Northern District of California

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN JOSE DIVISION

FINISAR CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

v.

NISTICA, INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 13-cv-03345-BLF

ORDER REGARDING MOTIONS TO **SEAL**

On December 11, 2015, the Court denied without prejudice part of the parties' administrative motions to file documents under seal in connection with their respective briefing on summary judgment. ECF 364. On December 17, both parties submitted supplemental declarations that provided additional reasons for sealing these documents. ECF 370, 371.

Courts recognize a "general right to inspect and copy public records and documents, including judicial records and documents." Kamakana v. City & Cnty. of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006). Two standards govern motions to seal documents, a "compelling reasons" standard, which applies to most judicial records, and a "good cause" standard, which applies to "private materials unearthed during discovery." Cf. Phillips ex rel. Estates of Byrd v. Gen. Motors Corp., 307 F.3d 1206, 1213 (9th Cir. 2002). A party that seeks to seal portions of supporting documents to a motion for summary judgment must meet the "compelling reasons" standard articulated in *Phillips*. In this District, parties seeking to seal judicial records must furthermore follow Civil Local Rule 79-5, which requires, inter alia, that a sealing request be "narrowly tailored to seek sealing only of sealable material." Civil L.R. 79-5(b) (emphasis added). Where the submitting party seeks to file under seal a document designated confidential by another party, the burden of articulating compelling reasons for sealing is placed on the designating party.

Id. 79-5(e).

The Court has reviewed the supplemental declarations in support of the sealing motion. The Court finds that the parties have articulated compelling reasons to seal most of the submitted documents and where compelling reasons have been provided, the proposed redactions are also narrowly tailored. The Court's rulings on the sealing requests are set forth in the tables below:

Motion to Seal at ECF 356		
Identification of Documents to be Sealed	Description of Documents	Court's Order
Portions of the Declaration of Jennifer D. Bennett	Discussing a stipulation between the parties.	DENIED because the supplemental declarations did not provide any additional reasons to seal.
Exhibits 13, 16-20, 23, 25 to the Bennett Declaration	Contains confidential, trade secret and proprietary product information relating to the accused products and confidential information regarding business/marketing strategies and plans	GRANTED
Exhibits 22 and 24 to the Bennett Declaration	Press and News releases.	DENIED because the supplemental declarations did not provide any additional reasons to seal.

Motion to Seal at ECF 360		
Identification of Documents	Description of Documents	Court's Order
to be Sealed		
Exhibits R3, R7, R9, R13, R15, R16, R27, R28, R29, R31-R37, R38, R39-R48, R49, R50-R58, R60, R65, R66, R68, R71, R73, R74, R80, R83-R86	Contains confidential, trade secret and proprietary product information including sensitive financial, manufacturing, and shipping information and third-party confidential information regarding specifications and schematics.	GRANTED
Plaintiff's Opposition to	Quotes from or cites to the above	GRANTED
Defendant's Motion for	exhibits	
Summary Judgment; Portions		
of Plaintiff's Responsive		
Separate Statement to		
Defendant's Amended		
Statement of Undisputed Facts;		
Declaration of Dr. Katherine		
Hall in support thereof		

United States District Court Northern District of California

Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, the sealing motion at ECF 356 is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART and the sealing motion at ECF 360 is GRANTED. Under Civil Local Rule 79-5(e)(2), for any request that has been denied because the party designating a document as confidential or subject to a protective order has not provided sufficient reasons to seal, the submitting party must file the unredacted (or lesser redacted) documents into the public record no earlier than 4 days and no later than 10 days form the filing of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: December 18, 2015

BETH LABSON FREEMAN United States District Judge