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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Meyer Intellectual Properties Ltd. and

Meyer Corporation, U.S.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Meyer Intellectual Properties Ltd. and Meyer Corporation, U.S.

Plaintiffs,

v.

SharkNinja Operating LLC, and SharkNinja Sales Co.

Defendants.

CASE NO. 8:24-cv-2205

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

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COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs Meyer Intellectual Properties Ltd. ("Meyer IP") and Meyer Corporation, U.S. ("Meyer U.S.") (collectively "Meyer") file their Complaint against Defendants SharkNinja Operating LLC and SharkNinja Sales Co. (collectively "SharkNinja") and allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for patent infringement of United States Patent No. RE50150 (the "'150 Patent") arising under the Patent Act, 35 U.S.C. § 271 et seq., based on Defendants' unauthorized manufacture, importation, use, offer for sale, and/or sale of SharkNinja's "Nest System" cookware products, including Nest System cookware sets that include nesting lids as well as nesting lids sold individually, and any other products with a similar lid nesting structure (the "Accused Products") in violation of Meyer's patent rights.

PARTIES

Plaintiffs

- 2. Plaintiff Meyer IP is a corporation organized under the laws of the British Virgin Islands, and has its principal place of business in Hong Kong. Meyer IP owns the '150 Patent.
- 3. Plaintiff Meyer U.S. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 1 Meyer Plaza, Vallejo, California. Meyer U.S. is the exclusive licensee of the '150 Patent.

Defendants

- On information and belief, Defendant SharkNinja Operating LLC is a 4. limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, having a principal place of business located at 89 A Street, Suite 100, Needham, MA 02494.
- 5. On information and belief, Defendant SharkNinja Sales Company is a Delaware corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, having a principal place of business located at 89 A Street, Suite 100, Needham, MA 02494.

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6. On information and belief, Defendants manufacture, use, sell, offer to sell, and import the Accused Products.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

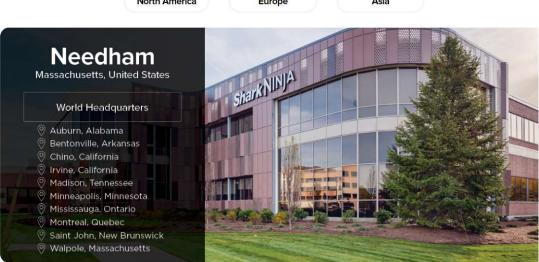
- 7. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338(a), and 1338(b).
- This Court has personal jurisdiction over SharkNinja because SharkNinja has committed acts of infringement in this district giving rise to this action and has established more than minimum contacts within this district such that the exercise of jurisdiction over SharkNinja in this Court would not offend traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.
- 9. Upon information and belief, SharkNinja conducts substantial business in California and in this district, including, but not limited to, selling the Accused Products to residents of California and this district, and conducting day-to-day business operations out of at least two facilities this district.
- 10. Two out of the eight locations through which SharkNinja states it operates within the United States are located in this district -- namely Chino, California, and Irvine, California:

Where We Work

North America

Europe

Asia



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See https://sharkninja.com/our-company.

- Upon information and belief, SharkNinja warehouses and distributes the 11. products it sells in and out of at least one of its facilities in this district.
- 12. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. § 1400 because SharkNinja has committed acts of infringement in this district and has a regular and established place of business in this district.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Meyer's '150 Patent

- 13. Meyer IP owns the '150 Patent.
- 14. Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of the '150 Patent.
- The '150 Patent, entitled "Lid and Knob Configured for Stacking," was 15. duly and legally issued on October 1, 2024.
- SharkNinja has been infringing, and continues to infringe, the '150 Patent 16. by making, using, selling, offering for sale, and/or importing in the United States its Nest System cookware products with nesting lids. An example of one of these products being offered for sale and sold on SharkNinja's website is pictured in Exhibit B (SharkNinja Nest System cookware set from https://www.ninjakitchen.com/products/ ninja-neverstick-premium-nest-system-13-piece-cookware-set-zidC59600)
- Plaintiffs informed SharkNinja that it was infringing the '150 Patent and demanded that SharkNinja stop its infringement in a letter sent to SharkNinja prior to service of this Complaint.
- 18. SharkNinja continues to make, use, sell, offer for sale, and/or import the Accused Products without authorization from Plaintiffs.
 - 19. Meyer and SharkNinja are direct competitors in cookware products.
- 20. The Accused Products compete with Meyer cookware products, including cookware embodying the invention patented in the '150 Patent.

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COUNT I

PATENT INFRINGEMENT

- 21. Meyer repeats and realleges the allegations in each of the foregoing paragraphs 1 through 20 as if fully set forth herein.
- SharkNinja has directly infringed, and continues to directly infringe, 22. literally and/or under the doctrine of equivalents, one or more claims of the '150 Patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) by making, using, selling, offering for sale and/or importing into the Accused Products..
- 23. SharkNinja's Accused Products meet all of the claim limitations of at least the independent claims of the '150 Patent.
- 24. The Accused Products are cookware products that include lids that can stably stack (or "nest") by using structures covered by claims of the '150 Patent.
- 25. SharkNinja touts the advantages of its products' nesting feature in marketing the Accused Products, describing the Accused Products as having a "unique nesting design [that] saves space and protects the cooking surfaces of your pots and pans during storage." See https://www.ninjakitchen.com/products/ninja-neverstickpremium-nest-system-13-piece-cookware-set-zidC59600.
- 26. The Accused Products comprise a plurality of stackable lids (the "Nest System Lids") that allow one to "[o]rganize and stack lids in any order":

Premium Anti-Scratch Nest System



Stackable lids Organize and stack lids in any order

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See https://www.ninjakitchen.com/products/ninja-neverstick-premium-nest-system-13-piece-cookware-set-zidC59600.

The Nest System Lids include a conical protrusion with a sidewall that 27. extends downward from a lower side of a cover of the lid:



- 28. The Nest System Lids further include a knob extending upward from the upper side of the cover that has a dimple, where the dimple has a sidewall extending from the end of the knob to a base of the dimple.
- 29. The dimples and protrusions of the Nest System Lids are complementary to one another, such that the Nest System Lids may interchangeably stack by allowing the dimple of one lid to receive the protrusion of a second lid:



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- 30. When stacked, a top surface of the knob end of the bottom lid extends above the dimple and supports a surface adjacent to the protrusion of the top lid to provide support to the top lid without contact between the corresponding sidewalls of the dimple and protrusion.
- The complementary portion of the knob on top of each lid is configured to 31. receive and support the conical portion of any other lid to stably stack the lids without the top surface of the knob of the bottom lid contacting the lower portion of the knob or the lower side of the cover of the top lid.
- 32. When stably stacked, the conical portion of the lid on top partially fills the complementary portion of the lid under it.
- SharkNinja also induces the infringement of one or more claims of the '150 33. Patent by others and is liable as a contributory infringer pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §§271(b) and (c).
- 34. SharkNinja induces consumers to use Nest System Lids in conjunction with other Nest System Lids, thereby infringing the '150 Patent.
- The individual Nest System Lids sold by SharkNinja are a material 35. component of the invention of the '150 Patent. SharkNinja expects and knows that the Nest System Lids are especially made for use in an infringement of the '150 Patent and are not a staple article or commodity of commerce suitable for substantial noninfringing use.
- 36. SharkNinja has taken no steps to cease its infringement of the Nest System cookware products or to cease inducing others to infringe claims of the '150 Patent, or to cease contributing to their infringement.
- 37. SharkNinja's infringement of the '150 Patent has caused and will continue to cause Plaintiffs damages in an amount to be determined at trial for which Plaintiffs are entitled to compensation pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 284.
- 38. SharkNinja's infringement of the '150 Patent has caused and will continue to cause Plaintiffs immediate and irreparable harm unless such infringing activities are

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enjoined by this Court pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 283. Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law.

- 39. This case is exceptional.
- 40. Plaintiffs are entitled to enhanced treble damages and an award of attorney fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court:

- Adjudge that Defendants have infringed one or more claims of the '150 41. Patent in violation of the Patent Act;
- 42. Permanently enjoin Defendants, their employees, agents, officers, directors, successors, affiliates, subsidiaries, and assigns, and all of those in active concert and participation with any of the foregoing, from infringing the '150 Patent;
- Order Defendants, their employees, agents, officers, directors, successors, affiliates, subsidiaries, and assigns, and all of those in active concert and participation with any of the foregoing persons or entities to destroy, at their own expense, all products in their possession that infringe the '150 Patent;
- Order Defendants to account and pay damages adequate to compensate 44. Plaintiffs for Defendants' infringement, including pre-judgment and post-judgment interest and costs;
- Declare this case exceptional and award Plaintiffs their reasonable attorney 45. fees as well as enhanced treble damages; and
 - 46. Award such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DATED: October 10, 2024 AKERMAN LLP

> By: /s/ Joshua Mandell Attorneys for Plaintiffs Meyer Intellectual Properties Ltd. and Meyer Corporation, U.S.

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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs Meyer Intellectual Properties Ltd. and Meyer Corporation, U.S. hereby demand a trial by jury on all issues which may be tried to a jury.

DATED: October 10, 2024 **AKERMAN LLP**

By: /s/ Joshua Mandell Joshua Mandell

Attorneys for Plaintiffs Meyer Intellectual Properties Ltd. and Meyer Corporation, U.S.

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