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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

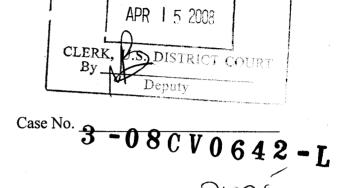
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.S. DISTRICT COURT DALLAS DIVISION NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

4FRONT ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v. NORDOCK, INC.,

Defendant.



FILED

# COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff 4Front Engineered Solutions, Inc. ("4Front"), by and through its attorneys, Perkins Coie LLP, alleges for its Complaint against Defendant Nordock, Inc. ("Nordock") as follows:

## THE PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff 4Front Engineered Solutions, Inc. is a Wisconsin corporation with its principal place of business at 1612 Hutton Drive, Suite 140, Carrollton, Texas 75006.
- 2. 4Front is the world's leading manufacturer of loading dock equipment for the material handling industry. 4Front has combined leading brands in the industry, including Kelley®, to offer the broadest loading dock product line of any competitor in the market.
- 3. Upon information and belief, Defendant Nordock, Inc. is a Canadian corporation with a place of business at 405 Lake Road, Unit #2, Bowmanville, Ontario, Canada. Upon

information and belief, Nordock also has offices in Wisconsin and South Carolina.

4. Upon information and belief, Nordock is in the business of manufacturing, distributing and/or selling loading dock equipment in this judicial District and elsewhere throughout the United States.

# **JURISDICTION & VENUE**

- 5. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq. Subject matter jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
- 6. Upon information and belief, Nordock has engaged in business activity and infringing activity within this judicial District sufficient to vest this Court with personal jurisdiction.
- 7. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) and 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b).

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

- 8. On December 19, 1995, United States Patent No. 5,475,888, entitled "Lip Lifting Mechanism for a Dock Leveler" ("the '888 Patent") was duly and legally issued to Douglas H. Massey and assigned to Kelley Company, Inc. ("Kelley"). A copy of the patent is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
- 9. Kelley, a Wisconsin corporation, later merged to form 4Front Engineered Solutions, Inc.
- 10. In or around December 1995, several current Nordock employees were employed by Kelley. Upon information and belief, while working at Kelley, all said employees were aware of the patented technology, the '888 Patent, and other related 4Front patents.
  - 11. After said employees began working for Nordock, Nordock began to

manufacture, distribute, and sell loading dock equipment having a lip lifting mechanism which is covered by at least one claim of the '888 Patent.

# FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Infringement of the '888 Patent)

- 12. 4Front repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 11 as if fully set forth herein.
- 13. Nordock has infringed and continues to infringe the '888 Patent by making, using, selling, and/or offering to sell in the United States loading dock equipment which is covered by one or more of the claims of the '888 Patent.
- 14. Nordock's infringing product includes, but is not limited to, the AIRDOCK™
  Series Air Power Dock Leveler.
- 15. Upon information and belief, at all relevant times, Nordock was aware of the '888 Patent and manufactured and/or sold its products with the knowledge that those products are especially made or adapted for use in the infringement of the '888 Patent.
- 16. Nordock has no license from 4Front, Kelley, or the inventor and is not authorized to make, use, import, offer for sale, or sell any product within the scope of the '888 Patent.
- 17. Nordock's products are not a staple article or commodity of commerce suitable for substantial non-infringing use.
- 18. By virtue of these activities, Nordock has been directly infringing, contributorily infringing and/or inducing infringement of the '888 Patent, and continues to engage in such infringing activities, all in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271.
- 19. Nordock's infringement of the '888 Patent has damaged and continues to damage 4Front and threatens 4Front with irreparable injury. Nordock's actions will result in damages to

4Front, including loss of sales and profits, which 4Front would have made but for the infringement by Nordock, unless Nordock is enjoined by this Court.

20. Nordock's actions have been willful and deliberate, entitling 4Front to increased damages under 35 U.S.C. § 284 and making this an exceptional case within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 285.

# WHEREFORE, 4Front prays for entry of judgment:

- A. Temporarily and preliminarily enjoining Nordock, and all persons in active concert or participation with Nordock, from any act of infringement, inducement of infringement, or contributory infringement of the '888 Patent;
  - B. Finding that the '888 Patent has been infringed by Nordock, as alleged herein;
- C. Awarding damages adequate to compensate 4Front for Nordock's infringement, but not less than a reasonable royalty for the use made of the claimed invention, together with interests, including pre-judgment interest, and costs as fixed by the Court;
- D. Awarding 4Front an accounting of all Nordock's sales of products found to infringe;
  - E. Finding that Nordock's infringements have been willful and deliberate;
- F. Awarding 4Front damages and attorney's fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284 and § 285 because of the willful and deliberate nature of Nordock's infringement;
- G. Permanently enjoining Nordock and its officers, agents, servants, employees and affiliates, as well as all others in active concert or participation with it as any of the foregoing, from inducing or contributing to the infringement of the '888 Patent;
  - H. Awarding 4Front such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and

proper.

## **JURY DEMAND**

4Front demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Date: April 14, 2008

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