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13 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
14 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

15 SAMBREEL HOLDINGS LLC; YONTOO LLC;  
16 and THEME YOUR WORLD LLC,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 vs.

19 FACEBOOK, INC.,

20 Defendant.

Case No. 3:12-CV-00668-W-KSC

**DECLARATION OF ARIE TROUW IN  
SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR  
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Hon. Thomas J. Whelan

Hearing Date: April 23, 2012  
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Dept: Courtroom 7

21  
22 **DECLARATION OF ARIE TROUW**

23 I, Arie Trouw, declare as follows:

24 1. I am the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Sambreel Holdings LLC. Yontoo LLC  
25 and Theme Your World LLC are wholly owned subsidiaries of Sambreel Holdings LLC. Throughout  
26 this declaration, I will refer to the companies collectively as "Sambreel" unless there is a reason to refer  
27 only to a specific entity. The entities that have evolved into Sambreel were formed in 2008.

## Sambreel's History

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2 2. Sambreel developed the Yontoo Platform, which is a browser add-on (also known as a  
3 plug-in or extension). Users who have installed the Yontoo Platform can then install Sambreel  
4 applications that operate on the Yontoo Platform. These applications add functionality to a user's web  
5 browser.

6 3. Sambreel's first product was SanitySwitch, which was launched in early 2008.  
7 SanitySwitch allows users to alter the way Myspace pages appear on their internet browsers. A user who  
8 has installed SanitySwitch can view Myspace pages without the often overwhelming graphics that  
9 Myspace users have used to decorate their pages. SanitySwitch has since been renamed UnPageRage.

10 4. Sambreel's second product was PageRage, which was launched in mid-2008. PageRage  
11 allows Facebook users to alter the way Facebook pages appear on their browser. Specifically, PageRage  
12 users can add designs that they see on their browser when they access Facebook. The PageRage designs  
13 generally appear on the sides of the screen, but some layouts include themes that mimic the graphic  
14 designs that Myspace users had created.

15 5. PageRage initially included the application that ran on the Yontoo Platform and a control  
16 panel that operated through the Facebook Platform.

17 6. In mid-2009, Facebook asked Sambreel to remove the control panel that operated on the  
18 Facebook Platform. Sambreel agreed to remove the Facebook application and to operate PageRage  
19 independent of Facebook.

20 7. During the discussions that led to the removal of the PageRage control panel from the  
21 Facebook Platform, Facebook never asked Sambreel to discontinue PageRage. To the contrary,  
22 Facebook's representative expressly stated that it did not have an objection to PageRage operating as a  
23 stand-alone plug-in. Facebook's representative even offered suggestions on how Sambreel could operate  
24 PageRage without the control panel application.

25 8. Sambreel's products that operate on the Yontoo Platform do not alter the underlying  
26 source webpage or even interact with the computers operated by the internet websites. Instead, these  
27 products operate to add layers to the users' web browsers by modifying the browser's resulting  
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1 Document Object Model (“DOM”). The customization is seen only by individuals who have  
2 downloaded the product. PageRage customization, for example, is seen only by users who have  
3 downloaded the Yontoo Platform and enabled PageRage. Facebook users who have not enabled  
4 PageRage will not see any changes.

5 9. Sambreel has since launched a number of additional products that operate on the Yontoo  
6 Platform. These products add functionality to a user’s web browser when the user accesses other  
7 websites, including search and shopping websites.

8 10. Sambreel’s products have a wide user base. During the fourth quarter of 2010, Sambreel  
9 had 3.5 million monthly active users (or “MAUs”). The number of monthly active users increased  
10 throughout 2011: 6.4 million MAUs in the first quarter, 14.5 million MAUs in the second quarter, 18.5  
11 million MAUs in the third quarter, and 20.6 million MAUs in the fourth quarter.

12 11. Many Sambreel users have installed and actively use multiple Sambreel products.

13 12. PageRage has been one of Sambreel’s most popular products. At its peak during the  
14 fourth quarter of 2011, PageRage had 13.2 million monthly active users.

15 13. Sambreel offers two versions of its products. The majority of users opt to download free  
16 versions of the products. The free versions of Sambreel’s products are ad-supported. Sambreel sells  
17 advertising space to make money. Sambreel also offers premium versions of its products for a one-time  
18 fee of \$1.99.

19 14. The supply of advertising is generally measured in term of the number of individuals who  
20 are shown an advertisement. This is known as an “advertising impression.”

21 15. Sambreel has offered a significant number of advertising impressions. During first quarter  
22 of 2011, Sambreel offered nearly 64 billion display advertising impressions. This number grew to nearly  
23 89 billion impressions in the second quarter, 139 billion impressions in the third quarter, and nearly 158  
24 billion impressions in the fourth quarter.

25 16. The majority of the advertising impressions offered by Sambreel were shown to users of  
26 PageRage.

1 **Interactions with Facebook**

2 17. In October 2010, Facebook’s legal counsel sent a letter to Sambreel objecting to  
3 PageRage. Sambreel promptly retained counsel to address Facebook’s concerns. After further  
4 communications, Sambreel understood that Facebook had two primary concerns about PageRage:  
5 (a) that users were confused about the source of PageRage ads and (b) that PageRage was displacing or  
6 covering Facebook content and advertisements.

7 18. In early 2011, Sambreel implemented a number of changes in an attempt to address the  
8 concerns expressed by Facebook.

9 19. Sambreel made a number of changes to clarify the source of PageRage ads. Sambreel  
10 began including an “About this ad” link with the advertisements published by PageRage. That link  
11 directs the user to a website that explains that PageRage is providing the advertisement and explains how  
12 a user may disable PageRage. Sambreel also strengthened the disclosure that is part of the download  
13 prompt. When a user downloads the PageRage application, the user is informed multiple times that the  
14 product is ad-supported, including with a boldface reminder that the product is ad-supported and that the  
15 ads are not the responsibility of Facebook. PageRage’s terms of service also expressly say that Sambreel  
16 will show ads to users.

17 20. Sambreel did not believe that PageRage was covering any Facebook content or  
18 advertising but it took additional steps to ensure that PageRage did not obscure Facebook content.  
19 Particularly, Sambreel took steps to ensure that PageRage layouts would not interfere with the  
20 appearance of Facebook content that has a transparent background. Sambreel also removed layouts –  
21 and would not allow new layouts – that obscure Facebook ads or any other Facebook content.

22 21. Sambreel’s counsel informed Facebook of the changes to PageRage in a letter dated  
23 March 23, 2011. Facebook did not respond to the March 23 letter or request any additional changes from  
24 Sambreel.

25 **Interference by Facebook**

26 22. During the summer and fall of 2011, Sambreel heard from a number of its advertising  
27 partners that Facebook had contacted them to demand that these companies cease doing business with  
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1 PageRage.

2 23. Sambreel received a cease-and-desist letter from Facebook in early December 2011. In  
3 that letter, Facebook objected to PageRage based on a number of grounds. For the most part, Facebook  
4 had not raised these issues with Sambreel previously.

5 24. Soon after receiving the cease and desist letter from Facebook, Sambreel began to receive  
6 notices that its users were being denied access to Facebook until they certified that they had removed the  
7 Yontoo Platform. Within Sambreel, we refer to this denial of access as "gating."

8 25. Sambreel investigated the matter and determined that Facebook was causing its computers  
9 to run scans of the web browsers operated by Facebook's users to determine whether the user had  
10 installed PageRage. Based upon Sambreel's investigation, it appears that Facebook's computers were  
11 scanning the DOM of the users' web browsers to determine whether the browsers were showing content  
12 delivered by PageRage. The DOM is a representation of the operation of a user's computer that is not  
13 generally accessible to entities other than the user of a computer.

14 26. In response to the gating, Sambreel deactivated PageRage's functionality, hoping that  
15 Facebook would cease gating individuals who had installed PageRage.

16 27. Facebook continued to gate individuals who had downloaded PageRage even after  
17 Sambreel deactivated that application. Based on this fact, Sambreel concluded that Facebook must have  
18 been scanning users' computers for some time prior to beginning the gating. Sambreel concluded that  
19 Facebook had created a list of users who had downloaded PageRage and was gating them as they  
20 attempted to access Facebook, regardless of the fact that PageRage was no longer operating.

21 28. In response to the continued gating, Sambreel approached Facebook in an attempt to  
22 resolve the dispute. Facebook agreed to stop gating if Sambreel would cease advertising on PageRage,  
23 would agree to continue not to use any private information from users, and would agree to provide a  
24 response to the specific objections and technical issues raised in Facebook's cease-and-desist letter.

25 29. To avoid the continued loss of users, Sambreel agreed to Facebook's terms and removed  
26 advertising from PageRage.

27 30. Facebook agreed to stop gating Sambreel users late in the day on December 22, 2011.

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1 forced to turn off advertising on PageRage, Sambreel posted a loss in December 2011.

2 38. The loss in December 2011 and in the subsequent months has put Sambreel in default on  
3 its primary line of credit with Wells Fargo bank. As a result, Sambreel may no longer draw on that credit  
4 line. Thus, at present, Sambreel does not have positive cash flow and does not have access to a line of  
5 credit.

6 39. On January 27, 2012, Sambreel was forced to terminate 124 of its 220 employees and  
7 contractors.

8 40. Because of the lack of revenue from PageRage, Sambreel has also had to curtail its  
9 marketing of PageRage.

10 41. Sambreel also has been forced to shelve a number of new products it was developing  
11 because it does not have the resources to develop them.

12 42. Because Facebook has revoked Sambreel's permission to operate any products using the  
13 Facebook Platform, Sambreel has been forced to disable or modify certain existing products. Sambreel  
14 has also been forced not to launch one of its new products it was close to launching because the product  
15 would have utilized the Facebook Platform.

16 43. Without revenue from PageRage, Sambreel cannot continue to operate that product.  
17 PageRage has been losing money since the advertising was turned off. Without injunctive relief,  
18 however, Sambreel cannot operate the product with advertising. Specifically, Sambreel faces the  
19 immediate risk that Facebook will renew its gating campaign in earnest at any time, which will lead to  
20 the loss of many millions of Sambreel users within a matter of weeks. Sambreel cannot withstand  
21 another round of lost users of that magnitude. As a result, if the Court denies the preliminary injunction,  
22 Sambreel intends to completely deactivate PageRage. Sambreel has reinitiated PageRage advertising  
23 contemporaneously with this filing. Should Facebook renew its gating campaign and Sambreel be unable  
24 to obtain immediate injunctive relief, Sambreel will be forced to deactivate PageRage entirely.  
25 Moreover, if Facebook – in response to the renewal of PageRage advertising – uses its policies to  
26 continue to threaten potential advertising partners, Sambreel faces the real risk that it will not be able to  
27 find reputable advertising partners for PageRage. This will make it hard for Sambreel to generate  
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1 meaningful revenue from PageRage while simultaneously ensuring that the advertisements it serves are  
2 appropriate.

3 44. Based on its current projections, Sambreel should be able to survive as a company. To  
4 survive, however, Sambreel will have to continue the belt-tightening it has already put in place and will  
5 not be able to launch a number of new products that it had in development. If Sambreel fails to achieve  
6 its projections, however, it will likely be forced into another round of layoffs and will face the prospect  
7 of bankruptcy.

8 **Exhibits**

9 45. Exhibit 11 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is a true and correct copy of an e-mail I  
10 received from Facebook's Platform Team on July 16, 2009. Exhibit 11 is a written communication  
11 related to Paragraphs 6 and 7 of this declaration.

12 46. Exhibit 12 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is a true and correct copy of an e-mail chain  
13 between Facebook's Platform Team and myself in July 2009. Exhibit 12 contains the written  
14 communications that occurred after I received the e-mail set forth in Exhibit 11.

15 47. Exhibit 13 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is a true and correct copy of a letter from  
16 Joseph Cutler – Facebook's counsel – to Yontoo Technology, Inc. dated October 20, 2010.

17 48. Exhibit 14 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is a true and correct copy of a letter from  
18 Mark Radcliffe – Sambreel's counsel – to Joseph Cutler dated November 11, 2010.

19 49. Exhibit 15 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is a true and correct copy of a letter from  
20 Joseph Cutler to Mark Radcliffe dated January 24, 2011.

21 50. Exhibit 16 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is a true and correct copy of a letter from  
22 Mark Radcliffe to Joseph Cutler dated March 23, 2011.

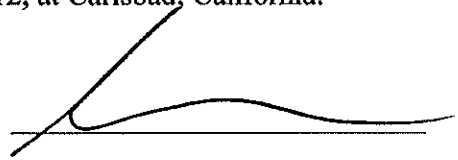
23 51. Exhibit 20 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is at true and correct copies of a letter from  
24 Joseph Cutler to Mark Radcliffe dated December 5, 2011.



1           52.     Exhibit 21 to Sambreel's Notice of Lodgment is a screenshot of a gating message received  
2 by a PageRage user after Facebook began its gating campaign in December 2011.

3           I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my  
4 knowledge.

5                     Executed this 16th day of March 2012, at Carlsbad, California.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arie Trouw', written over a horizontal line.

8                     Arie Trouw

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