

1 Michael A. Sherman (SBN 94783)  
masherman@stubbsalderton.com  
2 Jeffrey F. Gersh (SBN 87124)  
jgersh@stubbsalderton.com  
3 Sandeep Seth (SBN 195914)  
sseth@stubbsalderton.com  
4 Wesley W. Monroe (SBN 149211)  
wmonroe@stubbsalderton.com  
5 Stanley H. Thompson, Jr. (SBN 198825)  
sthompson@stubbsalderton.com  
6 Viviana Boero Hedrick (SBN 239359)  
vhedrick@stubbsalderton.com  
7 STUBBS, ALDERTON & MARKILES, LLP  
15260 Ventura Blvd., 20<sup>th</sup> Floor  
8 Sherman Oaks, CA 91403  
Telephone: (818) 444-4500  
9 Facsimile: (818) 444-4520

10 **Attorneys for Plaintiffs**  
[Additional Attorneys listed  
11 below]

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

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

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

**FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT**

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

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

**Case No.: 5:18-cv-00150-BLF**

22 Plaintiffs,

23 v.

24 AMICUS FTW, INC., a Delaware corporation,

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

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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.

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**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 Amicus FTW, Inc. is, upon information and belief, a Delaware corporation  
12 having a principal place of business and/or a regular and established place of business at 16 W. 22<sup>nd</sup>  
13 Street, New York, New York 10010. As originally alleged in the Complaint against Defendant filed  
14 on or about January 8, 2018, PersonalWeb alleged on information and belief that Defendant’s principal  
15 place of business or regular and established place of business was 21 Buena Vista Ave. #E, San  
16 Francisco, California 94117. By this allegation, PersonalWeb apprises Defendant of its intention to  
17 seek leave from the transferee court to modify the stay in place in this action to permit transfer of  
18 venue pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1406(a) to the District of Delaware and such other relief consistent with  
19 the foregoing, including any appropriate relief, if necessary, from the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict  
20 Litigation.

21  
22 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

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

25 9. Venue is proper in this federal district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)–(c) and  
26 1400(b) because, on information and belief, Defendant has a regular and established place of business  
27 in this District and has committed acts of infringement in this District.

28



1 of a file, a page in memory, an object in an object-oriented program, a digital message, a digital  
2 scanned image, a part of a video or audio signal, or any other entity which can be represented by a  
3 sequence of bits.” Applied system-wide, this invention would permit any data item to be stored,  
4 located, managed, synchronized, and accessed using its content-based identifier.

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

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

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

26 18. On April 11, 1995, Lachman and Farber filed their patent application, describing these  
27 and other ways in which content-based “True Names” elevated data-processing systems over  
28 conventional file-naming systems. The first True Name patent issued on November 2, 1999. The last

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