# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CASE NO.: 1:24-cv-03062

VOLTSTAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

ENCASED PRODUCTS INC,

Defendant.

# **COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT**

Plaintiff VOLTSTAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC. by and through its undersigned counsel, brings this Complaint against Defendant ENCASED PRODUCTS INC, for patent infringement, and in support, alleges as follows:

#### NATURE OF THE LAWSUIT

1. This is an action for patent infringement of United States Patent Number 9,024,581, and its Reissue Patent Number RE48,794 E (hereinafter, the "794 Patent") arising under the patent laws of the United States Title 35, United States Code §§ 1 *et seq.* to enjoin further infringement and obtain damages resulting from Defendant's unauthorized manufacture, use, offer to sell and sale in the United States of products identified and described herein in violation of Plaintiff Voltstar's rights under U.S. Patent No. 7,910,833, U.S. Patent No. 7,960,648, and U.S. Patent Number 9,024,581 which was reissued as Patent Number RE48,794 E. Plaintiff seeks permanent injunctive relief and monetary damages resulting from Defendant's infringement.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

## **SRIPLAW**

- 2. This Court has original and exclusive subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331; 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a); and 35 U.S.C. § 271.
  - 3. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendant.
- 4. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(3) because Defendant has committed acts of infringement and is subject to personal jurisdiction within this judicial district and division.

## THE PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Voltstar Technologies, Inc. ("Voltstar") is an Illinois Corporation with a principal place of business located at Barrington, Illinois.
- 6. Defendant Encased Products Inc ("Encased Products") is a corporation formed under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business at 1 Maple Street, Unit 3, East Rutherford, New Jersey 07073 and can be served by serving its registered agent Encased Products Inc. at the same address.

## **THE PLAINTIFF'S PATENT**

#### THE '794 PATENT

- 7. Voltstar owns all right, title and interests in, and/or has standing to sue for infringement of United States Patent Number RE48,794 E (the "'794 patent"), entitled "Charger Plug With Improved Package", issued October 26, 2021. A copy of the '794 Patent is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.
- 8. Prior to May 21, 2008, James W. McGinley, Donald Rimdzius, and David P. Marcusen, invented a novel and non-obvious Charger Plug with Improved Package.
- 9. McGinley, Rimdzius, and Marcusen applied for and obtained United States Patent No. 9,024,581 (the "581 patent") entitled "Charger Plug with Improved Package Electrical Charger" which was duly and legally issued on May 5, 2015.

- 10. The patent application for the '581 patent (application serial number 12/124,515) was first published on November 26, 2009.
- 11. McGinley, Rimdzius and Marcusen assigned all right, title and interest in and to the '581 Patent to Horizon Technologies, Inc. in May, 2008, which was recorded at the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 21, 2008 at Reel 20979, Frame 56. Horizon Technologies, Inc. changed its name to Voltstar Technologies, Inc. and recorded such change of name at the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 1, 2010, and corrected on November 22, 2010 at Reel 25411, Frame 783.
- 12. In general, non-legal terms, the '581 Patent relates to a Charger that is to be connected between a source of AC power, such as a wall outlet, and a device such as a mobile phone that includes a battery with the battery being rechargeable through the use of DC power. The size and shape of the Charger are such that upon plugging the Charger into a source of AC power such as a wall outlet, (a) the Charger does not block or interfere with the use of adjacent outlets and (b) the Charger does not interfere with objects or furniture that may be placed adjacent to or in front of the outlet. In addition, the size and shape of the Charger are such that (a) a power cord for the device to be charged may be easily inserted into and removed from the Charger while the Charger is plugged into the source of AC power and (b) removal of the power cord from the Charger can be accomplished without removal of the Charger from the source of AC power. An example of the "Charger Plug with Improved Package Electrical Charger" is shown below:



- 13. On October 26, 2021, the U.S. Patent No. 9,024,581 was reissued as Patent Number US RE48,794 E ("the '794 Patent"). The reissued '794 Patent, in part, specifically amended Claim 1(i) to now state: "being sized so that the charger plug housing comprises a longitudinal length extending between the front wall and the rear end and the longitudinal length is less than 2.0 inches, a width of the housing outer profile being less than 1.75 inches ..."
- 14. Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 252, Claim 1 of the reissued '794 Patent is substantially identical with the original U.S. Patent No. 9,024,581 in that it has only limited the sizing dimensions of the claimed invention. Therefore, the reissued '794 Patent is a continuation of the original U.S. Patent No. 9,024,581 and has effect continuously from the date of the original patent as May 5, 2015.

On reissue, the USPTO amended the claim language. The bolded language was omitted and the italicized portion was included, shown as follows: "being sized so that the charger plug housing comprises a longitudinal length extending between the front wall and the rear end and the longitudinal length is [equal to or] less than 2.0 inches, a width of the housing outer profile being less than 1.75 inches ..."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The previous language of the U.S. Patent No. 9,024,581 Claim 1(i) stated: "being sized so that the charger plug housing comprises a longitudinal length extending between the front wall and the rear end and the longitudinal length is equal to or less than 2.0 inches ..."

- 15. Claim 1 of the reissued '794 Patent is substantially identical with the claims submitted during the '581 patent prosecution at least as early as 2011, in the published patent application serial number 12/124,515. Claim 1 of the reissued '794 Patent was substantially known publicly at least as early as 2011.
- 16. At all relevant times, Voltstar and its predecessors in interest in the '794 Patent and original U.S. Patent No. 9,024,581, complied with the federal patent marking statute, 35 U.S.C. § 287(a).
- 17. As of May 5, 2015, the issue date of the original U.S. Patent No. 9,024,581 Voltstar and its predecessors in interest had ceased making, offering for sale, or selling within the United States any patented article covered under the '794 Patent or the original U.S. Patent No. 9,024,581.

## **DEFENDANT'S PRODUCTS**

## Accused Product #1 – Galvanox Travel Charger

18. Defendant makes, uses, offers for sale and sells its Galvanox Travel Charger (hereinafter referred to as "Travel Charger"). Examples of the Travel Charger distributed by Defendant are shown below.



19. Defendant advertises the use of and sell its Travel Charger which is a *charger* that is to be connected between a source of AC power, such as a wall outlet, and a device such as a

mobile phone that includes a battery with the battery being rechargeable through the use of DC power.

- 20. In particular, the Travel Charger distributed by Defendant employ a reduced plugsize charger plug, that upon plugging the Travel Charger into a source of AC power such as a wall outlet, the Travel Charger does not block or interfere with the use of adjacent outlets.
- 21. Moreover, the size and shape of the Travel Charger are such that a power cord for the device to be charged may be easily inserted into and removed from the Travel Charger while the charger is plugged into the source of AC power and removal of the power cord from the Travel Charger can be accomplished without removal of the charger from the source of AC power.
- 22. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** is a Claim Chart that illustrates each element of the infringing Travel Charger as compared to Claim 1 in the '794 Patent.
- 23. Defendant infringed at least one of the claims of the '794 Patent by offering to sell and by selling a charger plug identified as Travel Charger.
- 24. The Travel Charger has a longitudinal length less than 2 inches, approximately 1.981 inches, and a width of less than 1.75 inches, approximately 1.722 inches.

# Accused Product #2 – Galvanox 20W Fast Charger

25. Defendant makes, uses, offers for sale and sells Galvanox 20W Fast Charger (hereinafter referred to as "20W Fast Charger"). Examples of the 20W Fast Charger distributed by Defendant are shown below.



- 26. Defendant advertises the use of and sell its 20W Fast Charger which is a charger that is to be connected between a source of AC power, such as a wall outlet, and a device such as a mobile phone that includes a battery with the battery being rechargeable through the use of DC power.
- 27. In particular, the 20W Fast Charger distributed by Defendant employ a reduced plug-size charger plug, that upon plugging the 20W Fast Charger into a source of AC power such as a wall outlet, the 20W Fast Charger does not block or interfere with the use of adjacent outlets.
- 28. Moreover, the size and shape of the 20W Fast Charger are such that a power cord for the device to be charged may be easily inserted into and removed from the 20W Fast Charger while the charger is plugged into the source of AC power and removal of the power cord from the 20W Fast Charger can be accomplished without removal of the charger from the source of AC power.
- 29. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 3** is a Claim Chart that illustrates each element of the infringing 20W Fast Charger as compared to Claim 1 in the '794 Patent.
- 30. Defendant infringed at least one of the claims of the '794 Patent by offering to sell and by selling a charger plug identified as 20W Fast Charger.

31. The 20W Fast Charger has a longitudinal length less than 2 inches, approximately 1.658 inches, and a width of less than 1.75 inches, approximately 1.674 inches.

## Accused Product #3 – Galvanox 18W iPhone PD Charger

32. Defendant makes, uses, offers for sale and sell Galvanox 18W iPhone PD Charger (hereinafter, referred to as "18W iPhone PD Charger"). Examples of the 18W iPhone PD Charger distributed by Defendant are shown below.



- 33. Defendant advertises the use of and sell its 18W iPhone PD Charger which is a charger that is to be connected between a source of AC power, such as a wall outlet, and a device such as a mobile phone that includes a battery with the battery being rechargeable through the use of DC power.
- 34. In particular, the 18W iPhone PD Charger distributed by Defendant employ a reduced plug-size charger plug, that upon plugging the 18W iPhone PD Charger into a source of AC power such as a wall outlet, the 18W iPhone PD Charger does not block or interfere with the use of adjacent outlets.
- 35. Moreover, the size and shape of the 18W iPhone PD Charger are such that a power cord for the device to be charged may be easily inserted into and removed from the 18W iPhone PD Charger while the charger is plugged into the source of AC power and removal of the

power cord from the 18W iPhone PD Charger can be accomplished without removal of the charger from the source of AC power.

- 36. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 4** is a Claim Chart that illustrates each element of the infringing 18W iPhone PD Charger as compared to Claim 1 in the '794 Patent.
- 37. Defendant infringed at least one of the claims of the '794 Patent by offering to sell and by selling a charger plug identified as 18W iPhone PD Charger.
- 38. The 18W iPhone PD Charger has a longitudinal length less than 2 inches, approximately 1.691 inches, and a width of less than 1.75 inches, approximately 1.155 inches.

## <u>COUNT I</u> DIRECT INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. RE48,794 E

- 39. Voltstar repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference, as if fully set forth herein paragraphs 1 through 38, as set forth above.
- 40. Within the six years preceding the filing of this Complaint, Encased Products has directly infringed at least one claim of U.S. Patent No. RE48,794 E by the activities referred to in this Complaint in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a).
- 41. Without limiting the foregoing, Encased Products has infringed at least Claim 1 of the '794 Patent as described in the Claim Chart attached hereto as **Exhibits 2, 3 and 4**.
- 42. Encased Products' acts of making, using, importing, selling, and/or offering for sale infringing products and services have been without license, permission, or authorization from Voltstar.
- 43. Encased Products' infringement includes, but is not limited to, the manufacture, use, sale, importation and/or offer for sale of Encased Products' products including its Galvanox Travel Charger, 20W Fast Charger and, 18W iPhone PD Charger, which incorporates Voltstar's patent.

44. Encased Products' infringement of the '794 Patent has injured and continues to injure Voltstar in an amount to be proven at trial, but not less than a reasonable royalty.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Voltstar Technologies, Inc. demands judgment and relief against Defendant Encased Products Inc. and respectfully requests that the Court:

- A. An entry of judgment holding that Defendant has infringed and is infringing the '794 Patent;
- B. For an accounting and an award of damages sufficient to compensate Voltstar for the infringement in no event less than a reasonable royalty pursuant to 35
  U.S.C. § 284;
- C. A determination that Defendant's infringement has been willful, wanton, and deliberate and that the damages against it be increased up to treble on this basis or for any other basis in accordance with the law;
- D. A finding that this case is an exceptional case under 35 U.S.C. § 284 and an award to Voltstar of its costs and reasonable attorneys' fees as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 285;
- E. An accounting of all infringing sales and revenues, together with post judgment interest and prejudgment interest from the first date of infringement of the '794
   Patent; and
- F. That Voltstar is entitled to such other and further relief as to the Court appears just and proper.

## **JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury of all issues so triable.

DATED: April 24, 2024 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joseph A. Dunne JOSEPH A. DUNNE joseph.dunne@sriplaw.com

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