#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**REQUEST FOR** 

RECONSIDERATION

Applicant: WatchGuard Technologies, Inc.

Serial No.: 88/298,440

Mark: UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM

Class: 042

Office Action Date: October 28, 2019

Examiner: John Salcido –

L.O. 122

This response ("Response") to the Office Action issued on October 28, 2019 ("Office Action") regarding the application by WatchGuard Technologies, Inc. ("Applicant") for registration of the trademark UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM ("Mark"), U.S. Trademark Serial No. 88/298,440 in Class 42s ("Application") addresses the issues raised by the examining attorney ("Examiner"), namely:

- Section 2(e)(1) Refusal Merely Descriptive;
- Advisory: Supplemental Register; And
- Advisory: Disclaimer Required Supplemental Register.

Based on response to the above referenced issues in this Response, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner approve the Application to proceed to publication on the Principal Register.

#### I. SECTION 2(E)(1) – MERE DESCRIPTIVENESS

The Examiner continued to refuse registration of Applicant's Mark on the proposition that

(1) the word "UNIFIED" means "brought together, combined or united," (2) the word

"SECURITY" refers to "something that secures or protects," (3) the word "PLATFORM" refers to "the type of computer system you are using, in relation to the type of software you can use on it," and (4) the combined term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" "immediately conveys the idea that the goods and/or services are a unified software, hardware and services system for use in protecting computer systems and networks." *See* Office Action.

Applicant maintains that Applicant's Mark is at most suggestive, when viewed in its entirety as it must be. It is axiomatic that a mark and its composite components should not be dissected and considered piecemeal. Rather it must be considered as a whole in determining whether it is merely descriptive. The anti-dissection rule is the basic principle and it is the impression that the mark as a whole creates, and not the parts thereof, that is important. *See Estate of P. D. Beckwith, Inc. v. Commissioner of Patents*, 252 U.S. 538, 545-46, 64 L. Ed. 705, 40 S. Ct. 414 (1920). The U.S. Supreme Court stated: "The commercial impression of a trademark is derived from it as a whole, not from its elements separated and considered in detail. For this reason, it should be considered in its entirety".

In particular, the phrase "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" is not merely descriptive, because it involves the term "UNIFIED." This term in relation to Applicant's services, has a highly generalized and aspirational definition that is not susceptible of any *immediate* meaning involving a feature, function, or characteristic of Applicant's goods and services.

Further, the term "unified" has multiple meanings and can describe a wide variety of potential goods and services. Applicant's Mark is thus not merely descriptive of Applicant's goods and services.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Board and its predecessors have indicated that "merely" means "only." *See In re Colonial Stores*, 394 F.2d 549, 552, 55 C.C.P.A. 1049, 1053, 157 U.S.P.Q. 382, 385 (1968).

# A. The Term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" Requires Consumer Imagination to Reach a Conclusion as to the Nature of the Services to Which It Is Applied

#### **Imagination Test**

As Applicant argued in its response submitted on October 10, 2019 (the "October Response"), Applicant's Mark does not <u>immediately</u> describe a feature, characteristic, or purpose of Applicant's services, including, but not limited to, providing online non-downloadable software for identifying malware attacks, detection of malicious websites, botnets, and wireless access points, and managing traffic on a computer network (the "Services"). The term "UNIFIED" is simply too vague, and the record is lacking in this case of any formal definition of the term in relation to Applicant's goods and services. As a result, the combination of the terms in "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" generates a non-descriptive mark that conveys no immediate idea of what Applicant's goods and services may entail. Indeed, at most, Applicant's Mark as a whole suggests an aspiration to a purchaser of an all-in-one security product.

A term is merely descriptive "if it *forthwith* conveys an *immediate* idea of the ingredients, qualities or characteristics of the goods." *In re Stroh Brewery*, 34 U.S.P.Q.2d 1796, 1797 (T.T.A.B. 1995) (emphasis in original) (quotations omitted) (finding the term VIRGIN not descriptive of non-alcoholic malt beverages because it required further explanation rather than providing an immediate idea as to its meaning). Because the boundary between the "merely descriptive" classification and the "suggestive" classification "can require the drawing of fine lines and often involves a good measure of subjective judgment," "it is clear that . . . doubts are to be resolved in favor of Applicants." *See In re Conductive Systems, Inc.*, 220 U.S.P.Q. 84, 86 (T.T.A.B. 1983).

On the other hand, the imagination test explains that a designation is suggestive, "if it requires imagination, thought and perception to reach a conclusion as to the nature of goods." *Stix* 

Products, Inc. v. United Merchants & Mfrs. Inc., 160 U.S.P.Q. 777, 785 (S.D.N.Y. 1968). A term is not merely descriptive simply because a person encountering the mark might recognize a suggestion regarding an aspect of the Applicant's Services. In re George Weston Ltd., 228 U.S.P.Q. 57, 58 (T.T.A.B. 1985) (SPEEDI BAKE does not convey an "immediate idea" of the ingredients, qualities or characteristics of dough that quickly bakes into bread).

Here, Applicant's Mark is not merely descriptive. The term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" does not immediately convey a specific impression of Applicant's complex and sophisticated Services and goods to the one coming across it. *See* TMEP § 1209.01(a) ("a descriptive term...immediately tells something about the goods or services"). Because thought and imagination are required to understand the nature of Applicant's Services, the Mark is suggestive, and therefore registrable on the Principal Register.

# B. UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM Does Not Describe Applicant's Services with Particularity

In the Office Action, the Examiner maintained that the term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" is merely descriptive of Applicant's Services because (1) the word "UNIFIED" means "brought together, combined or united," (2) the word "SECURITY" refers to "something that secures or protects," (3) the word "PLATFORM" refers to "the type of computer system you are using, in relation to the type of software you can use on it," and (4) the combined term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" "immediately conveys the idea that the goods and/or services are a unified software." This conclusion is self-serving and is not an accurate representation of the ambiguity caused by inclusion of "UNIFIED" in Applicant's Mark as well as the vague and aspirational connotation generated by the term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM."

Because the term "UNIFIED" is so general as to the broad universe of potential goods and services, it is suggestive, not descriptive. The Examiner was thus incorrect in assuming that "software and hardware that works together" is a readily recognized definition of the term "UNIFIED" with respect to Applicant's Services. See Office Action. Nothing in the record indicates that prospective purchasers of Applicant's Services would immediately conclude that the term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" refers to "unified software, hardware and services system for use in protecting computer systems and networks" as claimed by the Examiner. See Office Action.

According to the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*, the term "UNIFIED" means "brought together as one." Attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u> is the screenshot of the definition of the term "UNIFIED" provided by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary. The definition of the term "UNIFIED" is not only vague, but it is not even remotely related to computer software or hardware, let alone a "security platform" or any similar goods.

Applicant's Mark is similar to other suggestive marks such as BIASTEEL for steel belted bias tires, CITIBANK for urban banking services, CONCURRENT TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION for electronic circuit boards, ELECTRO-MODULE for electro-magnetic brakes, EQUINE TECHNOLOGIES for horse hoof care products, EXPRESS SAVINGS for banking services, GLASS DOCTOR for glass repair service, SEXY LITTLE THINGS for women's lingerie, and SUPERWATERFINISH for papers, all of which have been found to be non-descriptive. See The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company v. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, 186 U.S.P.Q. 557, 1975 WL 20835 (T.T.A.B. 1975), aff'd, 189 U.S.P.Q. 348, 1976 WL 21295 (C.C.P.A. 1976) ("[A]pplicant has so combined the two words "bias" and "steel" into a unitary term as to result in a mark which suggests rather than describes the character of tires.") ("[W]e

conclude that the mark BIASTEEL for tires has not been shown to be merely descriptive."); Citibank, N.A. v. Citibanc Group, Inc., 724 F.2d 1540, 1545, 222 U.S.P.Q. 292 (11th Cir. 1984) ("The term 'Citi' does not describe a class of banking services or a characteristic of banking services. As the district court stated, '[t]he most that can be said for City Bank is that it suggests a modern or urban bank."); Concurrent Technologies Inc. v. Concurrent Technologies Corp., 12 U.S.P.Q.2d 1054, 1989 WL 274370 (T.T.A.B. 1989) (The composite suggests a company that makes goods used in connection with concurrent processing, a form of computer processing also known as "multitasking" or "multi-processing." "We have no concern that the registered mark will inhibit others from ordinary descriptive use of the term 'concurrent,' or of the term 'technologies,' either alone or in other combinations, to describe or suggest goods of the kind involved herein."); In re Warner Electric Brake & Clutch Company, 154 U.S.P.Q. 328, 1967 WL 7573 (T.T.A.B. 1967) ("[I]t does not follow as a matter of law that because the component words of a mark may be descriptive and therefore unregistrable, the combination thereof or unitary mark must necessarily be likewise descriptive."); Equine Technologies, Inc. v. Equitechnology, Inc., 68 F.3d 542, 545, 36 U.S.P.Q.2d 1659 (1st Cir. 1995) (imagination is required to connect the term to hoof care products); In re Wells Fargo & Company, 231 U.S.P.Q. 116, 118, 1986 WL 83698 (T.T.A.B. 1986) ("It seems to us a similar exercise of mental gymnastics is necessary for one to perceive a descriptive significance in the term EXPRESS SAVINGS."); Synergistic Intern. Inc. v. Windshield Doctor, Inc., 66 U.S.P.Q.2d 1936, 1939-1940, 2003 WL 21468568 (C.D. Cal. 2003) ("Given Plaintiff's incontestable federal registration and its creative metaphorical combination of the terms 'Doctor' and 'Glass,' the Court finds that the GLASS DOCTOR mark is suggestive and inherently distinctive."); Synergistic Intern., LLC v. Korman, 402 F. Supp. 2d 651, 659, 77 U.S.P.Q.2d 1599 (E.D. Va. 2005), aff'd in part, vacated in part on other grounds, remanded, 470 F.3d 162, 172, 81

U.S.P.Q.2d 1054 (4th Cir. 2006) ("'Doctor' suggests the characteristic or quality of healing, from which a consumer must imagine that 'healing glass' means repairing or replacing; therefore, the GLASS DOCTOR® Mark is suggestive.") ("[W]e agree with the district court that Synergistic's 'GLASS DOCTOR®' mark is properly deemed 'suggestive."); *Menashe v. V Secret Catalogue, Inc.*, 409 F. Supp. 2d 412, 423-424 (S.D. N.Y. 2006) ("Victoria's Secret's own descriptions of its lingerie in its catalogues and website illustrate that there are numerous ways to describe provocative underwear."); *Application of Chesapeake Corp. of Va.*, 57 C.C.P.A. 838, 420 F.2d 754, 164 U.S.P.Q. 395 (1970) ("[W]e do not consider it to be so highly descriptive as to be incapable of registration.").

Further, the commercial impression of a composite mark may be arbitrary or suggestive even when its separate parts are descriptive. The composite may be more than the mere sum of its parts:

The whole, in trademark law, is often greater than the sum of its parts. Common words in which no one may acquire a trademark because they are descriptive or generic may, when used in combination, become a valid trademark.

J. Thomas McCarthy, *McCarthy on Trademarks and Unfair Competition*, § 11:26. (5th ed. 2019). Here, the term "UNIFIED" in Applicant's Mark is ambiguous. Further, the term "UNIFIED," with its definition of "brought together as one" will simply be perceived as a goal of Applicant's goods and Services and/or as sales puffery that does not described any part of Applicant's products in particular. As a result, the UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM involves an aspirational goal in regard to Applicant's vacuums and polishers and does not, in any clear or precise way, serve to *immediately* describe a particular characteristic or feature of Applicant's goods and Services. *See*, *e.g., Oreck Holdings, LLC v. Bissell Homecare, Inc.*, Opposition No. 91173831 (February 16,2010) (non-precedential) (finding HEALTHY HOME VACUUM not descriptive of vacuum cleaners). Because Applicant's Mark is not made up entirely of descriptive terms, and as such, it requires

even more "exercise of mental gymnastics" necessary for one to perceive a descriptive significance in the term UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM. *In re Wells Fargo & Company*, 231 U.S.P.Q. 116, 118 (T.T.A.B. 1986) (EXPRESS SAVINGS held suggestive but not descriptive of banking services).

# C. The Combination of "UNIFIED" and "SECURITY PLATFORM" Creates a Distinctive Impression as Applied to Applicant's Services

Even a mark comprising of combination of merely descriptive components is registrable when the combination of terms creates a unitary mark with a unique, non-descriptive meaning, or when the composite has a bizarre or incongruous meaning as applied to the goods/services. *See In re Shutts*, 217 U.S.P.Q. 363 (T.T.A.B. 1983). As discussed in the October Response, in *In re Shutts*, the Board held that the mark "SNO-RAKE" was not merely descriptive of a snow removal hand tool. *Id.* at 363. Even though the term "rake" is used generally to refer to the removal or collection of debris or unwanted materials, the Board still concluded that customers do not initially think of the term "rake" as associated with snow removal. *Id.* at 364. In fact, the terms "rake" or "raking . . . sit strange in application to snow . . ." *Id.* Additionally, the Board held that the doctrine of mere descriptiveness should not "penalize coinage of hitherto unused and somewhat incongruous word combinations whose import would not be grasped without some measure of imagination and 'mental pause." *Id.* at 364-365.

Similarly, Applicant's Mark, which combines the terms "UNIFIED" and "SECURITY PLATFORM," is somewhat incongruous with respect to Applicant's Services. In general, "UNIFIED" is defined as "brought together as one." *See* Exhibit 1. Applicant's Services involve complicated and highly sophisticated network security that provides traditional intrusion prevention, gateway antivirus, application control, spam prevention, and URL filtering, to more advanced services for protecting against evolving malware, ransomware, and data breaches via

Cloud and virtual firewalls. On the other hand, the term "UNIFIED" has a broad meaning entirely unanchored in this collection of technology products and services. This leaves UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM, as a whole, disconnected from Applicant's goods and Services and lacking a meaning that refers *only* to a feature, function, or characteristic of the services.

Furthermore, because of the complex nature of Applicant's Services, this undefined use of the term "UNIFIED" "sit[s] strange" in application to the common understanding of "UNIFIED" especially when combined with the term "SECURITY PLATFORM," which does not even have an applicable dictionary definition. Attached as <a href="Exhibit 2">Exhibit 2</a> is the screenshot of the error message resulting from a search for the definition of the term "SECURITY PLATFORM" provided by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary. Therefore, the incongruous term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" creates a mental pause and does not immediately describe Applicant's Services.

Naturally, the term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" involves multiple steps of customer imagination in relation to Applicant's Services because consumers who encounter the term need to (a) first, conceptualize the incongruous combination of "UNIFIED" and "SECURITY PLATFORM;" and (b) associate the term to the niche goods and services related to providing innovative technology involving network security. Further, even after taking those multi-steps through the process to comprehend the term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" as applied to Applicant's Services, consumers would not be able to come to a conclusion that the term applies to particular goods/services consisting of complex downloadable software and hardware for network security, namely, firewall, threat management and virtual private network capabilities in the fields of security monitoring, identification of malware and spam, access control, information flow control, and facilitating computer connections for local area, wide area and global computer networks. "If a consumer must use more than a small amount of imagination to make the

association [of goods or services attribute], the mark is suggestive and not descriptive." *Rodeo Collection Ltd. V. West Seventh*, 812 F.2d 1215, 1218, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1204, 1206 (9th Cir. 1987). Here, the amount of imagination required to connect Applicant's Mark to Applicant's Services is certainly more than "a small amount." *Id.* Consequently, "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" is suggestive.

# D. The Examiner Has Not Provided Evidence of an Immediate Connection Between UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM and Applicant's Services

In the Office Action, the Examiner argued that the term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" "merely describes a feature, characteristic, and purpose of applicant's goods and/or services." See Office Action. The Examiner also added that because "vocabulary used in the computer and electronics fields is particularly noted for changing rapidly, and descriptiveness is determined based on the facts and evidence in the record at the time registration is sought," "a term that was once arbitrary or suggestive may lose its distinguishing and origin-denoting characteristics through use in a descriptive sense over a period of time, and come to be regarded by the purchasing public as nothing more than a descriptive designation." See Office Action. However, as with the initial office action, the Examiner once again fails to provide any evidentiary support for his conclusory statement. In fact, the Examiner's only evidence consists of dictionary definitions and/or selected limited third party evidence of the terms "UNIFIED," "SECURITY," and "PLATFORM." At least one of the website references was no longer available to Applicant upon investigation and thus should be disregarded. See Exhibit 3. Based on the limited number of references submitted by the Examiner, Applicant submits that "UNIFIED" and "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" are at most suggestive in this case. Additionally, there was no specific evidence demonstrating that the terms "UNIFIED" and "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM"

have lost their "distinguishing and origin-denoting characteristics through use in a descriptive sense over a period of time." *See* Office Action.

In fact, there exist several recent registrations of marks incorporating the term "UNIFIED" that have been allowed registration on the Principal Register as not merely descriptive and without a disclaimer of the term "UNIFIED."

Forty (40) of these references are in the relevant Class 42 alone. *See* Exhibit 4 of the October Response for printout of the list of records from search of USPTO database using the search term: (\*UNIFIED\*)[BI] AND `RN > "0" NOT (UNIFIED)[DS] AND (PRINCIPAL)[RG] AND (LIVE)[LD] AND (042)[IC].

Applicant submits the following chart to provide a summary of these registrations and their registration dates. *See* Exhibit 5 for the TESS records of the registrations in the chart.

Mark	Selected Goods/Services
UNIFIED AUDIENCE PLATFORM (Reg. No. 5241604) Registered on July 11, 2017. U U UNIFIED H.I.N.T.S HEALTH INFORMATION NOTIFICATION AND TRACKING SYSTEM (Reg. No. 5204044) Registered on May 16, 2017.	Class 42: Software as a service (SAAS) services featuring software for measuring the performance of internet and mobile web advertising campaigns, for tracking user actions on the internet and mobile web, and for tracking user actions within online and mobile applications.  Class 42: Providing on-line, non-downloadable software for managing health records and digital health information; Providing a website featuring technology that enables users to manage health records and digital health information.
UNIFIEDGOALS (Reg. No. 4598615) Registered on September 2, 2014.	Class 42: Computer security consultancy in the field of scanning and penetration testing of computers and networks to assess information security vulnerability; Computer services, namely, providing virtual and non virtual application servers, web servers, file servers, colocation servers, load balancing servers, redundancy servers, media servers and database servers of variable capacity to third party computing and data storage facilities; Computer software development

in the field of mobile applications; Consulting in the field of information technology; Consulting services in the field of providing online, non-downloadable software and applications; IT integration services; Maintenance of computer software relating to computer security and prevention of computer risks; Providing on-line nondownloadable geographic information system (GIS) software; Scientific and technological services, namely, research and design in the field of integrated system architecture that allows for the rapid development of highly interactive and customizable learning applications. UNIFIED Class 9: Computer software platforms for mobile phones and internet accessible devices, namely, software for tracking prospective high ATHLETICS (Reg. school and college athletes for recruitment and enforcing regulatory No. 4654280) Registered compliance in such recruitment. on Class 42: Software as a service (SAAS) services featuring software for December 9, 2014. managing regulatory and eligibility compliance for high school and college athletes. Class 9: Computer hardware; wireless LAN controllers; fixed electric CISCO **UNIFIED** switches; modular electric switches; computer network switches; ACCESS (Reg. No. computer software and hardware for network management; computer 5151374) Registered network servers; network extenders; network adapters; VPN (virtual private network) operating software; computer programs for February 28, 2017. connecting remotely to computers or computer networks; software for computers and mobile devices to secure remote access via the Internet to private computer networks; network access server hardware and operating software; gateway routers in the nature of computer control hardware; mobile computing and operating platforms consisting of data transceivers, wireless networks and gateways for collection and management of data; computer hardware and software for managing wireless access points; computer hardware, namely, wireless access point (WAP) devices; computer software for interconnecting, managing and operating computer networks; computer operating

Class 42: Consulting services in the field of design, selection, implementation, management and use of computer hardware and software systems for others; computer network design for others; computer consultation services; technical support services, namely, troubleshooting in the nature of diagnosing computer hardware and software problems; technical support services in the fields of

software; computer router, switch, hub and server operating software; computer software for managing and operating computer and communications hardware; computer network management and security software, namely, software for traffic prioritization, secure access control, user identification, encryption, security management and intrusion prevention; computer hardware containing network security functionality, including firewalls, data encryption, and/or

interoperability with network security protocols.

computer, data, e-mail, web and network security, namely, monitoring of network systems for technical and computer security purposes and troubleshooting in the nature of diagnosing computer hardware and software problems; computer network design for others; computer services, namely, detecting, blocking and removing computer viruses and threats, encrypting and authenticating data, preventing data-loss, recovering data, securing networks, and detecting, filtering, analyzing, managing and blocking electronic communications; updating of computer software for others; application service provider (ASP), namely, hosting the software applications of others; on line services, namely, providing information via computer networks in the fields of computer networking, computer networks, computer systems, computer and network security and cloud computing; technical consultation and technical research in the field of computer networks and network systems design and cloud computing; consulting in the field of the design and development of virtualization technologies for enterprises and businesses; providing temporary use of online nondownloadable software in the field of computer network communications, namely, software for use in the design, implementation and operation of cloud computing networks.

INEW UNIFIED MOBILE SOLUTIONS (Reg. No. 5268471) Registered on August 22, 2017.

Class 9: Apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound and images; cell phones; calculators; data processing apparatus and computers; computer programs and software for enabling e-commerce transactions, electronic commerce transactions conducted on mobile phones and mobile telecommunications services; computer game software; navigation apparatus for vehicles; computer hardware for mobile virtual network operators.

Class 42: Scientific research and development; technological research and development; industrial research in the field of automatized customer management and e-commerce transaction processing; design and development of computer hardware and software; design of data processing programmes; data conversion of computer programs and data - not physical conversion; computer systems design; conversion of data or documents from physical to electronic media; creation and maintenance of websites, for others; providing virtual computer systems and virtual computer environments through cloud computing; installation of computer software; industrial design; engineering services in the field of connecting mobile clients being users of handheld computer devices and smartphones, enabling mobile services and processing customer data being customer's personal information, financial information and e-commerce transaction data; consultancy in the field of energy-saving; research in the field of environmental protection; calibration measuring; recovery of computer data; consultancy in the field of computers; computer software consultancy; duplication of computer programs; hiring out data processing equipment; updating of software; rental and maintenance of memory

	space for websites, hosting mobile services for individuals and businesses for others; maintenance of software; provision of search engines for the Internet; leasing of computer software; rental of web servers.
UNIFIED ADVERTISING EXCHANGE (Reg. No. 4574967) Registered on July 29, 2014.	Class 42: Software as a service (SAAS) services featuring software for use in internet marketing, namely creating digital advertising, creating online advertising, generating sales leads, managing sales leads, optimizing websites and collecting and analyzing marketing campaign data.
UNIFIED SOCIAL (Reg. No. 4863744) Registered on December 1, 2015.	Class 42: Cloud computing services, namely, providing temporary use of on-line non-downloadable cloud computing software for analysis and assessment of social, mobile, digital and offline marketing channels and media activities, providing predictive computer tools for discovering, publishing and monitoring content in real-time, generate marketing reports and dashboards, measuring social return on investment, comparing vendor and agency performance, providing computer tools for buying and planning social media advertising and aggregating and warehousing and activating all social marketing data for use in connection with social media and marketing campaigns; computer services, namely, providing temporary use of non-downloadable software for analysis and assessment of social media activities.

Undoubtedly, the term "UNIFIED" still holds an arbitrary and suggestive meaning and therefore, purchasing public would consider the terms "UNIFIED" and "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM" as more than a mere descriptive designation. Based on the evidence of prior Office practice and for all the reasons set forth above, consumers are likely to believe that "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM," when used in combination with each other, is being used in a suggestive manner.

#### II. ANY DOUBTS SHOULD BE RESOLVED IN APPLICANT'S FAVOR

Applicant maintains that it has established that the Mark is suggestive. In the event, however, that the Examiner has any doubts in this matter, those doubts should be resolved in Applicant's favor. As the Examiner is aware, the Trademark Office has the burden of proof to

demonstrate that a mark is descriptive and that any doubt should be resolved in Applicant's favor. *See In re Gourmet Bakers, Inc.*, 173 U.S.P.Q. 565 (T.T.A.B. 1972).

In the present case, the evidence submitted by the Examiner does not consider that (a) the term "UNIFIED," comprising the Mark, is a highly vague term suggesting positive aspirational attributes and is without specificity in regard to computer software and services; and as such (b) the term "UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM," in its entirety, shares this vague, positive, and aspirational connotation without specifically describing features of Applicant's goods and Services. Consequently, the Examiner's evidence does not support a conclusion that relevant consumers would immediately associate Applicant's Mark with Applicant's Services. Absent any adequate evidence showing descriptiveness of Applicant's Mark, Applicant's arguments in favor of registration are more than sufficient to create the requisite doubt, and that doubt should be resolved in Applicant's favor.

#### III. ADVISORY: SUPPLEMENTAL REGISTER

Applicant believes that it has established that the Mark is suggestive. In the event, however, that the Examiner has any doubts in this matter, Applicant elects to amend the Application to the Supplemental Register.

#### IV. ADVISORY: DISCLAIMER REQUIRED – SUPPLEMENTAL REGISTER

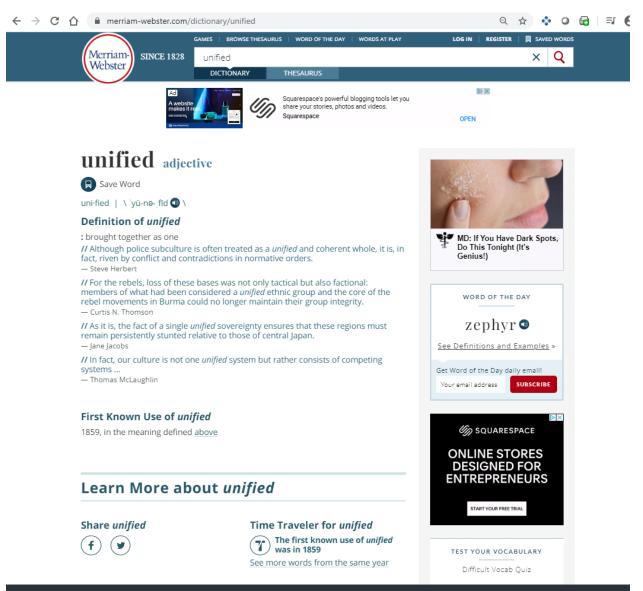
Per the Examiner's request, Applicant submits the following irrespective of whether the Examiner finds that Applicant's Mark is suitable for registration on the Principal or Supplemental Register:

No claim is made to the exclusive right to use "SECURITY PLATFORM" apart from the mark as shown.

### **CONCLUSION**

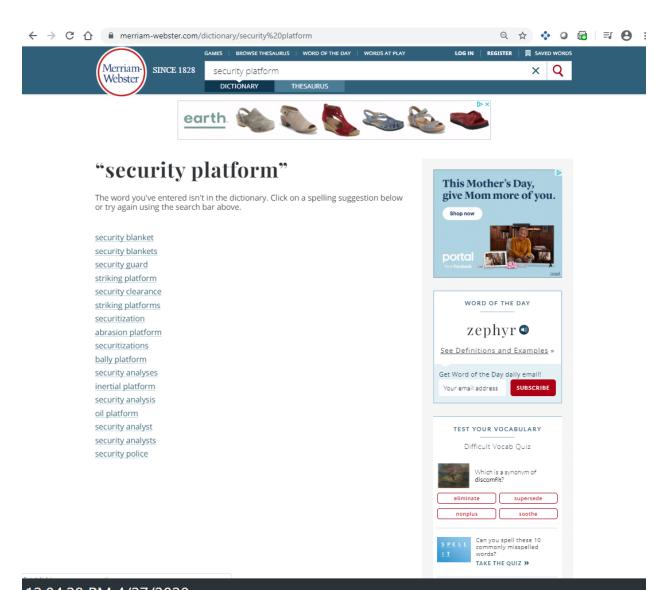
For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the term UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM is suggestive, and not descriptive, as applied to the Services claimed in the Application. However, in case the Examiner has any doubts, Applicant requests that its Application for the UNIFIED SECURITY PLATFORM mark be approved for registration the Supplemental Register.

## **EXHIBIT 1**



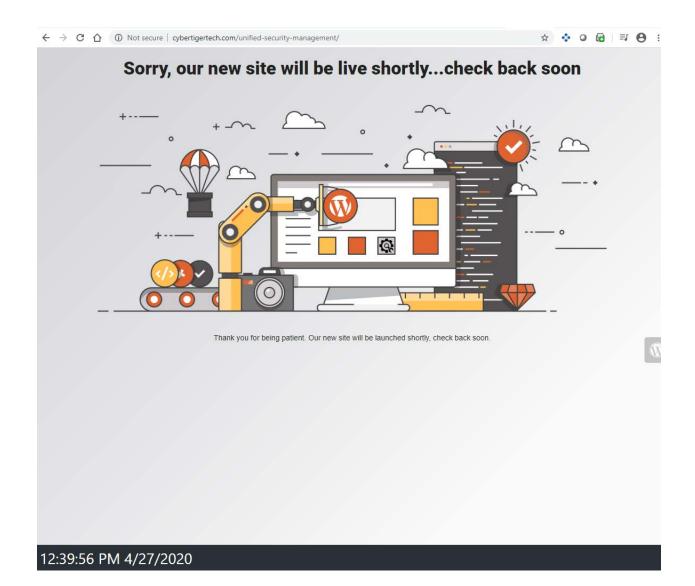
11:50:22 AM 4/27/2020

## **EXHIBIT 2**



12:04:28 PM 4/27/2020

# **EXHIBIT 3**

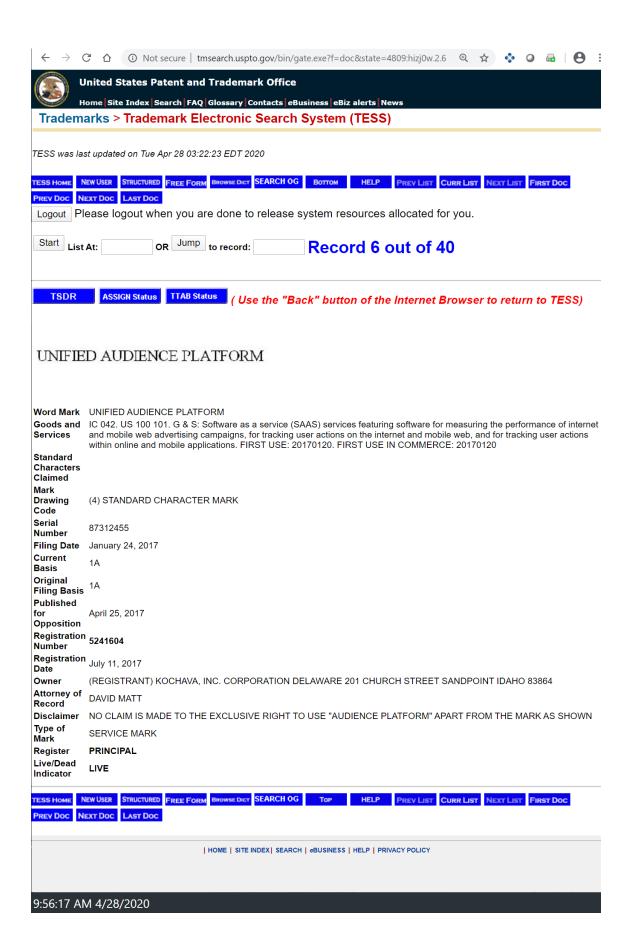


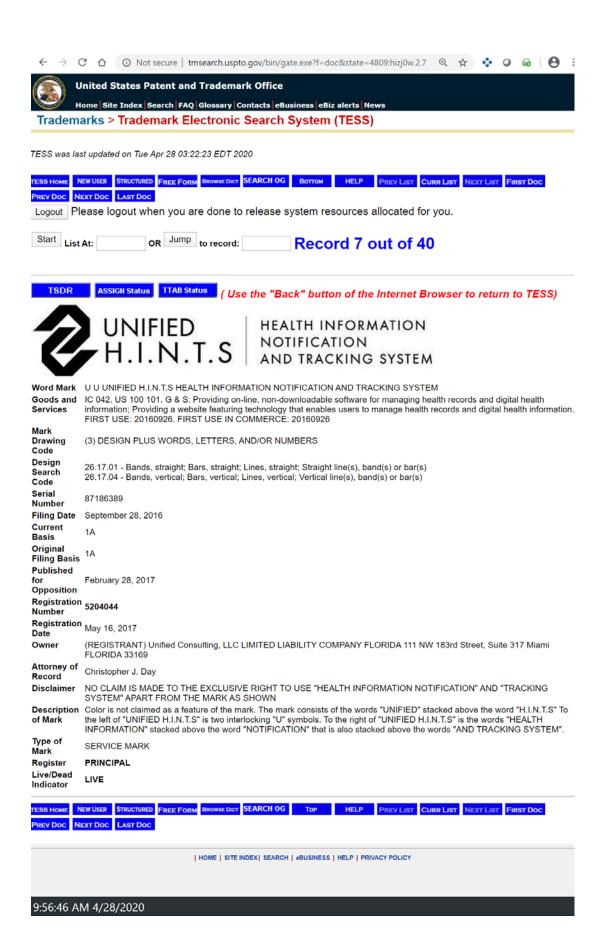
## **EXHIBIT 4**



9:42:57 AM 4/28/2020

### **EXHIBIT 5**





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# UNIFIEDGOALS

Word Mark UNIFIEDGOALS

Goods and IC 042. US 100 101. G & S: Computer security consultancy in the field of scanning and penetration testing of computers and networks to assess information security vulnerability; Computer services, namely, providing virtual and non virtual application servers, web servers, file servers, co-location servers, load balancing servers, redundancy servers, media servers and database servers of variable capacity to third party computing and data storage facilities; Computer software development in the field of mobile applications; Consulting in the field of information technology; Consulting services in the field of providing online, nondownloadable software and applications; IT integration services; Maintenance of computer software relating to computer security and prevention of computer risks; Providing on-line non-downloadable geographic information system (GIS) software; Scientific and technological services, namely, research and design in the field of integrated system architecture that allows for the rapid development of highly interactive and customizable learning applications. FIRST USE: 20131031. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE:

Standard Characters Claimed Mark

(4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK Drawing

Code Serial

86004972 Number Filing Date July 9, 2013

Current **Basis** Original Filing Basis Published

November 26, 2013

Opposition

Registration 4598615 Number

Registration September 2, 2014 Date

(REGISTRANT) TechTrend, Inc. CORPORATION VIRGINIA Suite 123 2301 Columbia Pike Arlington VIRGINIA 22204 Owner Attorney of

Jon A. Schiffrin Record Type of SERVICE MARK Mark Register PRINCIPAL

Affidavit SECT 15. SECT 8 (6-YR).

Text

Live/Dead Indicator

SS HOME NEW USER STRUCTURED FREE FORM BROWNE DICT SEARCH OG TOP HELP PREV LIST CURR LIST NEXT LIST FIRST DOC EV DOC NEXT DOC LAST DOC

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# **Unified Athletics**

Word Mark UNIFIED ATHLETICS Goods and IC 009. US 021 023 026 036 038. G & S: Computer software platforms for mobile phones and internet accessible devices, namely, software for tracking prospective high school and college athletes for recruitment and enforcing regulatory compliance in such recruitment. FIRST USE: 20140301, FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20140301 IC 042. US 100 101. G & S: Software as a service (SAAS) services featuring software for managing regulatory and eligibility compliance for high school and college athletes. FIRST USE: 20140301. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20140301 Standard Characters Claimed Mark Drawing (4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK Code Serial 86166063 Number Filing Date January 15, 2014 Current Basis Original Filing Basis **Published** April 1, 2014 Opposition Registration 4654280 Number Registration December 9, 2014 Owner (REGISTRANT) JumpForward, LLC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ILLINOIS 112 S Sangamon St Chicago ILLINOIS 60607 (LAST LISTED OWNER) JUMPFORWARD, LLC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY DELAWARE 717 North Harwood St., Ste 2500 Dallas **TEXAS 75201** Assignment ASSIGNMENT RECORDED Recorded Attorney of Benjamin Diederich Record Disclaimer NO CLAIM IS MADE TO THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO USE "ATHLETICS" APART FROM THE MARK AS SHOWN Type of Mark TRADEMARK. SERVICE MARK Register PRINCIPAL Live/Dead Indicator SS HOME NEW USER STRUCTURED FREE FORM BROWSE DICT SEARCH OG TOP HELP PREV LIST CURR LIST NEXT LIST FIRST DOC PREV DOC

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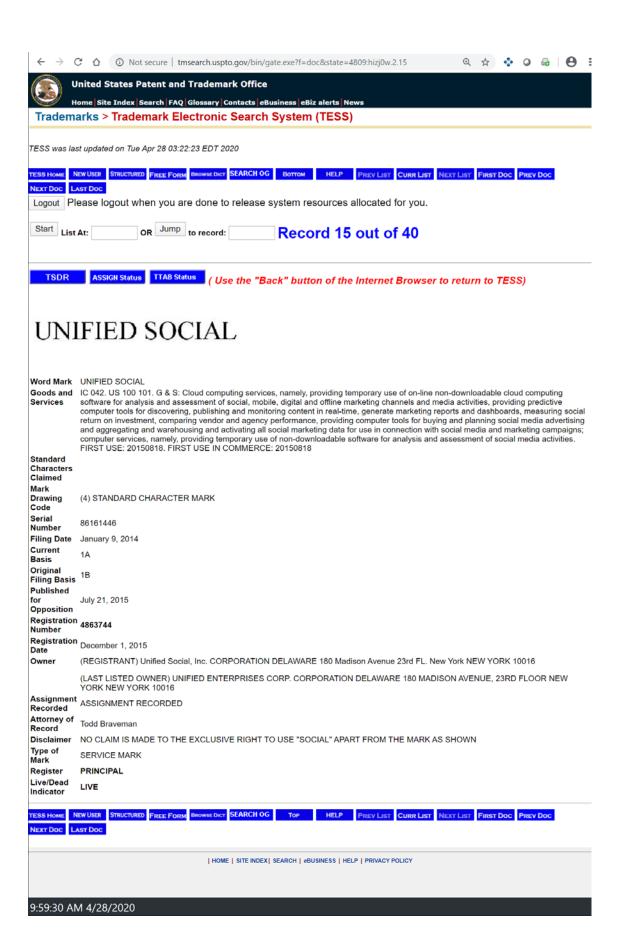


# UNIFIED ADVERTISING EXCHANGE

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Word Mark UNIFIED ADVERTISING EXCHANGE Goods and IC 042. US 100 101. G & S: Software as a service (SAAS) services featuring software for use in internet marketing, namely creating digital Services advertising, creating online advertising, generating sales leads, managing sales leads, optimizing websites and collecting and analyzing marketing campaign data. FIRST USE: 20130717. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20130717 Standard Characters Claimed Mark (4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK Drawing Code Serial 86110368 Number Filing Date November 5, 2013 Current Basis Original Filing Basis Published May 13, 2014 Opposition Registration 4574967 Number Registration July 29, 2014 Owner (REGISTRANT) Dealer Dot Com, Inc. CORPORATION DELAWARE 1 Howard Street Burlington VERMONT 05401 Assignment ASSIGNMENT RECORDED Recorded Attorney of William H. Brewster Record Disclaimer NO CLAIM IS MADE TO THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO USE "ADVERTISING EXCHANGE" APART FROM THE MARK AS SHOWN Type of SERVICE MARK Mark Register PRINCIPAL Live/Dead LIVE Indicator TESS HOME NEW USER STRUCTURED FREE FORM BROWSE DICT SEARCH OG TOP HELP PREV LIST CURR LIST NEXT LIST FIRST DOC PREV DOC NEXT DOC LAST DOC | HOME | SITE INDEX | SEARCH | BUSINESS | HELP | PRIVACY POLICY

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#### CISCO UNIFIED ACCESS

Word Mark

CISCO UNIFIED ACCESS

Goods and Services IC 009. US 021 023 026 036 038. G & S: Computer hardware; wireless LAN controllers; fixed electric switches; modular electric switches; computer software and hardware for network management; computer network sevenes; network extenders; network adapters; VPN (virtual private network) operating software; computer programs for connecting remotely to computers or computer networks; software for computers and mobile devices to secure remote access via the Internet to private computer networks; network access server hardware and operating software; gateway routers in the nature of computer control hardware; mobile computing and operating platforms consisting of data transceivers, wireless networks and gateways for collection and management of data; computer hardware and operating computer native for interconnecting, managing and operating computer networks; computer software; computer software for interconnecting, managing and operating computer networks; computer network management and security software, namely, software for triaffic prioritization, security management and intrusion prevention; computer hardware containing network security functionality, including firewalls, data encryption, and/or interoperability with network security protocols. FIRST USE: 20130214. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20130214

IC 042. US 100 101. G & S: Consulting services in the field of design, selection, implementation, management and use of computer hardware and software systems for others; computer network design for others; computer consultation services; technical support services, namely, troubleshooting in the nature of diagnosting computer hardware and software problems; technical support services in the fields of computer, data, e-mail, web and network security, namely, monitoring of network systems for technical and computer security purposes and troubleshooting in the nature of diagnosing computer hardware and software problems; computer network design for others; computer services, namely, detecting, blocking and removing computer viruses and threats, encrypting and authenticating data, preventing data, assecuring networks, and detecting, filtering, analyzing, managing and blocking electronic communications; updating of computer software for others; application service provider (ASP), namely, hosting the software applications of others; on line services, namely, providing information via computer networks in the fields of computer networks and network systems design and cloud computing; consulting in the field of the design and development of virtualization technologies for enterprises and businesses; providing temporary use of online non-downloadable software in the field of computer network communications, namely, software for use in the design, implementation and operation of cloud computing networks. FIRST USE: 20130214. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20130214

Standard Characters Claimed Mark

Drawing (4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

| Serial | 85646545 | Number | Filing Date | June 7, 2012 | Current | Basis | 1A

Original 18
Filing Basis 18
Published for Opposition Registration \$5151374\$

Registration February 28, 2017

Owner (REGISTRANT) Cisco Technology, Inc. CORPORATION CALIFORNIA 170 West Tasman Drive San Jose CALIFORNIA 95134

Attorney of Record Sally M. Abel, Esq.

**Prior Registrations** 3759451;3978294;4035428;AND OTHERS

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Type of Mark TRADEMARK. SERVICE MARK

Register PRINCIPAL Live/Dead Indicator LIVE

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