet of the existence  
3 of the Patents-in-Suit, and of infringement thereof by Fortinet and Fortinet’s customers.  
4 FireNet’s follow-up letter again identified exemplary infringing Fortinet products and an  
5 exemplary infringed claim for each of the Patents-in-Suit. FireNet’s January 23, 2019 letter also  
6 invited FortiNet to hold a licensing discussion with FireNet.  
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8 14. As of the date of this Complaint, FireNet has not received any response from  
9 Fortinet to its letters.

10 **COUNT I: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '837 PATENT**

11 15. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

12 16. On information and belief, Fortinet has infringed the '837 Patent pursuant to 35  
13 U.S.C. § 271(a), literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by making, using, offering to sell,  
14 selling in the United States or importing into the United States Fortinet networking products and  
15 services, including, but not limited to, Fortinet Web Security and Firewall Products, including  
16 FortiWeb, FortiGate, and FortiADC products, including their appliance, virtual machine, and  
17 cloud implementations (“Accused Products”).  
18

19 17. For example, on information and belief, Fortinet has infringed at least claim 37 of  
20 the '837 Patent by performing a method of managing access to a network attached device (NAD)  
21 in a network arrangement including a first group of nodes defining an internal network and a  
22 second group of nodes defining an external network. A network arrangement that uses Accused  
23 Products to manage access to nodes (“Fortinet Network”) has a first group of nodes, such as, for  
24 example, servers and clients on an internal corporate network, and a second group of nodes, such  
25 as client computers accessing the various servers over the Internet (external network). Ex. E. In  
26 the network arrangement, the external network is connected in communication with the internal  
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1 network by an intermediate node including a bastion firewall (such as a FortiGate) for protecting  
2 the nodes of the internal network from unauthorized communication originating at external  
3 nodes. The internal network includes the NAD, such as a hard-drive storage array residing on a  
4 server. *Id.* The Accused Products determine for each and every request for network access to  
5 the NAD whether each request for network access to said NAD is authorized. The Accused  
6 Products, using, for example, the integrated firewall functionality, determine for each packet  
7 (request for network access) destined to the NAD whether it is authorized. The Accused  
8 Products, such as FortiWeb, provide network access to said NAD when a request is authorized.  
9 The Accused Products, such as FortiWeb, deny network access to said NAD when a request is  
10 not authorized.  
11

12 18. On information and belief, Fortinet has induced infringement of the '837 Patent  
13 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), by actively and knowingly inducing, directing, causing, and  
14 encouraging others, including, but not limited to, its partners, software developers, customers,  
15 and end users, to make, use, sell, and/or offer to sell in the United States, and/or import into the  
16 United States, the Accused Products by, among other things, providing instructions, manuals,  
17 and technical assistance relating to the installation, set up, use, operation, and maintenance of  
18 said products, such as deployment guides, installation guides, and instructional videos, all  
19 available at the Fortinet website.  
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21 19. On information and belief, Fortinet has committed the foregoing infringing  
22 activities without a license.  
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24 20. On information and belief, Fortinet's infringing activities commenced at least six  
25 years prior to the filing of the original complaint in this action, entitling FireNet to past damages.

26 21. On information and belief, Fortinet knew the '837 Patent existed while  
27 committing the foregoing infringing acts, thereby willfully, wantonly and deliberately infringing  
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1 the '837 Patent.

2 **COUNT II: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '302 PATENT**

3 22. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

4 23. On information and belief, Fortinet has infringed the '302 Patent pursuant to 35  
5 U.S.C. § 271(a), literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by making, using, offering to sell,  
6 selling in the United States or importing into the United States the Accused Products.

7  
8 24. For example, on information and belief, Fortinet has infringed at least claim 1 of  
9 the '302 Patent by making, using, offering to sell, selling in the United States or importing into  
10 the United States a network arrangement comprising a network client and at least one network  
11 attached device (NAD) residing on a same network. A network arrangement that uses Accused  
12 Products to manage access to nodes ("Fortinet Network") has, for example, at least one client  
13 and one hard-disk storage array residing on a server, both of which reside on the same network.  
14 Ex. E. In the Fortinet Network, a NAD server is disposed between the network client and the  
15 NAD. For example, the FortiWeb machine is disposed between a client and the server with a  
16 hard drive array. *Id.* In the Fortinet Network, the NAD server is configured to electronically  
17 communicate with the NAD over a connection. For example, the Fortinet server (FortiWeb) is  
18 configured to communicate with the hard drive array residing in a server via a dedicated or  
19 isolated port or interface. The NAD server is further configured to receive a request contained in  
20 a data packet for network access to the NAD. In the Fortinet Network, the Fortinet server  
21 (FortiWeb) is configured to receive a request, contained in, for example, a TCP/IP packet, to  
22 access the storage array residing on a server. The NAD server includes computer executable  
23 instructions that, upon execution, cause the NAD server to determine whether the header of a  
24 received data packet containing the request for network access includes at least one of an IP  
25 address of a network source, an IP address of a network destination, and a route of the data  
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1 packet. The Fortinet server includes executable instructions that processes incoming packets to  
2 determine, among others, the presence of an IP Source Address field. The NAD is further  
3 configured to filter the data packet based at least on an IP address in a header of the data packet.  
4 For example, a storage array residing inside a server is configured to use, for example, the  
5 integrated firewall functionality to filter the data packets based on, for example, the IP Source  
6 Address field in the packet header. Upon execution, the computer executable instructions further  
7 cause the NAD server to determine whether the received request for network access to the NAD  
8 is authorized. Upon execution, the executable instructions cause the FortiWeb machine to  
9 determine whether to allow or deny a packet based on various information, i.e., determine  
10 whether the request is authorized. Upon execution, the computer executable instructions provide  
11 the network client with network access to the NAD only if the request for network access is  
12 authorized, such that the NAD is protected from unauthorized access requests from the network  
13 client and other devices in a manner that is in addition to any protection afforded by a firewall.  
14 In addition to the protection afforded by a firewall as shown in Ex. E, the instructions executing  
15 on the FortiWeb machine provide the network client, and other network devices, such as Internet  
16 clients, with access to servers with hard drive arrays only if the requests are authorized.

19 25. On information and belief, Fortinet has induced infringement of the '302 Patent  
20 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), by actively and knowingly inducing, directing, causing, and  
21 encouraging others, including, but not limited to, its partners, software developers, customers,  
22 and end users, to make, use, sell, and/or offer to sell in the United States, and/or import into the  
23 United States, the Accused Products by, among other things, providing instructions, manuals,  
24 and technical assistance relating to the installation, set up, use, operation, and maintenance of  
25 said products, such as deployment guides, installation guides, and instructional videos, all  
26 available at the Fortinet website.  
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1           26.     On information and belief, Fortinet has committed the foregoing infringing  
2 activities without a license.

3           27.     On information and belief, Fortinet's infringing activities commenced at least six  
4 years prior to the filing of the original complaint in this action, entitling FireNet to past damages.

5           28.     On information and belief, Fortinet knew the '302 Patent existed while  
6 committing the foregoing infringing acts, thereby willfully, wantonly and deliberately infringing  
7 the '302 Patent.  
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9                           **COUNT III: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '994 PATENT**

10          29.     Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

11          30.     On information and belief, Fortinet has infringed the '994 Patent pursuant to 35  
12 U.S.C. § 271(a), literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by making, using, offering to sell,  
13 selling in the United States or importing into the United States the Accused Products.  
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15          31.     For example, on information and belief, Fortinet has infringed at least claim 10 of  
16 the '994 Patent by performing a method comprising processing, by a network attached device  
17 (NAD) server coupled to an internal network, a request for network access to a NAD device. An  
18 Accused Product, such as the FortiWeb, is coupled to a local area network (LAN). Ex. E at. The  
19 FortiWeb processes a request for network access to, for example, a hard-drive storage array  
20 residing on a server. The NAD device is coupled to the NAD server and configured to receive  
21 communication from an internal network only by way of the NAD server. For example, the  
22 hard-drive storage array residing on a server (the NAD device) is coupled to the FortiWeb and  
23 the NAD device is configured to receive communications only through the FortiWeb. The  
24 request for network access includes a data packet that includes at least an IP header. For  
25 example, the request for network access is a TCP/IP packet that includes an IP header. The  
26 NAD server comprises a NAD server firewall. The FortiWeb includes firewall functionality  
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28



1 which protects the hard-drive storage array server from undesirable requests. Fortinet  
2 determines, by the NAD server firewall, whether the request for network access to the NAD  
3 should be authorized or denied based on a filtering of at least the IP header of the data packet of  
4 the received request for network access to the NAD. By using the firewall functionality in the  
5 Accused Products, such as the FortiWeb, Fortinet determines whether the request for accessing  
6 Web Access server should be authorized or denied, such as based on a filtering of the IP header  
7 of the data packet with the request. Fortinet processes, by the NAD server, the data packet for  
8 communication with the NAD and enabling access to the NAD upon determining that the  
9 requested network access to the NAD should be authorized. The Accused Product, such as the  
10 FortiWeb, processes the data packet for communication with the hard-drive storage array server  
11 and enables access to the server when a request is determined as authorized. Fortinet blocks, by  
12 the NAD server, access to the NAD upon determining that the request for network access to the  
13 NAD should be denied. For example, the Accused Product, such as the FortiWeb, blocks the  
14 request for accessing the storage array residing in a server, if the FortiWeb determines that the  
15 request should be denied.  
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18 32. On information and belief, Fortinet has induced infringement of the '994 Patent  
19 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), by actively and knowingly inducing, directing, causing, and  
20 encouraging others, including, but not limited to, its partners, software developers, customers,  
21 and end users, to make, use, sell, and/or offer to sell in the United States, and/or import into the  
22 United States, the Accused Products by, among other things, providing instructions, manuals,  
23 and technical assistance relating to the installation, set up, use, operation, and maintenance of  
24 said products, such as deployment guides, installation guides, and instructional videos, all  
25 available at the Fortinet website.  
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27 33. On information and belief, Fortinet has committed the foregoing infringing  
28

1 activities without a license.

2 34. On information and belief, Fortinet's infringing activities commenced at least six  
3 years prior to the filing of the original complaint in this action, entitling FireNet to past damages.

4 35. On information and belief, Fortinet knew the '994 Patent existed while  
5 committing the foregoing infringing acts, thereby willfully, wantonly and deliberately infringing  
6 the '994 Patent.

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8 **COUNT IV: INFRINGEMENT OF THE '600 PATENT**

9 36. Plaintiff incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

10 37. On information and belief, Fortinet has infringed the '600 Patent pursuant to 35  
11 U.S.C. § 271(a), literally or under the doctrine of equivalents, by making, using, offering to sell,  
12 selling in the United States or importing into the United States the Accused Products.

13 38. For example, on information and belief, Fortinet has infringed at least claim 8 of  
14 the '600 Patent by performing a computer-implemented method as set forth in the claim.  
15 Specifically, Fortinet receives, by a first computing device coupled to an internal network, data  
16 packets over the internal network. Ex. E. In the Fortinet Network, an Accused Product such as  
17 the FortiWeb connected to a local area network (LAN) receives data packets over the LAN. *Id.*  
18 At least some of the data packets are sent to the internal network from an external network. *Id.*  
19 At least some of these packets are sent by an external network, such as devices outside the  
20 Fortinet Network connected to the Internet. Fortinet examines, by the first computing device, the  
21 data packets to determine whether the data packets contain an IP address associated with an  
22 attached device coupled to a second computing device. *Id.* For example, the Accused Product,  
23 such as the FortiWeb, examines the data packets to determine whether they contain an IP address  
24 associated with an attached device, such as a hard-drive storage array, coupled to a second  
25 attached device, such as the storage-array server. In the Fortinet Network, the second computing  
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1 device is in communication with the first computing device and the second computing device is  
2 isolated from the internal network. *Id.* For example, the server hosting the hard-disk storage  
3 array is in communication with the FortiWeb machine via a dedicated or isolated port or  
4 interface and the server is not accessible to other devices, except through the FortiWeb. Fortinet  
5 filters, by the first computing device, data packets by determining whether the IP address in a  
6 header of the data packets is valid to determine whether to authorize data packets containing  
7 information indicative of a request for access to the attached device. The Accused Products,  
8 such as the FortiWeb filter data packets by determining based on the IP address in the packet  
9 header, whether to authorize information indicative of the request in the packet for access of the  
10 hard drive or other memory of the server. Fortinet reformulates, by the first computing device,  
11 the data packets for communication to the second computing device coupled to the attached  
12 device in response to authorizing the data packets containing the information indicative of the  
13 request for access to the attached device. For example, in response to authorizing the data  
14 packets containing information indicative of the request for access of the hard-drive storage array  
15 or other memory of the device hosting the Application Server or the device hosting the Database  
16 Server, the Accused Product, such as the FortiWeb, reformulates the data packets by changing  
17 the fields in the header, decrypting, and/or re-encapsulating the packet into another frame, for  
18 communication with the device hosting the Application Server or a device hosting the database  
19 server that is coupled to the hard drive or the other memory.

22  
23 39. On information and belief, Fortinet has induced infringement of the '600 Patent  
24 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(b), by actively and knowingly inducing, directing, causing, and  
25 encouraging others, including, but not limited to, its partners, software developers, customers,  
26 and end users, to make, use, sell, and/or offer to sell in the United States, and/or import into the  
27 United States, the Accused Products by, among other things, providing instructions, manuals,  
28

1 and technical assistance relating to the installation, set up, use, operation, and maintenance of  
2 said products, such as deployment guides, installation guides, and instructional videos, all  
3 available at the Fortinet website.

4 40. On information and belief, Fortinet has committed the foregoing infringing  
5 activities without a license.

6 41. On information and belief, Fortinet's infringing activities commenced at least six  
7 years prior to the filing of the original complaint in this action, entitling FireNet to past damages.  
8

9 42. On information and belief, Fortinet knew the '600 Patent existed while  
10 committing the foregoing infringing acts, thereby willfully, wantonly and deliberately infringing  
11 the '600 Patent.

12 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

13 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff FireNet prays for the judgment in its favor against Fortinet, and  
14 specifically, for the following relief:

- 15 A. Entry of judgment in favor of FireNet against Fortinet on all counts;
- 16 B. Entry of judgment that Fortinet has infringed the Patents-in-Suit;
- 17 C. Entry of judgment that Fortinet's infringement of the Patents-in-Suit has been  
18 willful;
- 19 D. Award of compensatory damages adequate to compensate FireNet for Fortinet's  
20 infringement of the Patent-in-Suit, in no event less than a reasonable royalty trebled as provided  
21 by 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- 22 E. Declaration and finding that Fortinet's conduct in this case is exceptional under 35  
23 U.S.C. § 285;
- 24 F. Award of reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses against Fortinet pursuant to 35  
25 U.S.C. § 285;
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- 1 G. Award of FireNet's costs;  
2 H. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest on FireNet's award; and  
3 I. All such other and further relief as the Court deems just or equitable.  
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5 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**  
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7 Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Fed. R. Civ. P., Plaintiff FireNet hereby demands trial by jury  
8 in this action of all claims so triable.  
9

10 Dated: February 14, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

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27 *Attorneys for Plaintiff*  
28 *FireNet Technologies, LLC*