Northern District of California

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	4

FINJAN, INC.,

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Plaintiff,

v.

CHECK POINT SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGIES, INC., et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 18-cv-02621-WHO

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO TENTIONS IN PART: GRANTING ΓΙΟΝ ΤΟ STRIKE ATTORNEY CLARATION: GRANTING MOTION TO AMEND INVALIDITY CONTENTIONS: GRANTING MOTIONS TO SEAL

Re: Dkt. Nos. 125, 126, 129, 130, 131, 137, 138, 139, 141, 163, 166, 172, 177, 178

Defendants Check Point Software Technologies, Inc. and Check Point Software Technologies Ltd. (collectively "Check Point") move to strike Plaintiff Finjan, Inc.'s ("Finjan") infringement contentions for the second time. I previously granted Check Point's motion to strike Finjan's infringement contentions in part and gave Finjan leave to amend its contentions to comply with my Order Re Case Narrowing and Infringement Contentions (the "Narrowing Order") [Dkt. No. 29] and the Patent Local Rules. Order Granting Motion to Strike in Part; Granting Motions to Seal; Granting Motion to Amend Claim Construction Schedule (the "IC Order") [Dkt No. 84]. Although Finjan's amended infringement contentions ("AICs") are more complete, I agree with Check Point that they are still deficient and violate the IC Order, Narrowing Order, and the Patent Local Rules. I will grant Check Point's motion to strike the AICs.

Check Point also filed two other motions that I will grant. First, I will strike the declaration of Finjan's attorney, Linjun Xu, attached to Finjan's opposition to the previous motion to strike, because much of it was made without personal knowledge. Second, I will allow Check



Point to amend its invalidity contentions because its motion was unopposed.

BACKGROUND

In September 2018, I received briefing from the parties on how to manage this litigation in compliance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 1's mandate of a "just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of this action[.]" Narrowing Order. I then ordered Finjan to serve its infringement contentions under specifications that largely follow the provisions of this District's Patent Local Rules as well as the guidance provided in the since withdrawn 2013 Model Order from the Federal Circuit. Narrowing Order. Finjan was instructed to "include pinpoint source code citations . . . accompanied by the document production required by Patent Local Rule 3-2" and to also:

(i) avoid open-ended citations to "exemplary" products and use of the terms "such as" and "for example"; (ii) set forth any infringement theories based on the doctrine of equivalents with limitation-by-limitation analyses; and (iii) for any indirect theories of infringement, identify the alleged direct infringement, the alleged acts of inducement or contribution to that infringement, and the relationship between them.

Id. at 2.

On November 2, 2018, Finjan served its infringement contentions on Check Point, which then moved to strike the infringement contentions, arguing that they violated my Narrowing Order and the Patent Local Rules. Check Point's Motion to Enforce Court Order and Strike Infringement Contentions at 1-3, 15-24 [Dkt. No. 55]. I largely agreed that Finjan's infringement contentions failed to comply in the IC Order, and made several rulings that I summarize below.

First, I required Finjan to organize its infringement contentions by the underlying instrumentalities rather than into five groups of products, because that would assist both the parties and me in determining precisely how Check Point's products do or do not infringe Finjan's patents and to aid Finjan's efforts to provide specific source code citations. *Id.* at 7. Finjan was ordered to specify any combinations of the underlying instrumentalities that it believed were infringing. *Id.* Although it might be true that Check Point sells its products to consumers in bundles, I reasoned that separating out infringement contentions by the underlying instrumentalities would be consistent with the purpose of Patent Local Rules because it would make the litigation process



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Second, I ordered Finjan to provide pinpoint source code citations that show "where and
how each limitation of each asserted claim is found within each Accused Instrumentality" as
required by the Patent Local Rules. <i>Id.</i> at 12. In doing so, I rejected Finjan's arguments that its
infringement contentions were sufficient to disclose its infringement theories because they
provided an overall infringement analysis that included both source code citations and public
information. <i>Id.</i> at 7-12. I noted that many of the same sets of source code within the same
product category were cited across different claims of different patents. Id.

Third, I held that Finjan's infringement contentions impermissibly contained open-ended citations to exemplary products in violation of the Narrowing Order. Id. at 13-14. I found that Finjan's citation to numerous releases of Check Point's products were ambiguous and that it was unclear which releases applied to which products in the voluminous list cited by Finjan. Id. I then denied Check Point's motion to strike and ordered Finjan to serve amended infringement contentions that were in accordance with my IC Order, Narrowing Order, and Patent Local Rules. *Id.* at 15.

Finjan has now served its amended infringement contentions ("AICs") and Check Point argues that they are deficient in largely the same ways as before. Defendant Check Point Software Technologies, Inc. and Check Point Software Technologies, LTD.'s Motion to Strike Amended Infringement Contentions ("AIC MTS") [Dkt. No. 125-4].

LEGAL STANDARD

Patent Local Rule 3-1 requires:

- [A] party claiming patent infringement shall serve on all parties a 'Disclosure of Asserted Claims and Infringement Contentions[]' . . . [which] shall contain the following information:
- (a) Each claim of each patent in suit that is allegedly infringed by each opposing party, including for each claim the applicable statutory subsections of 35 U.S.C. § 271 asserted;
- (b) Separately for each asserted claim, each accused apparatus, product, device, process, method, act, or other instrumentality ("Accused Instrumentality") of each opposing party of which the party is aware. This identification shall be as specific as possible. Each product, device, and apparatus shall be identified by name or



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known, or by any product, device, or apparatus which, when used, allegedly results in the practice of the claimed method or process;

- (c) A chart identifying specifically where each limitation of each asserted claim is found within each Accused Instrumentality, including for each limitation that such party contends is governed by 35 U.S.C. § 112(6), the identity of the structure(s), act(s), or material(s) in the Accused Instrumentality that performs the claimed function.
- (d) For each claim which is alleged to have been indirectly infringed, an identification of any direct infringement and a description of the acts of the alleged indirect infringer that contribute to or are inducing that direct infringement. Insofar as alleged direct infringement is based on joint acts of multiple parties, the role of each such party in the direct infringement must be described.
- (e) Whether each limitation of each asserted claim is alleged to be literally present or present under the doctrine of equivalents in the Accused Instrumentality.

"The overriding principle of the Patent Local Rules is that they are designed [to] make the parties more efficient, to streamline the litigation process, and to articulate with specificity the claims and theory of a plaintiff's infringement claims." Bender v. Maxim Integrated Prods., No. 09-cv-01152-SI, 2010 WL 1135762, at *2 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 22, 2010) (alteration in original) (internal citation omitted). Patent Local Rule 3-1 is intended to require the plaintiff "to crystallize its theories of the case early in the litigation and to adhere to those theories once disclosed." Bender v. Advanced Micro Devices, Inc., No. 09-cv-1149-EMC, 2010 WL 363341, at *1 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 1, 2010). It "takes the place of a series of interrogatories that defendants would likely have propounded had the patent local rules not provided for streamlined discovery." Network Caching Tech., LLC v. Novell, Inc., No. 01-cv-2079-VRW, 2002 WL 32126128, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 13, 2002).

"[A]ll courts agree that the degree of specificity under Local Rule 3-1 must be sufficient to provide reasonable notice to the defendant why the plaintiff believes it has a 'reasonable chance of proving infringement." Shared Memory Graphics LLC v. Apple, Inc., 812 F. Supp. 2d 1022, 1025 (N.D. Cal. 2010) (quoting View Eng'g, Inc. v. Robotic Vision Sys., Inc., 208 F.3d 981, 986 (Fed. Cir. 2000)). The local rules do not "require the disclosure of specific evidence nor do they require a plaintiff to prove its infringement case . . . a patentee must nevertheless disclose what in each accused instrumentality it contends practices each and every limitation of each asserted claim



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to the extent appropriate information is reasonably available to it." DCG Sys. v. Checkpoint Techs., LLC, No. 11-cv-03792-PSG, 2012 WL 1309161, at *2 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 16, 2012).

DISCUSSION

I. MOTION TO STRIKE INFRINGEMENT CONTENTIONS

A. Grouping

Check Point claims that Finjan has violated the directives contained in the IC Order by renaming its "groups" of products as the instrumentalities themselves and then referring to the actual products in the groups as "features." AIC MTS at 15-18. Check Point states that within each group, Finjan's infringements charts remain directed to a handful of individual products and services but provide no infringement theories for most of the groups. *Id.* at 16.

Check Point identifies Finjan's charts as purporting to describe infringement theories on the following actual products:

- Network Security Products: IPS, Anti-Bot, Anti-Virus, Threat Emulation, Threat Extraction.
- Endpoint Security: Threat Emulation, Threat Extraction, AntiPhishing (zero phishing), Anti-Ransomware, Anti-Bot, Forensics, Anti-Exploit, Anti-Virus, Anti-Malware, SmartEvent.
- ZoneAlarm: Advanced Firewall, OSFirewall, Threat Emulation, Browser Protection.
- ThreatCloud: Threat Emulation.
- CloudGuard: CloudGuard SaaS.
- Sandblast Mobile.

Id. at 16-17. It asks that I strike the remaining contentions from the AICs. *Id.*

1. **Blade Architecture**

As an example, Check Point considers Finjan's accusation of its "Blade Architecture" as infringing the '968 Patent. Id. at 17. According to Check Point, Finjan's definition of its Blade Architecture is overbroad and encompasses 24 different products that Finjan refers to as features,



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