

EXTREME NETWORKS INC

Form PRE 14A

October 12, 2012

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

1) Amount Previously Paid:

2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3) Filing Party:

4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

Extreme Networks, Inc.

3585 Monroe Street

Santa Clara, California 95051

(408) 579-2800

October , 2012

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend our 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time at the Hyatt House Raleigh Durham Airport, 10962 Chapel Hill Road, Morrisville, North Carolina, 27560.

At this meeting, you are being requested to:

Elect six members of the Board of Directors for a one-year term;

Vote to extend the term of the Amended and Restated Shareholders Rights Plan for an additional year to April 30, 2014;

Vote on a non-binding advisory resolution to approve executive compensation;

Ratify the appointment of our independent auditors for our fiscal year ending June 30, 2013; and

Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Please refer to the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement for further information on each of these proposals.

It is important that you use this opportunity to take part in the affairs of Extreme Networks by voting on the business to come before this meeting. After reading the Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, please promptly mark, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy card in the prepaid envelope to ensure that your shares are represented. We also provide our stockholders the opportunity to receive stockholder communications electronically. If you elected for electronic delivery of the Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, you will not be receiving a proxy card and must vote electronically.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

For more information, see *Electronic Delivery of Stockholder Communications* in the Proxy Statement.

If you have any further questions concerning the annual meeting or any of the proposals, please contact our investor relations department at (408) 579-3030. We look forward to your attendance at the annual meeting.

Yours Very Truly,

Oscar Rodriguez

President and Chief Executive Officer

Table of Contents

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

November 27, 2012

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS:

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Extreme Networks, Inc., a Delaware corporation, will be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time at the Hyatt House Raleigh Durham Airport, 10962 Chapel Hill Road, Morrisville, North Carolina, 27560, in order to:

1. Elect six directors to hold office for a one-year term and until their successors are elected and qualified or until their earlier resignation or removal;
2. Vote to extend the term of the Amended and Restated Shareholders Rights Plan for an additional year to April 30, 2014;
3. Vote on a non-binding advisory resolution to approve executive compensation;
4. Ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as our independent auditors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013; and
5. Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Our board of directors recommends a vote FOR Items 1, 2, 3 and 4. Stockholders of record at the close of business on October 5, 2012 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, this meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof. For ten days prior to the meeting, a complete list of stockholders entitled to attend and vote at the meeting will be available for review by any stockholder during normal business hours at our headquarters located at 3585 Monroe Street, Santa Clara, California 95051.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Edward B. Meyercord, III

Chairman of the Board of Directors

Santa Clara, California

October , 2012

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT: Please vote your shares via telephone or the Internet, as described in the accompanying materials, to assure that your shares are represented at the meeting, or, if you received a paper copy of the proxy card by mail, you may mark, sign

and date the proxy card and return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. If you attend the meeting, you may choose to vote in person even if you have previously voted your shares.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 27, 2012: Our Proxy Statement is enclosed. Financial and other information concerning Extreme Networks is contained in our Annual Report to Stockholders for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. A complete set of proxy materials relating to our annual meeting, consisting of the Notice of Annual Meeting, Proxy Statement, Proxy Card and Annual Report to Stockholders, is available on the Internet and may be viewed at www.proxyvote.com, where you may also cast your vote.

Table of Contents

**TABLE OF CONTENTS
TO THE PROXY STATEMENT**

<u>INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING</u>	1
<u>General</u>	1
<u>Who May Vote, Record Date, Admission to Meeting</u>	1
<u>Quorum</u>	1
<u>Vote Required to Adopt Proposals</u>	2
<u>Effect of Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes</u>	2
<u>Voting Instructions</u>	2
<u>Solicitation of Proxies</u>	3
<u>Voting Results</u>	3
<u>Electronic Delivery of Stockholder Communications</u>	3
<u>How To Obtain A Separate Set of Voting Materials</u>	3
<u>PROPOSAL ONE: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS</u>	4
<u>Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation</u>	4
<u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u>	5
<u>Nominees for Election at 2012 Annual Meeting</u>	5
<u>Class III Directors Serving a Term Expiring at the 2013 Annual Meeting</u>	7
<u>Arrangements Regarding Appointment of Directors</u>	8
<u>CORPORATE GOVERNANCE</u>	8
<u>Board and Leadership Structure</u>	8
<u>Board's Role in Risk Oversight</u>	9
<u>Meetings of the Board of Directors</u>	10
<u>Executive Sessions</u>	10
<u>Committees of the Board of Directors</u>	10
<u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u>	11
<u>Director Nominations</u>	12
<u>Communications with Directors</u>	13
<u>Director Attendance at Annual Meetings</u>	14
<u>Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	14
<u>Code of Ethics and Corporate Governance Materials</u>	14
<u>DIRECTOR COMPENSATION</u>	14
<u>PROPOSAL TWO: EXTEND THE TERM OF THE AMENDED AND RESTATED SHAREHOLDERS RIGHTS PLAN FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR TO APRIL 30, 2014</u>	17
<u>Background</u>	17
<u>Anti-Takeover Effects</u>	21
<u>Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation</u>	21
<u>PROPOSAL THREE: ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION</u>	22
<u>Background</u>	22
<u>Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation</u>	22
<u>PROPOSAL FOUR: RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013</u>	23
<u>Principal Accounting Fees and Services</u>	23
<u>Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation</u>	23
<u>SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT</u>	25

Table of Contents

<u>EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND OTHER MATTERS</u>	27
<u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u>	27
<u>Summary Compensation Table</u>	36
<u>Summary of Employment and Other Agreements</u>	37
<u>Grants of Plan-Based Awards</u>	41
<u>Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End</u>	42
<u>Option Exercises and Stock Vested During Last Fiscal Year</u>	43
<u>Pension Benefits and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plans</u>	43
<u>Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control</u>	43
<u>Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation</u>	46
<u>CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS</u>	46
<u>Actual or Potential Conflicts of Interest</u>	46
<u>Reporting, Review and Approval of Related Party Transactions</u>	46
<u>SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE</u>	47
<u>EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION</u>	47
<u>REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE</u>	49
<u>REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE</u>	50
<u>STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS TO BE PRESENTED AT NEXT ANNUAL MEETING</u>	52
<u>TRANSACTION OF OTHER BUSINESS</u>	52
<u>STOCKHOLDERS SHARING THE SAME LAST NAME AND ADDRESS</u>	52
<u>COMMUNICATING WITH EXTREME NETWORKS</u>	53

Table of Contents

EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.

PROXY STATEMENT

INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING

General

Our Board of Directors, or our Board, is soliciting your proxy for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2012, or at any postponement or adjournment thereof, for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders. This proxy statement and related materials are first being mailed to stockholders on or about October 1, 2012. References in this proxy statement to the Company, we, our, us and Extreme Networks are to Extreme Networks, Inc., and references to the annual meeting to the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. When we refer to the Company's fiscal year, we mean the annual period ending on June 30. This proxy statement covers our 2012 fiscal year, which was from July 4, 2011 through June 30, 2012 (fiscal 2012).

Who May Vote, Record Date, Admission to Meeting

Only holders of record of common stock at the close of business on October 5, 2012 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting and any adjournment thereof. As of the record date, 95,051,732 shares of common stock were outstanding and entitled to vote. You are entitled to one vote for each share you hold.

You are entitled to attend the annual meeting if you were a stockholder of record or a beneficial owner of our common stock as of the record date, or you hold a valid legal proxy for the annual meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, you may be asked to present valid picture identification, such as a driver's license or passport, for admission to the annual meeting.

If your shares are registered in the name of a bank, brokerage firm or other holder of record (your record holder), you may be asked to provide proof of beneficial ownership as of the record date, such as a brokerage account statement or voting instruction form provided by your record holder, or other similar evidence of ownership, as well as picture identification, for admission. If you wish to be able to vote in person at the annual meeting, you must obtain a legal proxy from your brokerage firm, bank or other holder of record and present it to the inspector of elections with your ballot at the annual meeting.

If you do not provide picture identification and comply with the other procedures outlined above, you may not be admitted to the annual meeting. We recommend that you arrive early to ensure that you are seated by the commencement of the annual meeting.

Quorum

A majority of the shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of the record date must be represented at the meeting, either in person or by proxy, to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the meeting. Your shares will be counted towards the quorum only if you submit a valid proxy (or one is submitted on your behalf by your broker or bank) or if you vote in person at the meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes (shares held by a broker or nominee that does not have the authority, either express or discretionary, to vote on a particular matter) will each be counted as present for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum.

Table of Contents

Vote Required to Adopt Proposals

Each share of our common stock outstanding on the record date is entitled to one vote on each of the 6 director nominees and one vote on each other matter. For the election of directors, the director nominees who receive the highest number of For votes will be elected as directors. You may vote For or Withhold with respect to each director nominee. Votes that are withheld will be excluded entirely from the vote with respect to the nominee from which they are withheld and will have the same effect as an abstention. All other matters shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast affirmatively or negatively on the matter.

Effect of Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes

Shares not present at the meeting and shares voted Withhold will have no effect on the election of directors. For each of the other proposals, abstentions will have the same effect as negative votes. If you are a beneficial owner and hold your shares in street name, it is critical that you cast your vote if you want it to count in the election of directors and the other proposals included in this proxy. Under the rules governing banks and brokers who are voting with respect to shares held in street name, such banks and brokers have the discretion to vote on routine matters, but not on non-routine matters. Routine matters include the ratification of auditors. Non-routine matters include the election of directors, the amendment of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, the approval of the extension of the Shareholder Rights Plan and the executive compensation advisory proposal. Banks and brokers may not vote on these proposals if you do not provide specific voting instructions. Accordingly, we encourage you to vote promptly, even if you plan to attend the annual meeting. In tabulating the voting results for any particular proposal, shares that constitute broker non-votes are not considered entitled to vote on that proposal.

Voting Instructions

If you complete and submit your proxy card or voting instructions, the persons named as proxies will follow your instructions. If you are a stockholder of record and you submit a proxy card or voting instructions but do not direct how to vote on each item, the persons named as proxies will vote as the board recommends on each proposal. Depending on how you hold your shares, you may vote in one of the following ways:

Stockholders of Record: You may vote by proxy or over the Internet or by telephone. Please follow the instructions provided herein or on the proxy card you received, then sign and return it in the prepaid envelope. You may also vote in person at the annual meeting.

Beneficial Stockholders: Your bank, broker or other holder of record will provide you with a voting instruction card for you to use to instruct them on how to vote your shares. Check the instructions provided by your bank, broker or other holder of record to see which options are available to you. However, since you are not the stockholder of record, you may not vote your shares in person at the annual meeting unless you request and obtain a valid proxy from your bank, broker or other agent.]

Votes submitted by telephone or via the Internet must be received by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on November 26, 2012. Submitting your proxy by telephone or via the Internet will not affect your right to vote in person should you decide to attend the annual meeting.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke your proxy and change your vote at any time before the polls close by returning a later-dated proxy card, by voting again by Internet or telephone as more fully detailed on your proxy card, or by delivering written instructions to the Corporate Secretary before the annual meeting. Attendance at the annual meeting will not in and of itself cause your previously voted proxy to be revoked unless you specifically so request or vote again at the annual meeting. If your shares are held by a bank, broker or other agent, you may change your vote by submitting new voting instructions to your bank, broker or other agent, or, if you have obtained a legal proxy from your bank, broker or other agent giving you the right to vote your shares, by attending the annual meeting and voting in person.

Table of Contents

Solicitation of Proxies

We will bear the entire cost of soliciting proxies. In addition to soliciting stockholders by mail, we will request banks, brokers and other intermediaries holding shares of our common stock beneficially, owned by others to obtain proxies from the beneficial owners and will reimburse them for their reasonable expenses in so doing. We may use the services of our officers, directors and other employees to solicit proxies, personally or by telephone, without additional compensation.

Voting Results

We will announce preliminary voting results at the annual meeting. We will report final results in a Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC.

Electronic Delivery of Stockholder Communications

This year we are pleased to again offer our stockholders the opportunity to receive stockholder communications electronically. By signing up for electronic delivery, you can receive our Annual Reports on Form 10-K and proxy statements via email notification as soon as these are available. You may also submit your votes online in connection with stockholder meetings. This helps to reduce the number of paper documents in your personal files, eliminate duplicate mailings, conserve natural resources, and save on our printing and mailing costs. To sign up for electronic delivery, visit <http://investor.extremenetworks.com> and enter information for all of your Extreme Networks stockholdings. Your enrollment will be effective until canceled. You may access our notices of meeting of stockholders, proxy statements and Annual Reports on Form 10-K on the Internet at <http://investor.extremenetworks.com>. If you have questions about electronic delivery, please call our Investor Relations department at (408) 579-3030.

To reduce the expense of delivering duplicate voting materials to our stockholders who may have more than one Extreme Networks stock account, unless otherwise requested, pursuant to current householding

How To Obtain A Separate Set of Voting Materials

If you share an address with another stockholder and have received only one set of voting materials, you may write or call us to request a separate copy of these materials at no cost to you. For future annual meetings, you may request separate voting materials, or request that we send only one set of voting materials to you if you are receiving multiple copies, by calling our Investor Relations department at: (408) 579-3030. You may also write us at: Extreme Networks, Inc., 3585 Monroe Street, Santa Clara, CA 95051, Attn: Investor Relations. Upon such a request, we will promptly deliver voting materials to a stockholder at a shared address to which we delivered a single copy of voting materials.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL ONE:

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

At our 2010 annual meeting, our stockholders approved an amendment to our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, (the Restated Certificate) to provide for the declassification of our Board over a three year period and then for annual election of all directors. Prior to the amendment of the Restated Certificate, our Board was divided into three classes Class I, Class II and Class III, with each Class serving a staggered three-year term. Beginning with the Class I directors at the 2011 annual meeting, directors elected to succeed those directors whose terms were expiring were elected for a one-year term expiring at this 2012 Annual Meeting. At the 2012 Annual Meeting directors elected to succeed those Class II directors whose terms are expiring will be subject to election for a one-year term expiring at the next annual meeting of stockholders. Class III directors, however, will complete their full three year terms to which they were previously elected. At the 2013 annual meeting, we will have completed our transition to a fully declassified Board and all directors will be elected for a one-year term.

Prior to the 2012 Annual Meeting, the Board, in accordance with our bylaws, acted by resolution to increase its size from eight to nine members. This increase in the size of the Board will increase the number of directors to be elected at the 2012 Annual Meeting from five to six.

At the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, our Board's nominees for election at the 2012 Annual Meeting are Oscar Rodriguez, Maury Austin, Edward B. Meyercord, III, John H. Kispert, Harry Silverglide and Edward Terino.

Please see below under the heading *Board of Directors* for information concerning each nominee. If elected, each of the nominees will serve as directors until the annual meeting of stockholders in 2013 and until their successors are elected and qualified or until their earlier resignation or removal.

Each nominee has indicated to us that he will serve if elected. If a nominee declines to serve or become unavailable for any reason, or if a vacancy otherwise occurs before the election, although management knows of no reason that this will occur, the proxies may be voted for a substitute nominee as the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee or our Board may designate.

Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation

The persons receiving the highest number of votes represented by outstanding shares of common stock present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote at the 2012 Annual Meeting will be elected, assuming a quorum is present. Votes for, votes to withhold authority and broker non-votes will each be counted as present for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum, but broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of the election. If you sign and return a proxy card without giving specific voting instructions as to the election of any director, your shares will be voted in favor of the nominees recommended by our Board.

OUR BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE NOMINEES NAMED ABOVE.

Table of Contents**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The following table provides information concerning the age, tenure on our board of directors, or our Board, and class of our directors and nominees.

Name	Age	Director Since	Class
Oscar Rodriguez , <i>Director, President and Chief Executive Officer</i>	52	2010	N/A
Edward B. Meyercord, III , <i>Chairman of the Board of Directors</i>	47	2009	II
John H. Kispert , <i>Director</i>	49	2009	II
Harry Silverglide , <i>Director</i>	66	2004	II
Charles Carinalli , <i>Director</i>	64	1996	III
Edward H. Kennedy , <i>Director</i>	58	2011	III
John C. Shoemaker , <i>Director</i>	70	2007	III
Maury Austin , <i>Director</i>	55	2012	N/A
Edward Terino , <i>Director</i>	59	2012	N/A

Our directors in Class II are serving a term expiring at the 2012 Annual Meeting. Directors in Class III are serving a term expiring at the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders. There are no family relationships among any of our directors or executive officers.

The biographies of each of our nominees and continuing directors below contains information regarding the person's service as a director, if applicable, business experience, other director positions held currently or at any time during the last five years, information regarding involvement in certain legal or administrative proceedings, if applicable, and the experiences, qualifications, attributes or skills that caused the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and our Board to determine that the person should serve as a director.

Nominees for Election at 2012 Annual Meeting

Maury Austin. Mr. Austin has served as one of our directors since April 2012. Mr. Austin serves as a strategic advisor for technology-oriented businesses. From March 2008 to December 2011, Mr. Austin served as Chief Financial Officer of MIPS Technologies, Inc., a publicly traded provider of processor architectures and cores for digital home, networking and mobile applications. Mr. Austin previously served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Portal Software, Inc. from June 2005 until its acquisition and integration into Oracle Corporation in November 2006. From 2004 to 2005, Mr. Austin served as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Southwall Technologies. Prior to his employment with Southwall Technologies, Inc., Mr. Austin was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Vicinity Corporation from 2000 until its acquisition by Microsoft Corporation in 2003. Mr. Austin also has held executive positions at Apple Inc., Symmetricom, Inc., FlashPoint and General Electric Co. Mr. Austin holds a B.S. in Business Administration (Finance & Marketing) from the University of California, Berkeley and an MBA from Santa Clara University.

Mr. Austin, who has more than 25 years of corporate finance experience in senior executive positions at established technology companies, will provide our Board with financial expertise and effective insight into our company and its business.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

John H. Kispert. Mr. Kispert has served as one of our directors since May 2009. In February 2009, Mr. Kispert was hired to serve as President and Chief Executive Officer and as a director of Spansion, Inc., a publicly-traded manufacturer of flash memory products, to oversee that company's reorganization of its business. Mr. Kispert also serves on the Spansion board of directors. From 1995 to February 2009, Mr. Kispert held various executive management positions at KLA-Tencor Corporation, including President and Chief Operation Officer, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer and Vice President, Finance and Accounting. Previously, Mr. Kispert served in a number of positions with the IBM Corporation. Mr. Kispert received his bachelor's degree in political science from Grinnell College and his MBA from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Table of Contents

Mr. Kispert has extensive management and leadership experience and provides our Board with technology, leadership and financial expertise that aids our Board in understanding corporate needs and strategic opportunities.

Edward B. Meyercord, III. Mr. Meyercord has served as the Chairman of our Board of Directors since March 8, 2011, and as one of directors since October 2009. Mr. Meyercord currently serves as Chief Executive Officer and Director of Critical Alert Systems LLC, a private company that provides wireless communications services, where he has served since July 2010. Prior to Critical Alert Systems, he was the founder and President of Council Rock Advisors LLC, a private company that provides advisory services. From December 2006 until January 2009, Mr. Meyercord served as Chief Executive Officer of Cavalier Telephone & TV, a privately held voice and data services. Prior to the sale to Cavalier Telephone & TV in December 2006, Mr. Meyercord served as Chief Executive Officer and a member of the board of directors of Talk America, Inc., a publicly traded provider of phone and internet services to consumers and small businesses. Mr. Meyercord also serves on the board of directors of Tollgrade. Mr. Meyercord received his bachelor's degree in economics from Trinity College in Hartford, CT and his MBA from New York University.

Mr. Meyercord has extensive executive experience in corporate finance, risk assessment and management. His background in the telecommunications industry provides our Board with valuable industry expertise in one of our key markets.

Oscar Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez has served as our President and Chief Executive Officer since August 2010 and as one of our directors since October 2010. From April 2007 to August 2010, Mr. Rodriguez served as a director and the Chief Executive Officer and President of Movius Interactive Corporation, a privately held company specializing in messaging, collaboration and mobile media solutions for service providers worldwide. Prior to joining Movius, beginning in April 2006, Mr. Rodriguez served as the Vice President of the Carrier Ethernet business and the Chief Marketing Officer of Alcatel-Lucent's Enterprise Business Group. From August 2003 until April 2006, Mr. Rodriguez served as Chief Executive Officer, President and a director of Riverstone Networks, Inc., a provider of carrier Ethernet infrastructure solutions for business and residential communications services, until it was acquired by Lucent Technologies in April 2006. From October 2000 to August 2003, Mr. Rodriguez held various positions at Nortel Networks Corporation, a telecommunications systems company, including as Divisional President, Enterprise Solutions Business; Divisional President, Intelligent Internet Business; and Vice President Portfolio & Operations, Local Internet Business. Mr. Rodriguez sits on the Dean's Board of Advisors for the College of Engineering at the University of Central Florida. Mr. Rodriguez holds a B.S. in computer engineering from the University of Central Florida and an MBA from the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Mr. Rodriguez has extensive executive experience in the communications technology industry and provides strong financial and operational expertise to our Board. As our current President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Rodriguez also provides our Board with important insights about our company and its operations.

Harry Silverglide. Mr. Silverglide has served as one of our directors since June 2004. From January 1997 to July 2002, Mr. Silverglide served as our Vice President of Sales. From May 1995 to January 1997, he served as Vice President of Western Region Sales for Bay Networks. From July 1994 to May 1995, he served as Vice President of Sales for Centillion Networks, a provider of LAN switching products which was acquired by Bay Networks in 1995.

Mr. Silverglide's experience, and particularly his extensive experience in sales and sales organizations, including his experience with our sales organization and distribution channels, provides our Board with valuable insight regarding sales management and sales strategy.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

Edward Terino. Mr. Terino has served as one of our directors since October 2012. Mr. Terino has served as President of GET Advisory Services, LLC, a strategic and financial management consulting firm focused on the maritime and technology industries, since March 2009. In addition, he has served as a founder of Novium

Table of Contents

Learning, Inc., a privately-held, post-secondary vocational education publishing company, since January 2011. From January 2009 through March 2009, Mr. Terino served as a consultant to General Maritime Corporation following the merger of General Maritime Corporation and Arlington Tankers Ltd. Prior to the merger, Mr. Terino was the President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Arlington Tankers, a position he held from January 2008. Previously, he served as Arlington's Co-Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer from July 2005 until August 2007, and as its Chief Executive Officer, interim President and Chief Financial Officer from August 2007 until January 2008. Mr. Terino has served as a director of Baltic Trading Ltd., an international dry bulk shipping company, since March 2010 and as a director of SeaChange International Inc., a video software company, since July 2010. Mr. Terino is Chairman of the Audit Committee and serves on the Compensation Committee of both Baltic Trading Ltd. and SeaChange International Inc. Mr. Terino has served on multiple public and private company boards, including S1 Corporation, an internet banking and payments software company, Phoenix Technologies, Inc., a BIOS software company and EBT International, Inc., a web content management software company. Mr. Terino has a B.S. in Management from Northeastern University and a MBA from Suffolk University.

Mr. Terino has extensive financial management, operations, and technology experience, including experience in strategic planning, in mergers and acquisitions, in cost restructurings, investor relations and in implementing financial measures and controls in technology companies and brings strong financial and operational expertise to our Board

Class III Directors Serving a Term Expiring at the 2013 Annual Meeting

Charles Carinalli. Mr. Carinalli has served as one of our directors since October 1996 and is currently a Principal of Carinalli Ventures. From 1999 to May 2002, Mr. Carinalli was Chief Executive Officer and a director of Adaptive Silicon, Inc., a developer of semiconductors. From November 2000 to November 2001, Mr. Carinalli served as Chairman of Clearwater Communications, Inc., a privately held telecommunications company. From December 1996 to July 1999, Mr. Carinalli served as President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of Wavespan, Inc., a developer of wireless broadband access systems that was acquired by Proxim, Inc. From 1970 to 1996, Mr. Carinalli served in various positions for National Semiconductor, Inc., a publicly traded company developing analog-based semiconductor products, most recently as Senior Vice President and Chief Technical Officer. Mr. Carinalli also serves on the boards of directors of Fairchild Semiconductor, a semiconductor company and Atmel Corporation, a semiconductor company. Mr. Carinalli holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley and a M.S. in electrical engineering from Santa Clara University.

Mr. Carinalli provides our Board with extensive engineering and engineering management expertise, as well as management expertise and technology expertise, which aids our Board in understanding product development, engineering management and strategic planning, as well as risk assessment and planning.

Edward H. Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy has served on our Board since April 2011. Currently, Mr. Kennedy is the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of Tollgrade Communications, Inc. (previously; NASDAQ:TLGD), a supplier of telecommunications network service assurance and smartgrid products and solutions owned by Golden Gate Capital. Mr. Kennedy previously served as the Chief Executive Officer and President of Rivulet Communications, Inc., a medical video networking company. He also previously served as President of Tellabs North American Operations and Executive Vice President of Tellabs, and co-founded Ocular Networks, a provider of optical networking technologies, until it was sold to Tellabs. He has also held various executive positions at leading telecom equipment companies, including Alcatel and Newbridge Networks Corporation. Mr. Kennedy was also a Venture Partner at Columbia Capital, a private equity investment firm, where he advised investments into new and existing portfolio companies. Mr. Kennedy also served on the Board of Directors for Visual Networks ((NASDAQ:VNWK) sold to Danaher), Hatteras Networks, a privately held equipment supplier and Imagine Communications, a broadband video processing equipment provider.

Table of Contents

Mr. Kennedy has extensive financial and executive leadership experience in technology companies, including networking companies, and provides management and financial expertise to our Board.

John C. Shoemaker. Mr. Shoemaker has served as one of our directors since October 2007. From 1990 to June 2004, Mr. Shoemaker held various executive management positions at Sun Microsystems, Inc., including as Executive Vice President, Worldwide Operations Organizations, and Executive Vice President and General Manager for its Computer Systems Division. Previously, Mr. Shoemaker served in a number of senior executive positions with the Xerox Corporation, a provider of document management technology and services. Mr. Shoemaker is a director of Altera Inc., a provider of programmable logic solutions, and has served on the board of directors of SonicWALL, Inc., formerly a network security and remote access software firm. Mr. Shoemaker holds a B.A. from Hanover College and a MBA from Indiana University's Kelley School of Business, where he is Principal Director of the Indiana University Foundation.

Mr. Shoemaker has extensive executive experience in senior level management positions in the technology industry, particularly in hardware systems, and provides strong operational, management and financial expertise to our Board.

Arrangements Regarding Appointment of Directors

Oscar Rodriguez, our President and Chief Executive Officer, was appointed to our Board in connection with an offer letter of employment we entered into with him in August 2010. Pursuant to the offer letter, Mr. Rodriguez must immediately resign as a member of our Board upon the date his employment with us terminates.

In October 2010 we entered into an agreement with several entities and persons associated with Ramius Advisors, who we collectively refer to as the Ramius Group. Under this agreement, we increased the size of our Board to nine directors, creating a Class III vacancy, and we agreed to a process for the appointment of a person to fill the vacant position. Once elected, we agreed to appoint such director to certain committees of our Board. In April 2011, we appointed Mr. Kennedy to fill the Class III vacancy and to our Audit Committee.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Our Board currently consists of nine directors. We are in the process of declassifying our Board over a three year period, beginning with our 2011 annual meeting and to be completed at our 2013 annual meeting. Our Board was previously divided into three classes – Class I, Class II and Class III, with each class consisting of a minimum of two directors and each class serving staggered three-year terms. The Class II directors are John H. Kispert, Edward B. Meyercord, III and Harry Silverglide. The Class III directors are Charles Carinalli, Edward H. Kennedy and John C. Shoemaker.

Our Board has determined that, other than Oscar Rodriguez, each member of our Board is an independent director for purposes of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules. In making these independence determinations, our Board has concluded that these directors do not have an employment, business, family or other relationship which, in the opinion of our Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

Currently, our Class II and Class III directors serve until the annual meetings of stockholders to be held for the years of 2012 and 2013, respectively, and until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. Directors to be elected at the 2012 annual meeting are to hold office until the next annual meeting and until their respective successors are elected and qualified. Our Board has a mandatory retirement age of seventy-five (75).

Board and Leadership Structure

Our leadership structure currently consists of an Independent Chairman and a Chief Executive Officer. In the current structure, the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of our Board are separated. Edward B.

Table of Contents

Meyercord, III has served as the Independent Chairman of our Board since March 2011, while Oscar Rodriguez serves as our President and Chief Executive Officer. Separating these positions allows our Chief Executive Officer to focus on setting our strategic direction and for day-to-day leadership and performance, while allowing the Chairman of our Board to lead our Board in its fundamental role of providing advice to, and independent oversight of, management.

Our Board recognizes the time, effort, and energy that our Chief Executive Officer is required to devote to his position in the current business environment, as well as the commitments required to serve as the Chairman of our Board, particularly as our Board's oversight responsibilities continue to grow. While our Bylaws and Corporate Governance Guidelines do not require that the Chairman of our Board and Chief Executive Officer positions be separate, our Board believes that separating these positions is the appropriate leadership structure for us at this time and results in an effective balancing of responsibilities, experience and independent perspective to meet the current corporate governance needs and oversight responsibilities of our Board.

Mr. Meyercord's duties as Independent Chairman include:

chairing executive sessions of the independent directors;

ensuring that independent directors have adequate opportunities to meet without management present;

serving as designated contact for communication to independent directors, including being available for consultation and direct communication with major stockholders;

ensuring that the independent directors have an opportunity to provide input on the agenda for meetings of our Board;

assuring that there is sufficient time for discussion of all agenda items; and

being identified as the recipient of communications with stockholders in the annual meeting proxy statement.

Our Board elects our President, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and all executive officers. All executive officers serve at the discretion of our Board. Each of our officers devotes his or her full time to our affairs. Our directors devote time to our affairs as is necessary to discharge their duties. In addition, our Board has the authority to retain its own advisers to assist it in the discharge of its duties. There are no family relationships among any of our directors, officers or key employees.

Board's Role in Risk Oversight

Our Board has an active role, as a whole and also at the committee level, in overseeing management of the risks we face. This role is one of informed oversight rather than direct management of risk. Our Board regularly reviews and consults with management on strategic direction, challenges and risks we face. Our Board also reviews and discusses with management quarterly financial results and forecasts. The Audit Committee of our Board oversees management of financial risks, and its charter tasks the committee to provide oversight of and review at least annually our risk management policies, including its investment policies and anti-fraud program. The Compensation Committee of our Board is

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

responsible for overseeing the management of risks relating to and arising from our executive compensation plans and arrangements. These committees provide regular reports, generally on a quarterly basis, to the full Board.

Management is tasked with the direct management and oversight of legal, financial, and commercial compliance matters, which includes identification and mitigation of associated areas of risk. Our General Counsel provides regular reports of legal risks to the Audit Committee and our Board. Our Chief Financial Officer and the Vice President Corporate Controller provide regular reports to the Audit Committee concerning financial, tax and audit related risks. In addition, the Audit Committee receives periodic reports from management on our compliance programs and efforts, investment policy and practices and the results of various internal audit projects. Management and the Compensation Committee's compensation consultant provide analysis of risks related to our compensation programs and practices to the Compensation Committee.

Table of Contents**Meetings of the Board of Directors**

Our Board held 13 meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. No director serving on our Board in fiscal year 2012 attended fewer than 75% of the aggregate of the meetings of our Board and the meetings of the committees on which he served.

Executive Sessions

The independent members of our Board meet regularly in executive session (without the participation of executive officers or other non-independent directors), generally before or after a regularly scheduled Board meetings or at such other times requested by our independent directors. Executive sessions of the independent directors are chaired by our Chairman. The executive sessions include discussions and recommendations regarding guidance to be provided to the Chief Executive Officer and such topics as the independent directors determine.

Committees of the Board of Directors

Our Board has a separately-designated standing Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Our Board has adopted a written charter for each of these committees, each of which is available on our website at <http://www.extremenetworks.com/about-extreme/corp-governance.aspx>.

Current Committee Membership

Name	Audit Committee	Compensation Committee	Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee
Maury Austin	<i>Member</i>		
Charles Carinalli		<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Chairman</i>
John H. Kispert	<i>Chairman</i>		
Edward H. Kennedy	<i>Member</i>		
Edward B. Meyercord, III		<i>Member</i>	<i>Member</i>
John C. Shoemaker	<i>Member</i>	<i>Member</i>	
Harry Silverglide			<i>Member</i>
Edward Terino	<i>Member</i>		

Audit Committee. The current members of the Audit Committee are Messrs. Austin, Kennedy, Kispert, Shoemaker and Terino. Mr. Kispert serves as Chairman. Each member of the Audit Committee has been determined by our Board to be independent for purposes of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules and the rules of the SEC as these rules apply to audit committee members. Our Board has determined that Mr. Kispert is an audit committee financial expert, as defined in the rules of the SEC. The Audit Committee retains our independent auditors, reviews and approves the planned scope, proposed fee arrangements and terms of engagement of the independent auditors, reviews the results of the annual audit of our financial statements and the interim reviews of our unaudited financial statements, evaluates the adequacy of accounting and financial controls, reviews the independence of our auditors, and oversees our financial reporting on behalf of our Board. The Audit Committee is also responsible for establishing procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by us regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters, including the anonymous submission by our employees of concerns regarding accounting or auditing matters. In

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

In addition, the Audit Committee reviews with our independent auditors the scope and timing of their audit services and any other services they are asked to perform, the independent auditor's report on our consolidated financial statements following completion of their audit, and our critical accounting policies and procedures and policies with respect to our internal accounting and financial controls. The Audit Committee also assists our Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to financial risks, including risk management in the areas of financial reporting, internal controls, and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. The Audit Committee held thirteen meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

Table of Contents

Compensation Committee. The current members of the Compensation Committee are Messrs. Carinalli, Meyercord, and Shoemaker. Mr. Carinalli serves as Chairman. Each member of the Compensation Committee has been determined by our Board to be independent for purposes of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules as they apply to compensation committee members. The Compensation Committee has responsibility for, among other things, discharging our Board's responsibilities relating to compensation and benefits of our officers, including responsibility for evaluating and reporting to our Board on matters concerning management performance, officer compensation and benefits plans and programs. In carrying out these responsibilities, the Compensation Committee is required to review all components of executive officer compensation for consistency with our compensation philosophy. The Compensation Committee also administers our stock option plans and stock incentive plans. The Compensation Committee assists our Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to the management of risks arising from our compensation policies and programs. The charter of the Compensation Committee provides that the Compensation Committee may delegate duties or responsibilities to subcommittees or to one member of the Compensation Committee from time to time, as appropriate. However, historically the Compensation Committee has delegated duties or responsibilities only under limited circumstances. Our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Head of Human Resources assist the Compensation Committee in its deliberations with respect to the compensation of our executive officers, except that our Chief Executive Officer does not play a role in the Compensation Committee's deliberations regarding his own compensation determination, other than discussing his performance objectives with the Compensation Committee. The other executive officers do not play a role in the Compensation Committee's deliberations regarding their own compensation determination, except that each executive officer discusses his or her individual performance objectives with our Chief Executive Officer, and our General Counsel may be present for deliberations and may provide advice to the Compensation Committee regarding legal issues associated with compensation plans and decisions. The Compensation Committee held fourteen meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. For more information about the Compensation Committee, see the discussion below under the heading Executive Compensation.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The current members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are Messrs. Carinalli, Meyercord, and Silverglide. Mr. Carinalli serves as Chairman. Each member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has been determined by our Board to be independent for purposes of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules as they apply to nominating committee members. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee identifies, reviews, evaluates and nominates candidates to serve on our Board, is responsible for recommending corporate governance principles, codes of conduct and compliance mechanisms applicable to us, and assists our Board in its annual reviews of the performance of our Board, each committee and management. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assists our Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to the management of risks associated with board organization, membership and structure, succession planning for our directors and executive officers, and corporate governance. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee held eight meetings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

Each of Charles Carinalli, Edward B. Meyercord, III and John C. Shoemaker served as a member of the Compensation Committee in fiscal 2012. None of our executive officers has served on the board of directors or compensation committee of any other entity that has, or has had, one or more executive officers who served as a member of our Board or Compensation Committee during the 2012 fiscal year. No member of the Compensation Committee was, during fiscal year 2012 or any prior period, an officer or employee of ours.

Table of Contents

Director Nominations

Director Qualifications. In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers numerous factors in reviewing possible candidates for nomination as director, including:

the appropriate size of our Board and its Committees;

the perceived needs of our Board for particular skills, industry expertise, background and business experience;

the skills, background, reputation, and business experience of nominees and the skills, background, reputation, and business experience already possessed by other members of our Board;

nominees' independence from management;

nominees' experience with accounting rules and practices;

nominees' background with regard to executive compensation;

applicable regulatory and listing requirements, including independence requirements and legal considerations, such as antitrust compliance;

the benefits of a constructive working relationship among directors; and

the desire to balance the considerable benefit of continuity with the periodic injection of the fresh perspective provided by new members.

While we do not have a formal diversity policy, in evaluating the qualifications of the candidates, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers many factors, including issues of character, judgment, independence, age, education, expertise, diversity of experience, length of service, other commitments and ability to serve on committees of our Board, as well as other individual qualities and attributes that contribute to board heterogeneity, including characteristics such as race, gender, and national origin. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee evaluates such factors, among others, and does not assign any particular weighting or priority to any of these factors.

Other than the foregoing there are no stated minimum criteria for director nominees, although the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may also consider other factors as it may deem, from time to time, are in the best interests of us and our stockholders. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes that it is preferable that at least one member of our Board should meet the criteria for an audit committee financial expert as defined by SEC rules. Under applicable listing requirements, at least a majority of the members of our Board must meet the definition of independent director. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee also believes it appropriate for one or more key members of management to participate as members of our Board.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

Identifying and Evaluating Candidates for Nomination as Director. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee annually evaluates the current members of our Board whose terms are expiring and who are willing to continue in service against the criteria set forth above in determining whether to recommend these directors for election. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee regularly assesses the optimum size of our Board and its committees and the needs of our Board for various skills, background and business experience in determining if our Board requires additional candidates for nomination.

Candidates for nomination as director come to the attention of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee from time to time through incumbent directors, management, stockholders or third parties. These candidates may be considered at meetings of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee at any point during the year. Candidates are evaluated against the criteria set forth above. If the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes at any time that our Board requires additional candidates for nomination, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may poll directors and management for suggestions or conduct research to identify possible candidates and may engage, if the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee believes it is appropriate, a third party search firm to assist in identifying qualified candidates.

Table of Contents

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee evaluates any recommendation for director nominee proposed by a stockholder. In order to be evaluated in connection with the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's established procedures for evaluating potential director nominees, any recommendation for director nominee submitted by a stockholder must be sent in writing to the Corporate Secretary, 3585 Monroe Street, Santa Clara, CA 95051 and must be received at our principal executive offices not less than 120 days nor more than 150 calendar days in advance of the date that our proxy statement was released to stockholders in connection with the previous year's annual meeting of stockholders, except that if no annual meeting was held in the previous year or the date of the annual meeting has been changed by more than 30 calendar days from the date contemplated at the time of the previous year's proxy statement, notice by the stockholders to be timely must be received not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made. For purposes of the foregoing, public announcement shall mean disclosure in a broadly disseminated press release or in a document publicly filed by us with the SEC. The recommendation for director nominee submitted by a stockholder must contain the following information:

the candidate's name, age, contact information and present principal occupation or employment;

a description of the candidate's qualifications, skills, background, and business experience during, at a minimum, the last five years, including his/her principal occupation and employment and the name and principal business of any corporation or other organization in which the candidate was employed or served as a director; and

a statement signed by the candidate that the candidate is willing to be considered and willing to serve as a director if nominated and elected.

In addition, our bylaws permit stockholders to nominate directors for consideration.

All directors and director nominees must submit a completed director agreement and directors' and officers' questionnaire as part of the nominating process. The evaluation process may also include interviews and additional background and reference checks for non-incumbent nominees, at the discretion of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. In addition, nominees must enter into an agreement to abide by the Company's Code of Conduct and disclose any voting arrangements or compensation provided by third parties in connection with their service on the Company's Board.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee evaluates incumbent directors, as well as candidates for director nominee submitted by directors, management and stockholders consistently using the criteria stated in our policies and procedures and selects the nominees that, in the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's judgment, best suit the needs of our Board at the time.

Communications with Directors

Edward B. Meyercord, III has been selected by our directors as our Independent Chairman and, as such, is responsible for receiving, distributing and arranging responses to communications from our stockholders to our Board. Stockholders may communicate with our Board by transmitting correspondence by mail, facsimile or email, addressed as follows:

Chairman of the Board (or individually named director(s))

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

Extreme Networks, Inc.

3585 Monroe Street

Santa Clara, CA 95051

The Chairman transmits each communication as soon as practicable to the identified director addressee(s), unless (i) there are safety or security concerns that mitigate against further transmission of the communication; or (ii) the communication contains commercial matters not related to the stockholder's stock ownership, as determined by the Chairman in consultation with legal counsel. Our Board or individual directors are advised of any communication withheld for safety, security or other reasons as soon as practicable.

Table of Contents

Director Attendance at Annual Meetings

We use reasonable efforts to schedule our annual meeting of stockholders at a time and date to maximize attendance by directors, taking into account the directors' schedules. In cases where management, in its reasonable business judgment, expects stockholder attendance at our annual meeting to be significant, we encourage director attendance at the annual meeting. Directors make every effort to attend our annual meeting of stockholders when meaningful stockholder attendance at the meeting is anticipated. Messrs. Carinalli, Kispert, Rodriguez, Shoemaker, Austin (as a nominee), Silverglide and Kennedy attended our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, requires our executive officers, directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of our common stock to file initial reports of beneficial ownership and reports of changes in beneficial ownership with the SEC. These persons are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms filed by such person. Based solely on our review of the forms furnished to us and written representations from certain reporting persons, we believe that all filing requirements applicable to our executive officers, directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of our common stock were complied with in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

Code of Ethics and Corporate Governance Materials

Our Board has adopted a charter for its Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees, each of which is available on our website at <http://www.extremenetworks.com/about-extreme/corp-governance.aspx>. Our Board has also adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our employees, officers and directors. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics can be found on our website at

<http://www.extremenetworks.com/about-extreme/corp-governance.aspx>.

We believe that good corporate governance is essential to ensure that we are managed for the benefit of stockholders. Our Board has adopted our Corporate Governance Guidelines to address key corporate governance issues. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for reviewing the Corporate Governance Guidelines and recommending to our Board any changes to them. The Corporate Governance Guidelines can be found on our website at <http://www.extremenetworks.com/about-extreme/corp-governance.aspx>.

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

During our fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, the compensation policies for service on our Board and its committees were, and the compensation paid to our directors was, as follows:

Cash Compensation

Each non-employee director receives (a) \$40,000 in cash compensation annually for service in this position and (b) the applicable compensation set forth below for serving as a chair or as a member of one or more of the committees of our Board. For service on any special committee that may be formed by our Board from time to time, our Board determines compensation on a case-by-case basis upon a recommendation from the Compensation Committee based on the anticipated amount of time and work related to service on the special committee and other factors as the Compensation Committee may consider. Each director receives reimbursement of expenses related to attendance of meetings of our Board and its committees.

Table of Contents**Annual Committee Member Compensation**

Audit Committee	\$ 20,000
Compensation Committee	10,000
Nominating and Governance Committee	10,000

Additional Annual Retainers for Chairman or Committee Chair

Audit Committee Chair	10,000
Compensation Committee Chair	10,000
Board Chairman	30,000

Equity Compensation

Each non-employee director automatically is granted an initial 8,333 shares of our restricted stock and an initial option to purchase 25,000 shares of our common stock. These options and restricted stock grants are made under our 2005 Plan, pursuant to the standard option agreement used under the 2005 Plan for directors. The grant date for awards is generally the second trading day following the public announcement of quarterly financial results following the director's appointment. Each option and restricted stock grant vests 1/3 each year (or, if earlier in any year, 1/3 on the date of the annual meeting of stockholders in that year), subject to the respective director's continuous service on our Board for that period. There is a two year post- termination exercise period for options granted to non-employee directors during and after fiscal year 2005.

On the date of each annual meeting of our stockholders, each non-employee director and automatically is granted 5,000 shares of our restricted stock and an option to purchase 15,000 shares of our common stock. These options and restricted stock grants are made under the 2005 Plan, pursuant to the standard option agreement used under the 2005 Plan for directors. The exercise price per share of each option, and the grant price of each share of restricted stock, is the closing sale price of our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market at the close of business on the date of grant (the date of the annual meeting of stockholders). Each option and restricted stock grant vests in full on the date one year after the date of grant (or, if earlier, the date of the next subsequent annual meeting of stockholders), subject to the respective director's continuous service on our Board for that period.

Following the 2011 annual meeting of stockholders, each non-employee director received a grant of 5,000 shares of our restricted stock and an option to purchase 15,000 shares of our common stock, at an exercise price of \$3.87. In connection with Mr. Austin's election to our Board in April 2012, he received a grant of 8,333 shares of our restricted stock and an option to purchase 25,000 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$3.50 on the date of grant.

In July 2001, our Board ratified and approved a policy regarding the acceleration of vesting of shares subject to options granted to directors upon a change-in-control. Under the policy, in the event of a change in control that occurs prior to a director's termination of service with us, the shares subject to options vest fully. The policy defines a change-in-control as a single or series of sales or exchanges of voting stock, a merger or consolidation, the sale, or transfer of all or substantially all of the assets, or a liquidation wherein the stockholders immediately before the change-in-control do not retain, immediately after the change-in-control, more than 50% of the total combined voting power of us or the corporation to which the assets were transferred. This policy applies to all options granted to directors after July 2001.

Table of Contents*2012 Director Compensation*

The compensation information for our non-employee directors during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 is set forth below:

	Director Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$)⁽¹⁾	Option Awards (\$)⁽¹⁾	Total (\$)
Maury Austin	15,000 ⁽²⁾	29,499	47,847	92,346
Charles Carinalli	70,000 ⁽³⁾	79,750	31,386	181,136
Edward Kennedy	60,000 ⁽⁴⁾	125,050	31,386	216,436
John Kispert	70,000 ⁽⁵⁾	79,750	31,386	181,136
Edward Meyercord	90,000 ⁽⁶⁾	125,050	31,386	246,436
John Shoemaker	70,000 ⁽⁷⁾	79,750	31,386	181,136
Harry Silverglide	50,000 ⁽⁸⁾	79,750	31,386	161,136
Edward Terino ⁽⁹⁾				
Ken Levy	50,000 ⁽¹⁰⁾	79,750	31,386	161,136
Gordon Stitt	40,000 ⁽¹¹⁾	60,400		100,400

- (1) Represents the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with ASC Topic 718 and does not reflect whether the director has actually realized a financial benefit from the award. For information on the assumptions used to calculate the value of the awards, refer to Note 7 to our consolidated financial statements in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. In accordance with SEC rules, the amounts shown exclude the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions.
- (2) Mr. Austin was appointed to our Board and Audit Committee in April 2012. Consists of \$10,000 for annual retainer and \$5,000 for service on the Audit Committee.
- (3) Consists of \$40,000 for annual retainer, \$20,000 for service as the Chairman of the Compensation Committee and \$10,000 for service as the Chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.
- (4) Consists of \$40,000 for annual retainer, and \$20,000 for service on the Audit Committee.
- (5) Consists of \$40,000 for annual retainer and \$30,000 for service as the Chairman of the Audit Committee.
- (6) Consists of \$70,000 for annual retainer for service as the Chairman of the Board, \$10,000 for service on the Compensation Committee and \$10,000 for service on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.
- (7) Consists of \$40,000 for annual retainer, \$20,000 for service on the Audit Committee, and \$10,000 for service on the Compensation Committee.
- (8) Consists of \$40,000 for annual retainer, and \$10,000 for service on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.
- (9) Mr. Terino was appointed to our board in October 2012 and did not receive any compensation for fiscal 2012.
- (10) Consists of \$40,000 for annual retainer and \$10,000 for service on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee paid to Mr. Levy prior to his resignation from our Board effective at the 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.
- (11) Consists of 40,000 for annual retainer paid to Mr. Stitt prior to his resignation from our Board effective at the 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL TWO:

**VOTE TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE AMENDED AND RESTATED SHAREHOLDERS RIGHTS PLAN FOR AN
ADDITIONAL YEAR TO APRIL 30, 2014**

Background

Our Board is asking stockholders to authorize the Company to extend the term of the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated April 26, 2012, between the Company and Computershare Shareholder Services LLC as the rights agent (the Restated Rights Plan) to April 30, 2014. The Restated Rights Plan governs the terms of each right (Right) that has been issued with respect to each share of common stock of the Company. Each Right initially represents the right to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Preferred Stock (Preferred Stock) of the Company. The Restated Rights Plan replaces in its entirety the Rights Agreement, dated as of April 27, 2001, as amended on June 30, 2010 and April 26, 2011, between the Company and Mellon Investor Services LLC (the Prior Rights Plan). If the stockholders do not authorize the Company to extend the term of the Restated Rights Plan, it will expire per its terms on April 30, 2013.

The Board entered into the Restated Rights Plan after reviewing the necessity of the provision in the Prior Rights Plan adopted to preserve the value of the Company s deferred tax assets, including its net operating loss carry forwards, with respect to its ability to fully use its tax benefits to offset future income. The Prior Rights Plan was adopted in part in an effort to preserve stockholder value by attempting to protect against a possible limitation on our ability to use our net operating loss carry-forwards and other tax attributes (the Tax Benefits) to reduce potential future federal income tax obligations. At June 30, 2012, our Tax Benefits included approximately \$254.8 million and \$90 million of federal and state tax net operating loss carry forwards, respectively. The Tax Benefits expire on various dates beginning in 2013 (state) and 2020 (federal).

The unexpired balance of our Tax Benefits can generally be used to offset taxable income or income taxes (if any). Utilization of Tax Benefits to offset taxable income can, however, be limited if there is an ownership change, as discussed below. Because the amount and timing of our future taxable income cannot be accurately predicted, we cannot predict to what extent our Tax Benefits may ultimately be used to reduce our income tax liability. Although we are unable to quantify an exact value, we believe that the Tax Benefits are a very valuable asset. The Restated Rights Plan was adopted because the Board believed it to be in the Company s and the stockholders best interests to attempt to prevent the imposition of limitations on use of the Tax Benefits.

The ability to use the Tax Benefits could be significantly impaired if there were an ownership change of the Company as defined in Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code). Determining whether an ownership change has occurred and the effect of an ownership change is complex. In general, to determine whether an ownership change has occurred on a testing date, the Company must compare the percentage of shares owned by each stockholder or groups of stockholders who own or are deemed to own directly or indirectly at least 5.0% of our stock (a 5-percent shareholder) immediately after the close of the testing date to the lowest percentage of shares owned by such 5-percent shareholder at any time during the testing period (which is generally a three-year rolling period). The amount of the increase in the percentage of Company shares owned by each 5-percent shareholder whose share ownership percentage has increased is added together with increases in share ownership of other 5-percent shareholders, and an ownership change occurs if the aggregate increase in ownership by all such 5-percent shareholders exceeds 50%.

If an ownership change occurs, there is an annual limit on use of Tax Benefits (the 382 Limitation) equal to (i) the aggregate value of our outstanding equity immediately prior to the ownership change (reduced by certain capital contributions made during the immediately preceding two years and certain other items) multiplied by (ii) the federal long-term tax-exempt interest rate in effect for the month of the ownership change. In calculating the 382 Limitation, numerous special rules and limitations apply, including provisions dealing with built-in gains and losses. If the Company were to have taxable income in excess of the 382 Limitation following an ownership change, the Company would not be

able to offset tax on the excess income with the net operating losses. Although any loss carry forwards not used as a result of any Section 382 Limitation would

Table of Contents

remain available to offset income in future years (again, subject to the Section 382 Limitation in such future years) until the net operating losses expire, an ownership change could significantly defer the utilization of the net operating loss carry forwards, accelerate payment of federal income tax and could cause some of the net operating losses to expire unused. Because the aggregate value of our outstanding stock and the federal long-term tax-exempt interest rate fluctuate, it is impossible to predict with any accuracy the Section 382 Limitation upon the amount of our taxable income that could be offset by such loss carry forwards and credits if an ownership change were to occur in the future. Such limitation could, however, be material.

The Restated Rights Plan is designed to reduce the likelihood that the Company will experience an ownership change by discouraging any person (together with such person's affiliates and associates), without the approval of the Board, from acquiring 4.95% or more of the outstanding common stock, or, if any person (together with such person's affiliates and associates) already beneficially owns in excess of 4.95% or more of the outstanding common stock, from acquiring more shares of common stock, other than by exercise or conversion of currently existing warrants or as a result of a redemption of shares of common stock by the Company. There is no guarantee that the Restated Rights Plan will prevent the Company from experiencing an ownership change.

Although none of the Restated Rights Plan, our certificate of incorporation, our bylaws or applicable law require stockholder approval or ratification of the Restated Rights Plan, our Board has decided to request the stockholders authorize the extension of the Rights Plan for an additional year to April 30, 2014. If the extension of the Restated Rights Plan is not approved by stockholders as proposed, the Restated Rights Plan will expire per its terms on April 30, 2014. However, if the Board may adopt a new stockholder rights plan at a future date if it determines that the adoption of a stockholder rights plan is in the stockholders' best interests at that time.

The following description of the Restated Rights Plan is qualified in its entirety by reference to the text of the Rights Agreement, which is attached as Annex A. We urge you to read carefully the Restated Rights Plan in its entirety as the description below is only a summary.

<i>Nature of Right:</i>	When exercisable, each Right will initially entitle the holder to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock.
<i>Means of Distribution:</i>	The Rights will be distributed to holders of the Company's outstanding common stock at a dividend of one Right for each share of common stock. The Rights will also be attached to all future issuances of common stock prior to the Distribution Date (as defined below).
<i>Exercisability:</i>	Rights become exercisable on the earlier of: (i) the tenth day following the date of public announcement by the Company or by any person or group (an "Acquiring Person") that such person or group has acquired beneficial ownership of 4.95% or more of the Company's outstanding common stock, or (ii) the tenth business day (unless extended by the Board prior to the time a person becomes an Acquiring Person) following the commencement, or announcement of an intention to commence, by any person or group of a tender or exchange offer which would result in such person owning 4.95% or more of the outstanding common stock of the Company (the earlier of such dates being referred to as the Distribution Date), provided that an Acquiring Person does not include an Exempt Person (as such term is defined in the Restated Rights Plan). Rights will trade separately from the common stock once the Rights become exercisable.
<i>Exercise Price:</i>	\$150.00 per one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, which is the amount that in the judgment of the Board represents the long-term value of the common stock over the term of the Restated Rights Plan (the Exercise Price).

Table of Contents

<i>Term:</i>	The Rights will expire upon the earlier of (i) ten years after the date of issuance, or April 30, 2013 or (ii) redemption or exchange by the Company as described below.
<i>Redemption of Rights:</i>	Rights are redeemable at a price of \$.001 per Right, by the vote of the Board, at any time until the occurrence of a Flip-In Event (defined below).
<i>Preferred Stock:</i>	The Preferred Stock purchasable upon exercise of the Rights will be nonredeemable and junior to any other series of preferred stock the Company may issue (unless otherwise provided in the terms of such other series). Each share of Preferred Stock will have a preferential cumulative quarterly dividend in an amount equal to the greater of (a) \$3,750.00 or (b) 1,000 times the dividend declared on each share of common stock. In the event of liquidation, the holders of Preferred Stock will receive a preferred liquidation payment equal to the greater of (a) \$150,000.00 per share, plus accrued dividends to the date of distribution, whether or not earned or declared, or (b) an amount per share equal to 1,000 times the aggregate payment to be distributed per share of common stock. Each share of Preferred Stock will have 1,000 votes, voting together with the shares of common stock. In the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which shares of common stock are exchanged for or changed into other securities, cash and/or other property, each share of Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive 1,000 times the amount and type of consideration received per share of common stock. The rights of the Preferred Stock as to dividends, liquidation and voting, and in the event of mergers and consolidations, are protected by customary anti-dilution provisions. Fractional shares (in integral multiples of one one-thousandth) of Preferred Stock will be issuable; however, the Company may elect to distribute depository receipts in lieu of such fractional shares. In lieu of fractional shares other than fractions that are multiples of one one-thousandth of a share, an adjustment in cash will be made based on the market price of the Preferred Stock on the last trading date prior to the date of exercise. Because of the nature of the Preferred Stock's dividend, liquidation and voting rights, the value of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock purchasable upon exercise of each Right should approximate the value of one share of common stock.
<i>Rights in Event of Self-Dealing Transaction or Acquisition of Substantial Amount of common stock:</i>	In the event that an Acquiring Person engages in certain self-dealing transactions or becomes a beneficial owner of 4.95% or more of the outstanding common stock (Flip-In Events), a holder of a Right thereafter has the right to purchase, upon payment of the then current Exercise Price, in lieu of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, such number of shares of common stock having a market value at the time of the transaction equal to the Exercise Price divided by one-half the Current Market Price (as defined in the Restated Rights Plan) of the common stock. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Rights held by the Acquiring Person or any associate or affiliate thereof or certain transferees will be null and void and no longer be transferable.
	Self-dealing transactions are defined to include a consolidation, merger or other combination of an Acquiring Person with the Company in which the Company is the surviving corporation, the transfer of assets to the Company in exchange for securities of the Company, the acquisition of securities of the Company (other than in a pro rata distribution to all stockholders), the sale, purchase, transfer, distribution, lease, mortgage, pledge or acquisition of assets by the Acquiring Person to, from or with the Company on other than an arm's length basis, compensation to an Acquiring Person for services (other than for employment as

Table of Contents

	a regular or part-time employee or director on a basis consistent with the Company's past practice), a loan or provision of other financial assistance (except proportionately as a stockholder) to an Acquiring Person or the licensing, sale or other transfer of proprietary technology or know-how from the Company to the Acquiring Person on terms not approved by the Board or a reclassification, recapitalization or other transaction with the effect of increasing by more than 1% the Acquiring Person's proportionate share of any class of securities of the Company.
<i>Rights in Event of Business Combination:</i>	If, following the occurrence of a Flip-In Event, the Company is acquired by any person in a merger or other business combination transaction in which the common stock is exchanged or converted or in which the Company is not the surviving corporation, or 50% or more of its assets or earnings power are sold to any person, each holder of a Right (other than an Acquiring Person, or affiliates or associates thereof) shall thereafter have the right to purchase, upon payment of the then current Exercise Price, such number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company having a current market value equal to the Exercise Price divided by one-half the Current Market Price of such common stock.
<i>Exchange Option:</i>	In the event (i) any person or group becomes an Acquiring Person or (ii) any of the types of transactions, acquisitions or other events described above as self-dealing transactions occur, and prior to the acquisition by such person or group of 50% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock, the Board may require all or any portion of the outstanding Rights (other than Rights owned by such Acquiring Person which have become void) to be exchanged for common stock on a pro rata basis, at an exchange ratio of one share of common stock or one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock (or of a share of a class or series of the Company's Preferred Stock having equivalent rights, preferences and privileges) per Right (subject to adjustment).
<i>Fractional Shares:</i>	No fractional shares of common stock will be issued upon exercise of the Rights and, in lieu thereof, a payment in cash will be made to the holder of such Rights equal to the same fraction of the current market value of a share of common stock.
<i>Adjustment:</i>	The Exercise Price payable, and the number of shares of Preferred Stock or other securities or property issuable, upon exercise of the Rights are subject to adjustment from time to time to prevent dilution (i) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision, combination or reclassification of the Preferred Stock, (ii) upon the grant to holders of the Preferred Stock of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for Preferred Stock or convertible securities at less than the current market price of the Preferred Stock or (iii) upon the distribution to holders of the Preferred Stock of evidences of indebtedness or assets (excluding dividends payable in Preferred Stock) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above). The number of Rights associated with each share of common stock is also subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split of the common stock or a stock dividend on the common stock payable in common stock or subdivisions, consolidations or combinations of the common stock occurring, in any such case, prior to the Distribution Date.
<i>Rights as Stockholder:</i>	The Rights themselves do not entitle the holder thereof to any rights as a stockholder, including, without limitation, voting rights or the right to receive dividends.

Table of Contents

Amendment of Rights:

Until the Rights become nonredeemable, the Company may, except with respect to the redemption price, amend the Restated Rights Plan in any manner. After the Rights become nonredeemable, the Company may amend the Restated Rights Plan to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision which may be defective or inconsistent with any other provisions, to shorten or lengthen any time period under the Restated Rights Plan, or to change or supplement any provision in any manner the Company may deem necessary or desirable, provided that no such amendment may adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Rights (other than the Acquiring Person or its Affiliates or associates) or cause the Rights to again be redeemable or the Restated Rights Plan to again be freely amendable.

Anti-Takeover Effects

While intended to reduce the risk of an ownership change within the meaning of Section 382 of the Code, and thereby preserve the current ability of the Company to utilize the Tax Benefits, the Rights could have certain anti-takeover effects. The Rights will cause substantial dilution to a person or group who becomes an Acquiring Person on terms not approved by the Company's Board. The Rights should not interfere with any merger or other business combination approved by the Board since the Board may exempt such merger or business combination from the Restated Rights Plan. In addition, the Rights may be redeemed by the Company at any time as described above.

Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation

Approval of this proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present or represented by proxy and entitled to vote on this proposal. Abstentions will have the same effect as votes against the proposal. Broker non-votes will have no effect on the outcome of this vote.

OUR BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE AMENDED AND RESTATED SHAREHOLDERS RIGHTS PLAN FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR TO APRIL 30, 2014.

Table of Contents

PROPOSAL THREE:

ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Background

Under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (the Dodd-Frank Act), our stockholders are entitled to vote to approve, on an advisory non-binding basis, the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with SEC rules. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of the Company's named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this proxy statement.

As described in further detail under the heading *Executive Compensation and Other Matters Compensation Discussion and Analysis*, our executive compensation philosophy is designed to attract high quality candidates for senior leadership positions, to retain these employees and to establish a total compensation program which, motivates and rewards individual and team performance in a highly competitive industry. Our compensation programs are designed to align our executive officers' performance with our goals, principal among which is the creation of stockholder value. For fiscal 2012, the principal components for our executive officers were cash base salary with variable annual cash and long term equity incentives. Please read the *Compensation Discussion and Analysis* for additional details about our executive compensation programs, including information about the fiscal year 2012 compensation of our named executive officers and how our executive compensation programs reflect our philosophy and are linked to the Company's performance.

We are asking our stockholders to indicate their support for the compensation arrangements with our named executive officers as described in this proxy statement. This proposal, commonly known as a say-on-pay proposal, gives our stockholders the opportunity to express their views on our named executive officers' compensation. Accordingly, we are asking our stockholders to vote FOR the following resolution to be presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting:

RESOLVED, that the stockholders approve the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company's Proxy Statement for the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and the accompanying narrative discussion.

Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation

The proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast for or against the proposal at the 2012 Annual Meeting, as well as the presence of a quorum representing a majority of the shares of our common stock entitled to vote at the 2012 Annual Meeting, present in person or represented by proxy. Abstentions and broker non-votes will each be counted as present for purposes of determining a quorum but will not have any effect on the outcome of the proposal.

This say-on-pay vote is advisory, and therefore is not binding on us, the Compensation Committee or our Board. Our Board and our Compensation Committee value the opinions of our stockholders, and to the extent there is any significant vote against the named executive officer compensation as disclosed in this proxy statement, we will consider our stockholders' concerns and the Compensation Committee will evaluate whether any actions are appropriate to address those concerns. The Board has adopted a policy providing for annual say-on-pay

advisory votes. Unless the Board modifies this policy, the next say-on-pay advisory vote will be held at our 2013 annual meeting.

OUR BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION ABOVE, RELATING TO THE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AS DISCLOSED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT PURSUANT TO THE COMPENSATION DISCLOSURE RULES OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.

Table of Contents**PROPOSAL FOUR:****RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS****FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013**

The Audit Committee has appointed KPMG LLP (KPMG) as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm to serve as independent auditors to audit our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. KPMG has served as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm since November 2010. Prior to November 2010, Ernst & Young LLP (Ernst & Young) served as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm since 1997. A representative of KPMG is expected to be present at the 2012 Annual Meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement if desired and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Representatives of our independent auditors normally attend most meetings of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee's policy is to pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by our independent auditors. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. Any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or category of services. Our independent auditors and management are required to periodically report to the Audit Committee regarding the extent of services provided by our independent auditors in accordance with this pre-approval policy. For fiscal year 2012 and 2011, all fees paid to our independent auditors were pre-approved in accordance with this policy without exception.

The Audit Committee on an annual basis reviews the services performed by the independent registered public accounting firm, and reviews and approves the fees charged by the accounting firm. The Audit Committee has considered the role of the independent registered public accounting firm in providing tax and other non-audit services to us and has concluded that these services are compatible with the accounting firm's independence as our independent auditors.

Principal Accounting Fees and Services

The following table sets forth the fees accrued or paid to the Company's independent registered public accounting firms for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2012 and July 3, 2011.

	2012 KPMG LLP	2011 KPMG LLP	2011 ERNST & YOUNG LLP
Audit fees ⁽¹⁾	\$ 880,000	\$ 900,000	\$ 530,531
Audit related fees ⁽²⁾	26,200		168,365
Tax Fees ⁽³⁾			55,258
Total	\$ 906,200	\$ 900,000	\$ 754,154

- (1) Audit fees relate to professional services rendered in connection with the audit of our annual financial statements and internal control over financial reporting, quarterly review of financial statements included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and audit services provided in connection with other statutory and regulatory filings.
- (2) Audit-related fees comprise fees for professional services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Company's financial statements.

- (3) Tax fees relate to professional services rendered in connection with tax audits, international tax compliance, and international tax consulting and planning services.

Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation

Stockholder ratification of the selection of KPMG as our independent registered public accounting firm is not required by our Bylaws or otherwise. Our Board, however, is submitting the selection of KPMG to stockholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate practice. If stockholders fail to ratify the selection, the Audit Committee and our Board will reconsider whether or not to retain that firm. Even if the selection is

Table of Contents

ratified, the Audit Committee and our Board in their discretion may direct the appointment of different independent auditors at any time during the year if they determine that such a change would be in the best interests of us and our stockholders.

Approval of this proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast affirmatively or negatively on the proposal, assuming a quorum is present. Votes for, against, abstentions and broker non-votes will each be counted as present for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum, but abstentions and broker non-votes will not have any effect on the outcome of the vote on this proposal. If you sign and return a proxy card without giving specific voting instructions on this proposal, your shares will be voted in favor of the proposal.

OUR BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE PROPOSAL TO RATIFY KPMG LLP AS EXTREME NETWORKS INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013.

Table of Contents**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table sets forth, as of October 1, 2012, certain information with respect to the beneficial ownership of our common stock by: (i) each stockholder known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our common stock, (ii) each named executive officer, (iii) each of our directors and director nominees, and (iv) all executive officers and directors as a group.

Except as otherwise indicated, the address of each beneficial owner is c/o Extreme Networks, Inc., 3585 Monroe Street, Santa Clara, CA 95051.

Name and Address ⁽¹⁾	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership ⁽²⁾	Percent of Class ⁽³⁾
Holders of Greater than 5%:		
Soros Fund Management LLC 888 Seventh Avenue, 33rd Floor New York, New York 10106	8,601,186 ⁽⁴⁾	9.1%
Starboard Value LP 599 Lexington Avenue, 19th Floor New York, New York 10022	8,390,000 ⁽⁵⁾	8.8%
Willington Management Company, LLP 280 Congress Street Boston, Massachusetts 02210	5,533,320 ⁽⁶⁾	5.8%
BlackRock 55 East 52 nd Street New York, New York 10055	5,115,033 ⁽⁷⁾	5.4%
Raging Capital Management, LLC Ten Princeton Avenue Rocky Hill, New Jersey 08553	4,782,870 ⁽⁸⁾	5.0%
Directors and Named Executive Officers:		
Maury Austin, Director	10,000 ⁽⁹⁾	*
Charles Carinalli, Director	424,216 ⁽¹⁰⁾	*
Edward Kennedy, Director	25,834 ⁽¹¹⁾	*
John H. Kispert, Director	100,556 ⁽¹²⁾	*
Edward B. Meyercord, III, Independent Chairman of the Board of Directors	104,056 ⁽¹³⁾	*
John C. Shoemaker, Director	143,333 ⁽¹⁴⁾	*
Harry Silverglide, Director	216,327 ⁽¹⁵⁾	*
Edward Terino, Director	100,000	*
Oscar Rodriguez, President and Chief Executive Officer, Director	827,829 ⁽¹⁶⁾	*
John Kurtzweil, Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer	10,000	*
David Ginsburg, Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer	209,698 ⁽¹⁷⁾	*
Nancy Shemwell, Executive Vice President, Global Sales		*
Mimi Gigoux, Former Senior Vice President, Human Resources	68,263 ⁽¹⁸⁾	*
Diane Honda, Former Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	196,102 ⁽¹⁹⁾	*
James Judson, Former Interim Vice President, Chief Financial Officer	100,000	*
Michael Seaton, Former Vice President, Worldwide Sales and Services	72,634	*
All Executive Officers and Directors as a Group (16 persons)	2,608,848⁽²⁰⁾	2.7%

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

* Less than 1%

(1) Except as otherwise indicated, the persons named in this table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of common stock shown as beneficially owned by them, subject to community property laws where applicable and to the information contained in the footnotes to this table.

Table of Contents

- (2) Under the rules of the SEC, a person is deemed to be the beneficial owner of securities that can be acquired by the person within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (3) Calculated on the basis of 95,009,228 shares of common stock outstanding as of October 1, 2012, provided that any additional shares of common stock that a stockholder has the right to acquire within 60 days of October 1, 2012 are deemed to be outstanding for purposes of calculating that stockholder's percentage of beneficial ownership. These shares are not, however, deemed to be outstanding and beneficially owned for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person.
- (4) According to a Form 13F filed by the stockholder with the SEC on August 14, 2012.
- (5) According to a Form 13F filed by the stockholder with the SEC on August 14, 2012.
- (6) According to a Form 13F filed by the stockholder with the SEC on August 14, 2012.
- (7) According to a Schedule 13G/A filed by the stockholder with the SEC on February 13, 2012.
- (8) According to a Schedule 13G filed by the stockholder with the SEC on August 13, 2012.
- (9) Includes no shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (10) Includes 195,000 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (11) Includes 8,334 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (12) Includes 55,000 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012. Includes 20,000 shares held by the Kispert Family Trust UTD September 13, 2000.
- (13) Includes 55,000 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (14) Includes 55,000 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (15) Includes 185,000 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (16) Includes 693,750 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (17) Includes 200,000 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (18) Includes 58,333 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (19) Includes 135,625 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.
- (20) Includes 1,671,042 shares issuable pursuant to options exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2012.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND OTHER MATTERS

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Executive Summary

We promote a pay for performance compensation philosophy for our management team (including our named executive officers), by creating a compensation framework that emphasizes the following features:

Simple compensation structure. Target compensation for our management team in 2012 consisted primarily of base salary, performance based cash bonuses and stock option and RSU grants.

Management bonus plan tied to straightforward financial metrics. The Company maintains a performance based cash bonus plan, under which a bonus pool is established upon the achievement of Company performance targets established by the Compensation Committee at the outset of the year.

Reasonable Equity Grants. The Company grants stock options and RSUs to its management team with standard time based vesting, which encourages retention and stability in the management team and ties realizable compensation from such equity grants to stock price.

No compensation guarantees. The Company does not guarantee employment, salary increases, bonuses, pension arrangements, equity grants, or deferred compensation to its management.

Limited perquisites. The Company does not generally provide any benefits/perquisites to our executive officers that are not generally available to all employees. These are comprised of a 401(k) partial contribution matching program and insurance coverage. No tax gross up payments on bonuses or payments are provided.

Reasonable severance benefits. Certain executive officers are party to agreements which provide severance benefits related to without cause terminations, or without cause or for good reason terminations in connection with a change-in-control transaction. The amount of such severance benefits is continuation of base salary, bonus, and Cobra payments for limited time periods.

No hedging transactions. All executive officers are prohibited from engaging in any speculative transactions in Company securities, including engaging in short sales, engaging in transactions in put options, call options or other derivative securities, or engaging in any other forms of hedging transactions.

Annual reviews by independent compensation committee and consultant. The Company's Compensation Committee is comprised solely of independent directors. The Compensation Committee has the discretion to retain independent consultants and counsel, and it utilizes Compensia Inc. to provide guidance in conducting its annual executive compensation review.

Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

Our executive compensation philosophy and objectives are to provide a competitive total compensation package that allows us attract high quality candidates for senior leadership positions, to retain these employees and to establish a total compensation program which motivates and rewards individual and team performance in alignment with our long-term business strategies and objectives. We also seek to align the interests of management and our stockholders by providing variable compensation that is directly linked to the performance of the company and stockholder return. We believe it is in our stockholders' interests to attract, motivate and retain highly qualified individuals in critical positions by providing competitive compensation opportunities. We establish market competitive target levels of total compensation, focusing on both current pay and the opportunity for long term and future compensation. Annual compensation for a given executive is determined with reference to competitive market data, as well as the individual's experience, knowledge, skills, education, performance and importance to our business. Our compensation program is designed to motivate individual and team accountability for our absolute and relative competitive performance.

Table of Contents

2011 Say on Pay Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation

The Company provided stockholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation for the first time at the 2011 annual meeting. At our 2011 annual meeting, approximately 90% of the votes cast in the say on pay advisory vote were FOR approval of our executive compensation. The Committee took the results of our 2011 advisory vote on executive compensation into consideration in determining whether modifications to our executive compensation programs were necessary. The Committee viewed this level of stockholder support as a vote of confidence in our compensation policies and that material changes were not immediately required.

Compensation Process

Our Compensation Committee, in consultation with the Board and the Company's human resources group, designs, establishes and oversees the Company's compensation programs and compensation philosophy. The Committee establishes all elements of compensation paid to the CEO and reviews and approves all elements of compensation paid to the named executive officers and our senior officers. Our guiding compensation principle is to align executive compensation with the Company's strategic objectives and financial performance. Throughout the year, the Chair of our Compensation Committee meets with our Vice President of Human Resources to monitor issues relating to executive compensation. At the end of the fiscal year, our CEO conducts a qualitative and quantitative assessment of each named executive officer's performance for the past fiscal year based upon the officer's individual and team business goals and objectives. As set forth in additional detail below, our CEO and our Vice President of Human Resources also review the competitive benchmarking assessments of similarly situated executives in comparable companies in our industry, the competitive position of us relative to comparable companies in our industry, and the available salary and equity merit increase budget for the Company. Our CEO then makes specific recommendations to the Compensation Committee for any changes to base salary, target bonus opportunities, other cash incentives and equity awards, if appropriate. The Compensation Committee considers these proposals and makes any final approvals required in executing their duties. In addition, the Compensation Committee similarly assesses the performance of our CEO, based on the achievement of the approved financial goals, performance metrics, and strategic objectives identified to improve our operating performance. Our CEO is not present at the time the Compensation Committee reviews his performance and discusses his compensation. The Compensation Committee retains an independent compensation consultant to provide data and advice and to conduct a third-party review and assessment of proposed compensation plans. At the direction of the Committee, the consultant also periodically provides guidance to the CEO, Head of Human Resources and the Committee on compensation issues.

Compensation Consultant, Peer Group Selection and Benchmarking

To make sure our executive compensation is market based, for 2011, the Compensation Committee engaged Radford Surveys and Consulting (Radford), an AON/Hewitt company, as its independent compensation consultant for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. In connection with the Compensation Committee's desire to more closely tie future compensation to performance and to further align executive compensation with stockholder value, the Compensation Committee has engaged Compensia, Inc., an independent compensation consultant with expertise in the technology sector, to assist it in the performance of its tasks and to advise it with respect to compensation matters for 2013 and beyond. The Committee routinely assigned Radford projects designed to ensure that our executive compensation programs were reflective of companies in our peer group. Additionally, the Company's human resources team supported the work of Radford and the Committee. In its role as independent compensation consultant, at the request of the Committee, Radford participated in Committee meetings and provided compensation advice to the Committee. In 2012, Radford provided advice and recommendations to the Committee on competitiveness of executive officer compensation levels, revisions and additions to the company's peer group, goal metrics and bonus design, compensation mix between cash and equity, developments in high technology compensation programs, employment contracts, legislation and regulation affecting executive compensation, the impact of the global economy on executive compensation and director compensation. We paid the fees charged by Radford for its engagement by the Compensation Committee with respect to its services related to fiscal year 2012 compensation.

Table of Contents

The Compensation Committee seeks to set the base salary and total compensation of our executives, including our named executive officers, in alignment with similarly-situated executives in comparable companies in our industry with whom we directly compete in our hiring and retention of executives. The Committee looks at a variety of factors when setting pay including the market data. The Executive's experience, the scope of the executive's role relative to the roles in the comparable data, the executive's performance and the Company's performance.

For the Compensation Committee's deliberations regarding our fiscal year 2012 executive compensation, the Compensation Committee, in consultation with Radford, reviewed a Radford Executive Benchmark Survey which includes the following companies which make up our peer group (unchanged from 2011):

ADTRAN, Inc.	Harmonic	QLogic Corporation
Blue Coat Systems	Infinera	RadiSys Corporation
Digi International	MRV Communications Inc.	Sonos Networks
EMS Technologies	NETGEAR, Inc.	Super Micro Computer
Emulex	Novatel Wireless, Inc.	Westell Technologies, Inc.
F5 Networks	QAD	

The peer group is comprised of computer networking and communication equipment companies and other high-tech companies with \$105 million to \$1.0 billion in revenue. The Radford assessment examined a range of pay levels including the 25th, 50th and 75th percentile of the applicable benchmark group to reflect a range of pay to be considered when determining individual pay elements.

Compensation Program Elements

The main elements of our compensation program and their respective purposes are as follows:

Element	Purpose
Base salary	Attract and retain talented employees. Serve as the primary element of fixed compensation.
Annual cash incentives	Encourage and reward individual and overall company performance relative to our current plans and objectives, particularly in the short term.
Annual long-term equity incentives	Promote the achievement longer-term financial and strategic objectives. Encourage employee retention. Align the interests of officers and stockholders.
Change in control and severance benefits	Retain officers during the pendency of a proposed change in control transaction. Avoid adverse impacts to the morale of officers and of uncertainty regarding continued employment. Align the interests of officers and stockholders in the event of a change in control.
Benefit plans	Attract and retain talented employees. Provide assurance of financial support in the event of illness or injury. Encourage retirement savings. Encourage additional equity ownership by employees.

The Compensation Committee does not have a set formula for determining the mix of pay elements for named executive officers. Other than certain change in control and severance benefits, our executives generally receive only compensation elements that are provided to our rank-and-file employees.

Table of Contents***2012 Compensation Decisions***

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, our named executive officers and their respective titles were as follows:

Name	Title
Oscar Rodriguez	<i>President and Chief Executive Officer, Director</i>
John Kurtzweil	<i>Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer</i>
David Ginsburg	<i>Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer</i>
Diane Honda⁽¹⁾	<i>Former Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary</i>
Mimi Gigoux⁽²⁾	<i>Former Senior Vice President, Human Resources</i>
James Judson⁽³⁾	<i>Former Interim Vice President, Chief Financial Officer</i>
Michael Seaton⁽⁴⁾	<i>Former Vice President, Worldwide Sales and Services</i>

- (1) Ms. Honda served in her position through the end of fiscal 2012 but subsequently resigned from the Company effective October 5, 2012.
- (2) Ms. Gigoux served in her position through the end of fiscal 2012 but subsequently resigned from the Company effective August 24, 2012.
- (3) Mr. Judson resigned from the Company effective June 29, 2012.
- (4) Mr. Seaton is included under Item 402(a)(3)(iv) of Regulation S-K. Mr. Seaton resigned from the Company effective May 31, 2012.

Base Salaries

At the beginning of the year, the Compensation Committee, together with our Vice President of Human Resources and CEO, reviewed the base salaries for our executive officers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. The Compensation Committee decided not to make any adjustments to the base salaries of any of our continuing named executive officers for fiscal 2012. During the fiscal year, the Compensation Committee did, however, approve revisions to the agreement by which Mr. Judson agreed to serve as the Company's Interim Vice President and Chief Financial officer and reviewed and approved the offers to Mr. Kurtzweil and Ms. Gigoux when they joined the Company, including their salaries for fiscal 2012. Subsequently, in the first quarter of the 2013 fiscal year, the Compensation Committee decided to decrease Mr. Rodriguez's salary to \$524,000 from \$550,000 (and to increase his target bonus opportunity to 110% of his base salary from 100%), in order to more closely tie Mr. Rodriguez's cash compensation to the Company's performance.

For additional information regarding the Compensation Committee's decisions with respect to named executive officers base salaries, including a summary of any applicable separation arrangements, see the discussion below under the heading *Summary of Employment and Other Agreements*.

Annual Short-Term Incentives

Our Compensation Committee establishes an incentive plan each year, designed to reward individual and overall company performance relative to our current plans and objectives, particularly in the short term. The structure and elements of the plan are reviewed and modified annually based upon expectations for our business based on our Board-approved operating plan. In July 2011 the Compensation Committee, approved the terms of our Fiscal 2012 Incentive Bonus Plan, or our 2012 Incentive Plan.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

The 2012 Incentive Plan as approved by the Compensation Committee is a combination 50% cash and 50% restricted stock unit-based bonus program that provided payouts for two distinct operational periods which were to be funded and earned based on the achievement of pre-established corporate and individual objectives. All Named Executive Officers who are not on a commission plan were eligible for the 2012 Incentive Plan. In order to participate in the 2012 Incentive Plan, participants must have been employed by us for a minimum of one full fiscal quarter and must be employed by us, or one of our subsidiaries, on the day any awards under the 2012 Incentive Plan are made.

Table of Contents

Under the terms of the 2012 Incentive Plan the Compensation Committee established bonus targets for our named executive officers and set the targets for officers hired or promoted during the course of the year. The individual target bonus amounts as a percentage of base salary for each of Mr. Rodriguez, Mr. Kurtzweil, Mr. Ginsburg, Mr. Judson, Mr. Seaton, Ms. Honda and Ms. Gigoux were 100%, 0%, 50%, 60%, 0%, 40% and 50%, respectively. The maximum payout an executive was eligible to receive was to be calculated based upon 150% of the participant's target bonus of which 50% was to be paid in cash and 50% was to be paid via the issuance of restricted stock units.

The Compensation Committee does not adhere to a strict formula in determining performance goals. Instead, the Committee employs a flexible approach that enables it to choose performance metrics that are specifically designed to allow the company to adjust to evolving market conditions. For 2012, the Compensation Committee adopted performance goals based solely on achievement of operating income percentage. Performance goals and funding targets under the 2012 Incentive Plan were separated into two periods, corresponding to the first two and the second two fiscal quarters, with a maximum payout of \$6.8 million, which equates to a 150% payout level upon achievement of the highest operating income percentage targets.

The 2012 Incentive Plan was structured to payout at the 100% level if the Company achieved 10% operating income for the first half of its fiscal year and 13% operating income for the second half of its fiscal year. During the year, the Committee amended the 2012 Incentive Plan to allow for executive participants to be eligible for their full target bonus amount payout based solely on achievement of the second half performance targets.

In August 2012, following completion of fiscal 2012 and based on the achievement of the Company's operating income performance objectives, the Compensation Committee approved a payout to all participants under the 2012 Incentive Plan at a level of 18%. In addition, the Compensation Committee approved a discretionary bonus of 16% for Mr. Ginsburg, Ms. Gigoux, and Ms. Honda for their completion of other significant company objectives and to more evenly compensate them relative to competitive companies. As a result, our named executive officers received the following awards in fiscal 2012:

Executive	Cash Bonus Payment	RSUs⁽²⁾
Oscar Rodriguez		
<i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i> David Ginsburg	\$ 49,500	14,644
<i>Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer</i> James Judson ⁽¹⁾	\$ 25,075	7,418
<i>Former Interim Vice President and Chief Financial Officer</i> Mimi Gigoux ⁽¹⁾	\$ 18,900	5,591
<i>Former Senior Vice President, Human Resources</i> Diane Honda	\$ 21,505	6,362
<i>Former Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary</i>	\$ 18,564	5,492

(1) Bonus paid notwithstanding cessation of employment prior to the date of payment.

(2) Issued with a fair market value of \$3.38 per share.

Sales Commission Plan

Mr. Seaton did not participate in our 2012 Incentive Plan, but instead participated in a separate sales commission plan. For 2012, Mr. Seaton was paid a fixed percentage based upon a set quota, with a target total commission of \$250,000 based on total revenue, though the total amount achievable by Mr. Seaton was uncapped. A fixed percentage was used to make the plan easy to understand and to directly tie Mr. Seaton's compensation to our success. Because our management wanted to incentivize Mr. Seaton to maximize sales of our products and services and thereby maximize his own compensation, there were no maximum amounts established for Mr. Seaton's sales commission plan.

Table of Contents*Special One-Time Cash Bonus to Ms. Honda*

Based on Ms. Honda's performance for the second half of 2011 and due in part to the fact that Ms. Honda's cash and equity compensation historically was set at a level that was below market competitive compensation for her position, the Compensation Committee awarded a special one-time cash bonus to Ms. Honda in an amount of \$125,000. The bonus was paid to Ms. Honda on February 15, 2012.

Long-Term Equity Incentive Compensation

We grant equity awards under our equity incentive plans to our executive officers in order to promote the achievement of longer-term financial and strategic objectives, to encourage employee retention and to align the interests of our officers and of our stockholders. Under our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, or the 2005 Plan, we may grant stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, RSUs, performance shares, performance units, and other share-based or cash-based awards to employees and consultants. The 2005 Plan also authorizes the grant of awards of stock options, stock appreciation rights, or SARs, restricted stock, and RSUs to non-employee members of our Board and deferred compensation awards to officers, directors and certain management or highly compensated employees. Under the 2005 Plan, all stock options must be granted with an exercise price per share that is not less than the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the effective date of grant of the option. The 2005 Plan replaced the 1996 Stock Option Plan, the 2000 Nonstatutory Stock Option Plan, and the 2001 Nonstatutory Stock Option Plan. As of June 30, 2012, 9,873,561 shares were available for future grant under the 2005 Plan.

New Hire Grants; Promotional Grants

Generally, we grant equity awards to our new employees, including our named executive officers, in connection with the start of their employment in order to induce them to join us and to tie their long term compensation to future increases in our stock price. We occasionally grant additional equity awards in connection with the promotion of employees as a reward for outstanding past performance and to provide incentives resulting from future stock gains. New-hire stock options granted to named executive officers generally vest as follows: one-fourth vests one year after the officer's employment start date, and the remaining shares vest monthly over the following three years at a rate of 1/48th of the entire option each month, subject to the officer's continued employment with us. Promotional stock options granted to named executive officers generally vest monthly over the four years following the date of grant at a rate of 1/48th of the entire option each month, subject to the officer's continued employment with us. However, our Board or the Compensation Committee has approved certain exceptions to vesting schedules for new-hire and promotional equity awards in the past. For example, see *Change in Control and Severance Agreements*, below. The aggregate amounts of the new-hire or promotional grants to named executive officer are negotiated with the named executive officer.

The following table sets forth information on new-hire or promotional grants to named executive officers in fiscal year 2012:

Executive ⁽¹⁾	Equity Award Grant Date	Number of Shares Subject to Stock Option Grant	Number of Shares Subject to RSU Grant
James Judson,			
<i>Former Interim Vice President and Chief Financial Officer</i>	November 4, 2011	50,000	
Mimi Gigoux,	August 3, 2011	175,000	
<i>Former Senior Vice President, Human Resources</i>	August 3, 2011		25,000

- (1) While hired in fiscal 2012, Mr. Kurtzweil did not receive his new hire grants until after the end of the fiscal year.

Table of Contents*Annual Merit Grants*

We have typically granted our executive officers additional stock option and RSU grants on an annual basis, with the goal of more closely aligning the interests of management and our stockholders by providing continued incentives to our officers in order to retain strong executives and improve corporate performance. Only executives with positive performance rankings are eligible for annual merit grants. Merit based annual stock options granted to named executive officers generally vest monthly over the four years following the date of grant at a rate of 1/48th of the entire option each month, subject to the officer's continued employment with us. Merit based RSU grants generally vest over a two or three year period, with equal installments vesting on the anniversary date of each grant, subject to the officer's continued employment with us. However, our Board or the Compensation Committee has approved certain exceptions to vesting schedules in the past.

In August 2011, the Compensation Committee evaluated the performance of each of our named executive officers and, decided at that time to grant merit based annual stock options and RSUs to certain of our executive officers. The following table sets forth information on merit based stock options and RSUs grants to named executive officers in fiscal year 2012:

Executive	Equity Award Grant Date	Number of Shares Subject to Stock Option Grant	Number of Shares Subject to RSU Grant
Oscar Rodriguez	August 3, 2011	600,000	
<i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>	August 10, 2011		100,000
Diane Honda	August 3, 2011	50,000	
<i>Former Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary</i>	August 3, 2011		15,000
Michael Seaton			
<i>Former Vice President, Worldwide Sales and Services</i>	August 3, 2011	70,000	

Our process with regard to grants of equity compensation awards to Board members, officers, and non-officer employees is as follows:

The general practice for equity awards is to make grants once per quarter, during open trading windows only, on the second trading day following the public announcement of quarterly financial results, pursuant to a list to be circulated to the appropriate granting authority prior to the proposed approval date.

All grants are to be approved by the Compensation Committee.

Grants are to be approved at Compensation Committee meetings (not by unanimous written consent, except in extraordinary circumstances).

Granting authority may not be delegated to management.

Our Board and management are to continue monitoring processes and policies recommended by the SEC, self-regulatory authorities and outside advisors.

All Board and Compensation Committee minutes are to be circulated to the directors as soon as reasonably practicable (generally, within two weeks of meeting). Counsel should attend all Board and Compensation Committee meetings, and must be present when stock is granted.

Our Board has directed management to propose a mechanism for monitoring compliance with and reporting to our Board on our policies and procedures relating to options grants.

These processes are designed to ensure that we continue to employ best practices and procedures with respect to equity compensation awards.

In addition, we monitor the number of shares that we are utilizing for all of our equity compensation programs, including new hire grants, promotional grants and annual merit grants, in order to prudently manage stock option expense and potential dilution of stockholder ownership. The Compensation Committee in

Table of Contents

consultation with our compensation consultant approved a target gross equity pool that could be used for all grants issued to new hires, promotion grants and merit grants, and to reflect industry practices for managing the overall stock option burn rate. In compliance with industry best practices and guidance from Risk Metrics Institutional Stockholder Services (ISS), the Compensation Committee examines the trends for burn rate levels and equity vehicles to manage the plan within the standards and norms established by ISS. Our dilution rate is measured as a gross number of equity awards in a given year, expressed as a percentage of the outstanding common stock at the end of each fiscal year.

Change in Control and Severance Agreements

Each of our named executive officers is employed at-will. However, from time to time, we implement plans or enter into agreements that would provide benefits payable to certain employees, including named executive officers, in connection with the termination of employment, a change in our control or other situations. Without these benefits, officers may be tempted to leave us prior to the closing of the change in control, especially if they do not wish to remain with or believe they will not be retained by the entity after the transaction closes, and any departures could jeopardize the consummation of the transaction or our interests if the transaction does not close. The Compensation Committee believes that these benefits therefore serve to enhance stockholder value, and align the officers' interest with those of our stockholders.

Our agreements with named executive officers are described under *Summary of Employment and Other Agreements* below. The potential payments that each of named executive officer would have received if a change in control or termination of employment had occurred on June 30, 2012 are set forth under *Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change in Control* below.

Other Benefits

We provide other customary benefits that are comprehensive and apply uniformly to all of our employees, including our named executive officers. Our employee benefits program includes medical, dental, prescription drug, Medical and Dependent Care Flexible Spending contribution, vision care, disability insurance, life insurance benefits, business travel insurance, 401(k) savings plan with employer match, educational assistance, employee assistance program and holidays. We do not include a fixed vacation allowance for named executive officers, as they typically travel extensively and are requested to be available to us even while vacationing. We do not provide a defined benefit retirement pension plan, supplemental life insurance or the use of company vehicles to our named executive officers.

In January 1999, our Board adopted our 1999 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, or the Purchase Plan. In December 2005, our stockholders approved an amendment to the Purchase Plan to increase the maximum number of shares of common stock that may be issued under the plan by 5,000,000 to a total of 12,000,000 shares. The Purchase Plan permits eligible employees, including our named executive officers, to acquire shares of our common stock through periodic payroll deductions of up to 15% of total compensation. No more than 1,000 shares may be purchased on any purchase date per employee, and each offering period has a maximum duration of 3 months. The price at which the common stock may be purchased is 85% of the lesser of the fair market value of our common stock on the first day of the applicable offering period or on the last day of the respective purchase period.

Tax Considerations

The Compensation Committee has considered the provisions of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the Code, and related Treasury Department regulations, which restrict deductibility of executive compensation paid to our named executive officers holding office at the end of

any year to the extent this compensation exceeds \$1,000,000 for any of these officers in any year and does not qualify for an exception

Table of Contents

under the statute or regulations. Income from options granted under our stockholder-approved stock option plan would generally qualify for an exemption from these restrictions so long as the options are granted by a committee whose members are outside directors (as defined by Section 162(m)) and have an exercise price no less than the fair market value of the shares on the date of grant. We expect that the Compensation Committee will continue to be comprised solely of outside directors, and that any options granted to our executive officers will be approved by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee does not believe in general that the other components of our compensation programs are likely to result in a material restriction in deductibility for any executive officer in the foreseeable future, and therefore concluded that no further action with respect to qualifying this compensation for deductibility was necessary at this time. In the future, the Compensation Committee expects to continue evaluating the advisability of qualifying our executive compensation for deductibility. The Compensation Committee's policy is to qualify its executive compensation for deductibility under applicable tax laws as practicable.

Compensation Risk Evaluation

At the direction of our Compensation Committee management reviews and reports to the Compensation Committee on its assessment regarding elements of our compensation program that could pose a risk to the Company. Management reported to the Compensation Committee its determination that the Company's executive compensation program does not encourage excessive risk or unnecessary risk taking due to factors such as our programs are composed of fixed and variable pay components, the balance of short-term and long-term performance goals in our incentive compensation system, the established limits on permissible incentive award levels and generally applicable internal controls, including financial, operational and compliance policies and practices.

Stock Ownership and Hedging

At present, the Compensation Committee has not established any equity or security ownership requirements for its executive officers which is a policy that is reviewed annually as part of the regular review of our pay plans. We prohibit executive officers from hedging the economic risk of ownership of our stock.

Table of Contents**Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth information for fiscal year 2012 concerning the compensation of our named executive officers:

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

Name and Principle Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)⁽¹⁾	Stock Awards (\$)⁽²⁾	Option Awards (\$)⁽²⁾	Other Equity and Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)⁽¹⁾	All Other Compensation (\$)⁽³⁾	Total (\$)
Oscar Rodriguez <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>	2012	550,000		263,000	997,860		21,044 ⁽⁴⁾	1,831,904
	2011	473,140		454,500	1,249,560	886,435 ⁽⁶⁾	97,714 ⁽⁵⁾	3,161,349
John Kurtzweil <i>Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer</i>	2012	1,481						1,481
David Ginsburg <i>Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer</i>	2012	295,000					270	295,270
	2011	174,352			740,640	184,000 ⁽⁶⁾	1,358	1,100,350
Diane Honda⁽⁸⁾ <i>Former Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary</i>	2012	273,000	125,000	49,350	83,155		6,447	536,952
	2011	259,583		102,298	74,064	107,444 ⁽⁶⁾	270	543,659
	2010	237,500		82,200			325	320,025
Mimi Gigoux⁽⁹⁾ <i>Former Executive Vice President, Human Resources</i>	2012	253,000			82,250	291,043	3,999	630,292
James T. Judson⁽¹⁰⁾ <i>Former Interim Vice President and Chief Financial Officer</i>	2012	350,000			149,000		774	499,774
	2011	105,035				160,380	226	265,641
	2010							
Michael L. Seaton⁽¹¹⁾ <i>Former Vice President, World Wide Sales &</i>	2012	252,083			116,417	205,406	141,374 ⁽⁷⁾	715,280
	2011	275,000		230,436	259,194	181,137	270	946,037
	2010	266,667		145,220			270	412,157

Services

- (1) Bonus amounts represent discretionary fixed bonuses. Performance-based bonuses are generally paid under our equity incentive plans and sales commission plan and represented as Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation.
- (2) Represents the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification, or ASC, Topic 718, and do not reflect whether our named executive officer has actually realized a financial benefit from the award. For information on the assumptions used to calculate the value of the awards, refer to Note 7 to our consolidated financial statements in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. In accordance with SEC rules, the amounts shown exclude the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions.
- (3) Comprised of contributions to group term life insurance, employer sponsored health benefits and other miscellaneous items.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

- (4) Includes \$14,329 for life insurance premium.
- (5) Includes \$81,840 of allowance for relocation expenses and \$15,874 for contributions to term life insurance and short-term disability plan.
- (6) Represents the value of performance based RSUs granted under our 2011 Incentive Plan. None of the performance metrics were achieved, and none of these RSUs vested as a result.
- (7) Includes \$137,500 of severance payments.

Table of Contents

- (8) Ms. Honda served in her position through the end of fiscal 2012 but subsequently resigned from the Company effective October 5, 2012.
- (9) Ms. Gigoux served in her position through the end of fiscal 2012 but subsequently resigned from the Company effective August 24, 2012.
- (10) Mr. Judson resigned from the Company effective June 29, 2012.
- (11) Mr. Seaton resigned from the Company effective May 31, 2012.

Summary of Employment and Other Agreements

The following is a description of employment and other agreements between us and our named executive officers.

President and Chief Executive Officer

In August 2010, we entered into an offer letter of employment, which was amended in September 2012 as described below, with Mr. Rodriguez for service as our President and Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the terms the offer letter of employment, Mr. Rodriguez was initially to receive an annual salary of \$550,000, less applicable taxes and withholdings, and was originally eligible to participate in our standard employee benefits plans, including our annual incentive plan with a target of 100% of his annual base salary. In addition, Mr. Rodriguez was granted a one-time option to acquire 900,000 shares of our common stock with an exercise price equal to the closing price of our common stock on the grant date. One-fourth of these shares vest one year after the commencement of Mr. Rodriguez's employment with us, and the remaining shares vest monthly over the following three years at a rate of 1/48th of the entire option each month, subject to Mr. Rodriguez's continued employment with us. The vesting of the shares subject to this option may be accelerated upon a change in control, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Severance Plan (described below under the Executive Change in Control Severance Plan). Mr. Rodriguez was also granted 100,000 shares of restricted stock that vest in three annual installments, subject to his continued employment with us.

To compensate Mr. Rodriguez for the loss of a performance bonus at his former company, we awarded him 50,000 shares of restricted stock that vest on the first anniversary of his employment with us, subject to his continued employment with us. In addition, we entered into an Executive Change in Control Severance Agreement with Mr. Rodriguez under which Mr. Rodriguez would be entitled to receive a lump sum payment equal to (i) 18 months of his base salary, less applicable withholding taxes, in certain circumstances involving a change of control in us, or (ii) 12 months of his base salary, less applicable withholding taxes, in certain circumstance involving our termination of Mr. Rodriguez's employment without cause or for "Good Reason". In addition, (i) if we are acquired by an entity that does not have stock listed on a U.S. equity exchange, all of Mr. Rodriguez's unvested stock options vest upon the closing of such a transaction, and (ii) "Good Reason" would include our being a party to a merger or acquisition, immediately after the closing of which Mr. Rodriguez duties and responsibilities are materially reduced from serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the surviving publicly listed corporation Mr. Rodriguez was also awarded a one time, lump-sum cash payment of \$50,000 to relocate his household from Florida to California, such amount to be grossed up for tax purposes. Pursuant to the offer letter, we appointed Mr. Rodriguez to our Board in October 2010 and he must immediately resign as a member of our Board upon the date his employment with us terminates.

In September 2012, we entered into an amendment to the offer letter with Mr. Rodriguez, whereby his annual salary was reduced to \$524,000 and his annual target bonus was increased to 110% of his annual base salary.

Table of Contents

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

In May 2012, we entered into an offer letter of employment with Mr. Kurtzweil for service as our Senior Vice President and Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the terms the offer letter of employment, Mr. Kurtzweil is to receive an annual salary of \$385,000, less applicable taxes and withholdings and will be eligible to participate in our standard employee benefits plans, including our annual incentive plan with a target of 50% of his annual base salary. In addition, Mr. Kurtzweil was granted a one-time option to acquire 350,000 shares of our common stock with an exercise price equal to the closing price of our common stock on the grant date. One-fourth of these shares vest one year after the commencement of Mr. Kurtzweil's employment with us, and the remaining shares vest monthly over the following three years at a rate of 1/48 of the entire option each month, subject to Mr. Kurtzweil's continued employment with us. Mr. Kurtzweil was also granted 40,000 shares of restricted stock that vest in three annual installments, subject to his continued employment with us. The vesting of the shares subject to this option and restricted stock grant may be accelerated upon a change in control, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Severance Plan. In addition, we entered into an Executive Change in Control Severance Agreement with Mr. Kurtzweil in the form standard for our executive officers under which Mr. Kurtzweil would be entitled to a severance benefit period of 12 months. In addition, should Mr. Kurtzweil employment be terminated by the Company other than for Cause, he is entitled to receive a payment equal to 12 months of his salary as of the date of termination, a payment equal to the pro rata portion of his target bonus through his date of termination, and the continuation of medical benefits for 12 months, as further described in his offer letter.

Former Interim Chief Financial Officer

Under an offer letter of employment to be our Interim Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Judson was paid an annual base salary of \$350,000, less applicable taxes and withholdings. He also was eligible to participate in our bonus plans with an annual target of 60% of his then current annual base salary. In addition, Mr. Judson was granted a one-time option to acquire 100,000 shares of our common stock with an exercise price equal to the closing price of our common stock on the grant date. Fifty percent of the shares vested six months after the commencement of Mr. Judson's employment with us, and the remaining shares vesting one year after the commencement of his employment. Upon his agreement to extend his term as Interim Chief Executive Officer in September 2011, the Compensation Committee approved a grant of 50,000 RSUs to Mr. Judson which vested on March 14, 2012. In connection with Mr. Judson's resignation from the Company upon the appointment of Mr. Kurtzweil, we entered into a resignation and consulting agreement with Mr. Judson under which Mr. Judson agreed to continue to provide consulting services to the Company, as needed, at a rate of \$175.00 per hour for a minimum of two months after the date of his resignation. Mr. Judson was not entitled to participate in the Company's Severance Plan.

Former Vice President, Worldwide Sales and Services

In connection with his resignation from the Company effective May 31, 2012, we entered into a resignation agreement and general release of claims with Mr. Seaton. Under the agreement, in exchange for granting the Company a general release of claims, Mr. Seaton was provided with a lump sum payment equal to \$137,500 and six months of COBRA payments, less applicable withholding. In addition the period in which Mr. Seaton was entitled to exercise his vested stock options was extended by one month in accordance with the 2005 Plan.

Former Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

In connection with her resignation from the Company effective October 5, 2012, we entered into a consulting agreement with Ms. Honda under which she agreed to continue to provide consulting services, as needed, to the Company at a rate of \$15,925.00 per month for two months after the effective date of her resignation.

Table of Contents

Executive Change in Control Severance Plan

On February 8, 2006, the independent members of our Board, upon the recommendation of the Compensation Committee, approved the terms of an Executive Change in Control Severance Plan in order to ensure retention of key personnel and continuity of the business in the event of a change in control of the business. On August 7, 2008, the independent members of our Board, upon the recommendation of the Compensation Committee, approved an amendment and restatement of the Executive Change in Control Severance Plan. We refer to this plan, as amended and restated, as the Severance Plan.

Cash Compensation and Benefits

Under the Severance Plan for participants other than Mr. Rodriguez, severance compensation, health care and other benefits are provided to a Severance Plan participant if the participant is terminated without cause or resigns as a result of certain adverse circumstances described in the Severance Plan within 12 months after a change in control. The amount of this severance compensation that would be provided to a participant is equal to that participant's then current salary and target bonus for the applicable severance benefit period. The Compensation Committee has established that the severance benefit period for participants is 18 months in the case of the Chief Executive Officer, 12 months in the case of Section 16 Officers and vice presidents who report directly to the Chief Executive Officer and 6 months in the case of eligible vice presidents designated by the Compensation Committee. In addition, the severance benefit period establishes the period of time during which health care and other benefits are provided to a participant. For Mr. Rodriguez, solely a change of control gives him the right to the benefits to which he is entitled under the Severance Plan. Mr. Judson is not eligible to participate in the Severance Plan.

Equity Awards

The Severance Plan also provides that equity awards granted prior to August 7, 2008 (the effective date of the amendment to the plan) with respect to individuals who were participants as of that date and certain other equity awards as determined by the Compensation Committee at the time of grant are treated as follows in the event of a Change in our Control:

if the participant's options and SARs are not assumed or otherwise continued by an acquirer, 100% of the participant's then unvested options and SARs would accelerate;

if the participant is not terminated and an acquirer assumes the participant's outstanding options and SARs, the vesting of fifty percent (50%) of the participant's then unvested options and SARs would accelerate as of the date of the change in control and the remainder of the participant's unvested options and SARs would vest in equal monthly installments over a period equal to one half of the remainder of the participant's original vesting schedule;

if the participant is terminated and the participant's options and SARs are assumed or otherwise continued by an acquirer, 100% of the participant's then unvested options and SARs would accelerate; and

the vesting of all other awards, including restricted stock and RSUs, would accelerate.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

However, the Severance Plan further provides that, unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee at the time of grant, equity awards granted after August 7, 2008 (the effective date of the amendment to the plan) to participants are treated as follows in the event of a Change in our Control:

if equity awards are not assumed or otherwise continued by an acquirer, accelerated vesting would occur only with respect to the number of months in the applicable participant's severance benefit period; and

if equity awards are assumed or otherwise continued by an acquirer, acceleration of vesting of these awards would occur only upon a Double Trigger Termination (as defined in the plan), and then would accelerate 100%;

Table of Contents

In the event that any payment or benefit received or to be received by a participant under the Severance Plan or otherwise would subject the participant to any excise tax pursuant to Section 4999 of the Code due to the characterization of such payments as an excess parachute payment under Section 280G of the Code, then, notwithstanding the other provisions of the Severance Plan, the amount of such payments would not exceed the amount which produces the greatest after-tax benefit to the participant. The Severance Plan does not provide for payment of any applicable excise tax by us or other gross-up payments to offset the impact of any applicable excise tax.

Certain Definitions

For purposes of the Severance Plan, the following definitions apply:

Cause means the occurrence of any of the following: (i) the participant's theft, dishonesty, misconduct, breach of fiduciary duty for personal profit, or falsification of any our documents or records; (ii) the participant's material failure to abide by our code of conduct or other policies (including, without limitation, policies relating to confidentiality and reasonable workplace conduct); (3) misconduct by the participant within the scope of Section 304 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 as a result of which of we are required to prepare an accounting restatement; (4) the participant's unauthorized use, misappropriation, destruction or diversion of any tangible or intangible asset or corporate opportunity of ours (including, without limitation, the participant's improper use or disclosure of our confidential or proprietary information); (5) any intentional act by the participant which has a material detrimental effect on our reputation or business; (6) the participant's repeated failure or inability to perform any reasonable assigned duties after written notice from us of, and a reasonable opportunity to cure, such failure or inability; (7) any material breach by the participant of any employment, non-disclosure, non-competition, non-solicitation or other similar agreement between the participant and us, which breach is not cured pursuant to the terms of such agreement; or (8) the participant's conviction (including any plea of guilty or nolo contendere) of any criminal act involving fraud, dishonesty, misappropriation or moral turpitude, or which impairs the participant's ability to perform his or her duties with us.

Change in our Control means the occurrence of any of the following:

any person (as such term is used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act, other than a trustee or other fiduciary holding our securities under an employee benefit plan, becomes the beneficial owner (as defined in Rule 13d-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of our securities representing more than fifty percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of our then-outstanding securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors;

we are party to a merger or consolidation which results in the holders of our voting securities outstanding immediately prior thereto failing to retain immediately after such merger or consolidation direct or indirect beneficial ownership of more than fifty percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of the securities entitled to vote generally in the election of our directors or the surviving entity outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation;

the sale or disposition of all or substantially all of our assets or consummation of any transaction having similar effect (other than a sale or disposition to one or more of our subsidiaries); or

a change in the composition of our Board within any twelve (12) month period as a result of which fewer than a majority of the directors are Incumbent Directors (defined as a director who either (i) is a member of our Board as of February 8, 2006, or (ii) is elected, or nominated for election, to our Board with the affirmative votes of at least a majority of the Incumbent Directors at the time of such election or nomination, but (iii) was not elected or nominated in connection with an actual or threatened proxy contest relating to the election of our directors).

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

However, to the extent that any amount constituting nonqualified deferred compensation subject to Section 409A of the Code would become payable under the Severance Plan by reason of a Change in our

Table of Contents

Control, such amount shall become payable only if the event constituting a Change in our Control would also constitute a change in ownership or effective control of us, or a change in the ownership of a substantial portion of our assets, within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code.

Indemnity Agreements

We have entered into indemnification agreements with our executive officers and directors. These indemnification agreements require us to indemnify these individuals to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to stock and option awards and other plan-based awards, including non-equity incentive awards, granted during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 to our named executive officers. For a narrative description of the various plan-based awards set forth in the following table, see the discussion above under the heading *Compensation Discussion and Analysis*.

GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS

Name	Grant Date	Approval Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards ⁽¹⁾			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards ⁽³⁾
			Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$) ⁽²⁾				
Oscar Rodriguez	7/25/2011	7/25/2011	55,000	550,000	825,000				
	8/3/2011	8/3/2011				100,000		263,000	
	8/10/2011	8/10/2011					600,000	3.29	997,860
John Kurtzweil									
David Ginsburg	7/25/2011	7/25/2011	14,750	147,500	221,250				
Diane Honda⁽⁴⁾	7/25/2011	7/25/2011	10,920	109,200	163,800				
	8/3/2011	8/3/2011				15,000		49,350	
	8/3/2011	8/3/2011					50,000	3.29	83,155
Mimi Gigoux⁽⁵⁾	7/25/2011	7/25/2011	10,120	126,500	189,750				
	8/3/2011	8/3/2011				25,000		82,250	
	8/3/2011	8/3/2011					175,000	3.29	291,043
James T. Judson⁽⁶⁾	7/25/2011	7/25/2011	21,000	210,000	315,000				
	11/4/2011					50,000		149,000	
Michael Seaton⁽⁷⁾				200,000					

- (1) Our annual incentives usually are (and, in fiscal year 2012, were) based upon threshold, target and maximum payout amounts set by our Board, upon the recommendation of the Compensation Committee, at the beginning of each fiscal year. The actual amounts earned by each named executive officer for fiscal year 2012 is set forth in the Summary Compensation Table elsewhere in this Proxy Statement under the heading *Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation*.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

- (2) The maximum amount payable if results exceed objectives was 150% for our named executive officers.
- (3) The grant date fair value is generally the amount we would expense in our financial statements over the award's service period in accordance with ASC Topic 718, but does exclude the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions.
- (4) Ms. Honda resigned from the Company effective October 5, 2012.
- (5) Ms. Gigoux resigned from the Company effective August 24, 2012.

Table of Contents

- (6) Mr. Judson resigned from the Company effective June 29, 2012.
- (7) Mr. Seaton resigned from the Company effective May 31, 2012. Mr. Seaton did not participate in our executive incentive plans, but instead had a separate commission plan as discussed in additional detail elsewhere in this Proxy Statement under the heading *Sales Commission Plan*.

Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the value of all unexercised options previously awarded to our named executive officers as of June 30, 2012.

OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS

Name	Option Awards				Stock Awards	
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$)
Marilyn Gigoux ⁽¹⁾	51,041	123,959 ⁽⁵⁾	\$ 3.29	8/3/2018	16,666 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$ 57,331
David Ginsburg	158,333	241,667 ⁽⁶⁾	\$ 3.68	2/2/2018	50,000 ⁽¹²⁾	\$ 172,000
Diane Honda ⁽²⁾	10,000		\$ 3.53	8/3/2016	15,000 ⁽¹³⁾	\$ 51,600
	10,000		\$ 4.49	10/25/2015	13,200 ⁽¹⁴⁾	\$ 45,408
	15,000		\$ 6.89	11/19/2014		
	7,500		\$ 4.09	7/5/2015		
	0	50,000 ⁽⁷⁾	\$ 3.29	8/3/2018		
	13,333	26,667 ⁽⁸⁾	\$ 3.68	2/2/2018		
	50,000		\$ 2.05	11/5/2018		
	10,000		\$ 4.25	10/26/2017		
James Judson ⁽³⁾	100,000		\$ 3.17	5/2/2018		
Juan Oscar Rodriguez	412,500	487,500 ⁽⁹⁾	\$ 3.03	11/3/2017	100,000 ⁽¹⁵⁾	\$ 344,000
	0	600,000 ⁽¹⁰⁾	\$ 3.29	8/3/2018	66,666 ⁽¹⁶⁾	\$ 229,331
Michael Seaton ⁽⁴⁾	127,500		\$ 4.25	10/26/2017		
	85,000		\$ 4.25	10/26/2017		
	30,000		\$ 3.53	8/3/2016		
	20,312		\$ 3.68	2/2/2018		
	50,000		\$ 3.03	11/3/2017		

- (1) Ms. Gigoux resigned from the company effective August 24, 2012.
- (2) Ms. Honda resigned from the Company effective October 5, 2012.
- (3) Mr. Judson resigned from the Company effective June 29, 2012.
- (4) Mr. Seaton resigned from the company effective May 31, 2012.
- (5) This stock option vests monthly and will be fully vested on April 18, 2015.
- (6) This stock option vests monthly and will be fully vested on November 20, 2014.
- (7) This stock option vests as to 25% of the shares on August 3, 2012 and as to 1/48th of the shares each month over the three years thereafter.
- (8) This stock option vests monthly and will be fully vested on February 2, 2015.
- (9) This stock option vests monthly and will be fully vested on August 23, 2014.
- (10) This stock option vests as to 25% of the shares on August 3, 2012 and as to 1/48th of the shares each month over the three years thereafter.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

- (11) These RSU s vest as to 33.3% of the units each anniversary over three years, starting April 18, 2012.
- (12) These RSU s vest 100% on September 8, 2013.

Table of Contents

- (13) These RSU s vest as to 33.3% of the units each anniversary over three years, starting August 3, 2012
 (14) These RSU s will be fully vested on February 2, 2013.
 (15) These RSU s vest as to 33.3% of the units each anniversary over three years, starting August 10, 2012
 (16) These RSU s vest 50% on August 23, 2012 and 50% vest on August 23, 2013.

Option Exercises and Stock Vested During Last Fiscal Year

The following table sets forth certain information concerning option exercises by our named executive officers and vesting of our common stock held by them during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED**Option Exercises and Stock Awards Released**

	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Received on Exercise (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$) ⁽¹⁾
Gigoux, Mimi ⁽²⁾			4,901	\$ 35,336
Ginsburg, David				\$
Honda, Diane ⁽³⁾			11,227	\$ 52,303
Judson, James ⁽⁴⁾			31,191	\$ 187,500
Kurtzweil, John				\$
Rodriguez, Juan Oscar			52,768	\$ 239,169
Seaton, Michael ⁽⁵⁾			19,196	\$ 99,035

- (1) Represents the amount realized based on the market price of our common stock on the vesting date.
 (2) Ms. Gigoux resigned from the Company effective August 24, 2012.
 (3) Ms. Honda resigned from the Company effective October 5, 2012.
 (4) Mr. Judson resigned from the Company effective June 29, 2012.
 (5) Mr. Seaton resigned from the Company effective May 31, 2012.

Pension Benefits and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plans

We do not have any plans with any of our named executive officers that provide for payments or other benefits at, following, or in connection with retirement. We also do not have any defined contribution or other plan with any of our named executive officers that provides for the deferral of compensation on a basis that is not tax qualified.

Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control

We have entered into agreements under our Executive Change of Control and Severance Plan that may require us to provide compensation to our named executive officers in the event of a termination of employment or a change in control of us:

These agreements, including the circumstances that would trigger payments or the provision of other benefits, and material conditions and obligations applicable to the recipient of payments and benefits, are described in *Summary of Employment and Other Agreements* elsewhere in this *Executive Compensation* section.

Table of Contents

The following table describes the potential payments that we would have been required to make upon our termination of each of our named executive officers, whether or not within one year following a change in our control, had we terminated such officer as of June 30, 2012, under the assumptions set forth in the footnotes to the table. Accordingly, the table does not present information regarding named executive officers whose service to us was terminated prior to this date. Except as expressly noted, these assumptions have not actually occurred.

	Potential Payments upon Termination Other than for Cause \$(¹)	Potential Payments Following Change of Control Other than for Cause \$(²)	Potential Payments upon Termination Other than for Cause Following Change in Control \$(³)
<u>Oscar Rodriguez</u>			
Salary ⁽⁴⁾	550,000 ⁽⁹⁾		775,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Bonus	550,000 ⁽¹⁰⁾		775,000 ⁽⁶⁾
Equity award vesting acceleration ⁽⁷⁾	1,032,331		1,032,331
Health and welfare benefits	32,853		49,279 ⁽⁸⁾
Total	2,165,184		2,631,610
<u>John Kurtzweil</u>			
Salary ⁽⁴⁾	385,000		385,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Bonus	192,500		192,500 ⁽⁶⁾
Equity award vesting acceleration ⁽⁷⁾			
Health and welfare benefits	9,262		18,524 ⁽⁸⁾
Total	586,762		596,024
<u>David Ginsburg</u>			
Salary ⁽⁴⁾	147,500		295,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Bonus	73,750		147,500 ⁽⁶⁾
Equity award vesting acceleration ⁽⁷⁾			86,000
Health and welfare benefits	457		913 ⁽⁸⁾
Total	221,707		529,413
<u>Diane Honda⁽¹¹⁾</u>			
Salary ⁽⁴⁾	136,500		273,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Bonus	54,600		109,200 ⁽⁶⁾
Equity award vesting acceleration ⁽⁷⁾			174,008
Health and welfare benefits	8,763		17,526 ⁽⁸⁾
Total	199,863		573,734
<u>Mimi Gigoux⁽¹²⁾</u>			
Salary ⁽⁴⁾	126,500		253,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Bonus	63,250		126,500 ⁽⁶⁾
Equity award vesting acceleration ⁽⁷⁾			83,581
Health and welfare benefits	5,377		10,755 ⁽⁸⁾
Total	195,127		473,836
<u>James Judson⁽¹³⁾</u>			
Salary ⁽⁴⁾			
Bonus			
Equity award vesting acceleration ⁽⁷⁾			
Health and welfare benefits			

Total		
<u>Michael Seaton</u> ⁽¹⁴⁾		
Salary ⁽⁴⁾	137,500	137,500 ⁽⁵⁾
Bonus		
Equity award vesting acceleration ⁽⁷⁾		
Health and welfare benefits		
Total	137,500	137,500

Table of Contents

- (1) Assumes termination without cause as of June 30, 2012, not within one year after a change in control. Cause is described, as applicable to each officer, in the *Summary of Employment and Other Agreements* section of this Proxy Statement. As a condition to receiving any benefits under this column, the applicable named executive officer is required to execute a general release of known and unknown claims in a form satisfactory to us.
- (2) Assumes a hypothetical change in control as of June 30, 2012, with no termination without cause within one year after the change in control. Also assumes that the company acquiring us in the hypothetical change in control did *not* assume or substitute equivalent replacements for the outstanding equity awards of the participants in the Severance Plan.
- (3) Assumes termination without cause as of June 30, 2012, within one year after a change in control.
- (4) The amounts listed in these rows do not include the payment of accrued salary that would be due upon termination of employment, are not adjusted for any applicable tax withholding, and do not include portions of bonuses that may be payable on a pro-rated basis based on the amount earned as of the time of the termination of employment.
- (5) Under the Severance Plan, if a participant in the Severance Plan is terminated without cause or resigns as a result of certain adverse circumstances described in the Severance Plan within 12 months after a change in control, among other things, the participant would be entitled to a lump sum payment in an amount equal to the aggregate amount of his monthly salary for a period of 18 months in the case of the chief executive officer and 12 months in the cases of the other named executive officers.
- (6) Under the Severance Plan, if a participant in the Severance Plan is terminated without cause or resigns as a result of certain adverse circumstances described in the Severance Plan within 12 months after a change in control, among other things, the participant would be entitled to a lump sum bonus payment for a period of 18 months in the case of the chief executive officer and 12 months in the cases of the other named executive officers with the applicable annual bonus amount to be based upon the aggregate of all annual incentive bonuses that would have been earned by the participant for the fiscal year of termination of employment, determined as if 100% of all applicable performance goals were achieved.
- (7) Assumes a price per share of our common stock equal to \$3.44, the closing market price on June 30, 2012 (the last business day of our last fiscal year). In the case of shares of common stock or RSUs, represents the aggregate value of all shares that would be accelerated. In the case of stock options, represents the aggregate spread (i.e., the difference between the exercise price and the closing price of our common stock on June 30, 2012) with respect to all options that would be accelerated. The exercise price of all stock options held by our named executive officers as of such date was greater than \$3.44 resulting in no aggregate spread value for these stock options.
- (8) Under the Severance Plan, if a participant in the Severance Plan is terminated without cause or resigns as a result of certain adverse circumstances described in the Severance Plan within 12 months after a change in control, among other things, the participant is entitled to reimbursement of 18 months of COBRA premiums in the case of the chief executive officer and 12 months of COBRA premiums in the cases of the other named executive officers. Assumes our payment of all premiums necessary to cover the applicable officer from June 30, 2012 until the 18 or 12 month anniversary thereof, as applicable, assuming that the applicable officer was covered under our group health plan as of June 30, 2012, that the officer timely elected to continue these benefits until the 18 or 12 month anniversary thereof, as applicable, and that premiums remain at the amounts in effect as of June 30, 2012.
- (9) Under Mr. Rodriguez's offer letter agreement, he is entitled to 12 months
- (10) Under Mr. Rodriguez's offer letter agreement, he is entitled to a payment equal to the pro rata portion of his target bonus through his date of termination in the event he is terminated without cause or resigns as a result of certain adverse circumstances as described in his offer letter.
- (11) Ms. Honda resigned from the Company effective October 5, 2012.
- (12) Ms. Gigoux resigned from the Company effective August 24, 2012.
- (13) Mr. Judson resigned from the Company effective June 29, 2012.
- (14) Mr. Seaton resigned from the Company effective May 31, 2012.

Table of Contents

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

See above under *Corporate Governance Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation*.

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

Actual or Potential Conflicts of Interest

We are not currently party to any transaction, or any currently proposed transaction, in which we were or are to be a participant and the amount involved exceeds \$120,000, and in which any related person had or will have a direct or indirect material interest.

Reporting, Review and Approval of Related Party Transactions

Pursuant to the charter of the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee has the responsibility and duty to approve all related-party transactions after reviewing each transaction for potential conflicts of interests and other improprieties. Pursuant to our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics:

Each employee, including each executive officer, is prohibited from engaging in activities that compete with us or compromise our interests unless first notifying our General Counsel or Vice President of Human Resources, and obtaining a waiver in writing in each instance. Each employee is required to inform his or her manager or our legal department of any conflict of interest, and is encouraged to consult with his or her manager or our legal department if the employee becomes aware of any conflict or potential conflict, or has a question as to a potential conflict.

Each member of our Board is prohibited from participating in any activities that are contrary to our interests, or which interfere with the director's ability to perform his or her duties objectively and effectively, or which interfere with the director's duty of loyalty to us and our stockholders. Each member of our Board is required to disclose to our Board any potential conflict of interest regarding or personal interest in any transaction our Board is considering. As to any potential conflict, the independent directors consult, as appropriate, with management and counsel in assessing the potential conflict, and the appropriate action or procedure for addressing or avoiding the potential conflict. A director is required to recuse himself or herself from participation in any deliberation or decision regarding a matter or transaction in which there is a conflict of interest between our interests and the director's personal interests or the interests of any other entity to which the director provides services. In the event a director becomes aware of any potential corporate opportunity that the director believes would have any direct or indirect value to us, the director is required to advise the Chief Executive Officer or our Board of the opportunity. In addition, each director is required to notify our Board of any outside board seats, public or private, on which the director has agreed to serve. Related party transactions in which a director may be involved are subject to the review of the Audit Committee.

The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics provides the following non-exhaustive list of examples of actual or potential conflicts with respect to the persons subject to the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (a "Subject Person"):

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

receipt, by a Subject Person or a member of his or her family, of improper personal benefits as a result of the Subject Person's position with us;

use by the Subject Person of our property for his or her personal benefit;

engagement by the Subject Person in activities that interfere with the Subject Person's loyalty to us or his or her ability to perform duties or responsibilities effectively;

work by a Subject Person simultaneously (whether as an employee or a consultant) for a competitor, customer or supplier;

a Subject Person, or a member of his or her family, having a financial interest in a customer, supplier or competitor which is significant enough to cause divided loyalty with us, or the appearance of divided loyalty (with the significance of a financial interest depending on many

Table of Contents

factors, such as size of investment in relation to the Subject Person's income, net worth and/or financial needs, the Subject Person's potential to influence decisions that could impact the Subject Person's interests, and the nature of the business or level of competition between us and the supplier, customer or competitor);

acquisition, by a Subject Person or a member of his or her family, of an interest in property (such as real estate, patent or other intellectual property rights or securities) in which the Subject Person has reason to know we have, or might have, a legitimate interest;

receipt, by a Subject Person or a member of his or her family, of a loan or a guarantee of a loan from a customer, supplier or competitor (other than a loan from a financial institution made in the ordinary course of business and on an arm's-length basis);

a Subject Person's divulging or using our confidential information—such as financial data, customer information, or computer programs—for the Subject Person's own personal or business purposes that are not first approved by our VP General Counsel or VP Human Resources in writing;

a Subject Person's making gifts or payments, or providing special favors, to customers, suppliers or competitors (or their immediate family members) with a value significant enough to cause the customer, supplier or competitor to make a purchase, or take or forego other action, which is beneficial to us and which the customer, supplier or competitor would not otherwise have taken;

a Subject Person's being given the right to buy stock in other companies or receipt of cash or other payments in return for promoting the services of an advisor, such as an investment banker, to us;

a Subject Person's, or his or her family member's, solicitation or acceptance of valuable gifts, payments, special favors or other consideration from customers, suppliers or competitors; and

a Subject Person's giving or receipt of gifts not in compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

SECTION 16(A) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, requires our executive officers, directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of our common stock to file initial reports of beneficial ownership and reports of changes in beneficial ownership with the SEC. These persons are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms filed by such person. Based solely on our review of the forms furnished to us and written representations from certain reporting persons, we believe that all filing requirements applicable to our executive officers, directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of our common stock were complied with in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, except that a Form 4 was not timely filed for Gordon L. Stitt with respect to a transaction in August 2011.

EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

We currently maintain two compensation plans that provide for the issuance of our common stock to officers and other employees, directors and consultants. These consist of the 2005 Plan and the Purchase Plan, which have been approved by our stockholders. The Purchase Plan was adopted by our Board in January 1999, and was approved by our stockholders in February 1999. The 2005 Plan was adopted by our Board in October 2005, and was approved by our stockholders in December 2005, replacing our prior equity compensation plans. The 2005 Plan expressly provides that, without the approval of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at a meeting of our stockholders, the administrator of the 2005 Plan (the Compensation Committee or other committee or subcommittee of our Board or, in the absence of a committee, our Board) may not provide for either the cancellation of outstanding options or SARs in exchange for the grant of new options or SARs at a lower exercise price or the amendment of outstanding options or SARs reduce the exercise price.

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes our equity compensation plans as of June 30, 2012:

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights(\$)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans⁽³⁾
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	11,072,078 ⁽¹⁾	2.93	12,444,774 ⁽⁴⁾
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	102,742 ⁽²⁾	6.66	
Totals	11,174,820	2.97	12,444,774

- (1) Of this amount, options for 7,854,126 and 2,168,644 shares of restricted stock were outstanding under the 2005 Plan, and options for 1,049,308 were outstanding under the 1996 Plan.
- (2) Of this amount, options for 74,002 shares were outstanding under the 2000 Stock Plan and options for 28,740 were outstanding under the 2001 Stock Plan.
- (3) Effective as of December 2, 2005, the 1996 Plan, the 2000 Stock Plan and the 2001 Stock Plan were terminated and up to 11,000,000 shares subject to awards that remained outstanding under the 1996 Plan, the 2000 Stock Plan the 2001 Stock Plan as of December 2, 2005 and which subsequently terminate without having been exercised or which are forfeited to the Company were added to the shares available under the 2005 Plan.
- (4) Of this amount 2,571,213 shares were available for issuance under the Stock Purchase Plan and 9,873,561 shares were available for issuance under the 2005 Plan.

Table of Contents

REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of the Securities and Exchange Commission's Regulation S-K with management. Based on such review and discussions, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, as amended.

The material in this report shall not be deemed to be soliciting material or filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, shall be deemed furnished in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, as amended, and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as a result of furnishing the disclosure in this manner.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Charles Carinalli, Chairman

Edward B. Meyercord, III

John C. Shoemaker

Table of Contents

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee (the "Audit Committee") of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Extreme Networks, Inc. (the "Company") oversees the quality of the Company's financial statements and its financial reporting on behalf of the Board. Management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements, maintaining appropriate accounting and financial reporting principles and policies and the reporting process, including internal controls and procedures designed to assure compliance with accounting standards and applicable laws and regulations. The Company's independent registered public accounting firm, is responsible for expressing opinions on the Company's annual financial statements and its internal control over financial reporting as of the end of the fiscal year. It is not the duty or responsibility of the Audit Committee or its members to conduct any type of auditing or accounting review or procedure, and each member of the Audit Committee relies on the integrity of those persons and organizations within and outside of the Company from whom the Audit Committee receives information and the accuracy of the financial and other information provided to the Audit Committee.

The current members of the Audit Committee are Maury Austin, John H. Kispert, Edward H. Kennedy, John C. Shoemaker and Edward Terino. Each member of the Audit Committee has been determined by the Board to be independent for purposes of the NASDAQ Marketplace Rules and the rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") as these rules apply to audit committee members. The Board has determined that Mr. Kispert is an audit committee financial expert, as defined in the rules of the SEC.

The Audit Committee has discussed and reviewed with the Company's independent auditors all matters required to be discussed under Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, *Communication with Audit Committees*, SEC rules and other professional standards. The Audit Committee has received from the independent auditors a formal written statement describing all relationships between the auditors and the Company that might bear on the auditors' independence consistent with Ethics and Independence Rule 3526 of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, *Communication with Audit Committee Concerning Independence*, discussed with the independent auditors any relationships that may impact their objectivity and independence, and satisfied itself as to the independent auditors' independence.

The Audit Committee discussed with the Company's independent auditors the overall scope and plans for their respective audits. The Audit Committee meets with the Company's independent auditors, with and without the Company's management present, to discuss the results of their audit of the Company's financial statements and its internal control over financial reporting as of the end of the fiscal year, the Company's internal audits and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting. Additionally, the Audit Committee has discussed and reviewed with the Company's management the audited financial statements and management's report on internal control over financial reporting as of the end of the fiscal year.

Based on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board that the Company's audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2012 for filing with the SEC. The Audit Committee and the Board have also recommended ratification of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

Table of Contents

The aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered by the Company's independent auditors for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements and its internal control over financial reporting as of the end of fiscal year 2012 and for their review of the unaudited interim financial statements included in the Company's Quarterly Reports on Forms 10-Q for fiscal year 2012, including accounting consultations on matters addressed during the annual audit and interim reviews were \$906,200 all of which was billed by KPMG LLP.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

John H. Kispert, Chairman

Maury Austin

Edward H. Kennedy

John C. Shoemaker

Edward Terino

The foregoing Audit Committee Report shall not be deemed to be filed or incorporated by reference into any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates such information by reference.

Table of Contents

STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS TO BE PRESENTED AT NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

Stockholder proposals may be brought before an annual meeting so long as they are provided to us on a timely basis and satisfy the other conditions set forth in the rules of the SEC. Under our Bylaws, in order for a stockholder proposal to be properly brought before the 2013 annual meeting, the proposal must be timely and received at our principal executive offices, addressed to the Secretary, not earlier than _____ and not later than _____, which, respectively, are 120 days and 90 days prior to the one-year anniversary of this year's mailing date for this Proxy Statement. Stockholder business that is not intended for inclusion in our proxy materials may be brought before the annual meeting so long as we receive notice of the proposal as specified by our Bylaws, addressed to the Secretary at our principal executive offices, not earlier than _____ and not later than _____. In the likelihood that the date of the 2013 annual meeting is advanced by more than 30 calendar days from the date of this Proxy Statement or the proposal is for a special meeting, we must receive notice of any stockholder proposals the later of either 90 days prior to the 2013 annual meeting or the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which the date of the meeting is publicly announced.

If a stockholder proposal is brought before the 2013 annual meeting, our management proxy holders will be authorized by our proxy form to vote for or against the proposal, in their discretion, in several circumstances, including if we provide information in the proxy statement for the meeting (a) regarding the nature of the matter and (b) advising stockholders how management intends to exercise its discretion to vote on the matter.

TRANSACTION OF OTHER BUSINESS

As of the date of this Proxy Statement, we know of no business that will be conducted at the 2012 Annual Meeting, other than as described in this Proxy Statement. If any other matter is properly brought before the 2012 Annual Meeting, or any adjournment or postponement of the 2012 Annual Meeting, the persons named in the accompanying form of proxy intend to vote the proxy on such matters in their discretion.

STOCKHOLDERS SHARING THE SAME LAST NAME AND ADDRESS

To reduce the expense of delivering duplicate proxy materials to stockholders who may have more than one account holding Extreme Networks stock but sharing the same address, we have adopted a procedure approved by the SEC called "householding." Under this procedure, certain stockholders of record who have the same address and last name, and who do not participate in electronic delivery of proxy materials, will receive only one copy of our Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and, as applicable, any additional proxy materials that are delivered until such time as one or more of these stockholders notifies us that they want to receive separate copies. This procedure reduces duplicate mailings and saves printing costs and postage fees, as well as natural resources. Stockholders who participate in householding will continue to have access to and utilize separate proxy voting instructions.

If you receive a single set of proxy materials as a result of householding, and you would like to have separate copies of our Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, annual report, or proxy statement mailed to you, please submit a request to our Corporate Secretary, or call our Investor Relations department at (408) 579-3030, and we will promptly send you what you have requested. However, please note that if you want to receive a paper proxy or voting instruction form or other proxy materials for purposes of this year's annual meeting, you should follow the instructions included in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials that was sent to you. You can also contact [our Investor Relations department] at the phone number above if you received multiple copies of the annual meeting materials and would prefer to receive a single copy in the future, or if you would like to opt out of householding for future mailings.

Table of Contents

COMMUNICATING WITH EXTREME NETWORKS

You can obtain information about us by one of the following methods:

1. Our home page on the Internet, located at <http://www.extremenetworks.com>, gives you access to product and marketing information, in addition to recent press releases, financial information and stock quotes, as well as links to our filings with the SEC. Online versions of this Proxy Statement, our 2012 Annual Report, and our letter to stockholders are located at <http://investor.extremenetworks.com>.

2. To have information such as our latest quarterly earnings release, 2012 Annual Report, or Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q mailed to you, please contact our Investor Relations at (408) 579-3030.

For other questions that you wish to direct via telephone, you may contact our Investor Relations department at (408) 579-3030.

Should you wish to send correspondence, you may send it either to (1) our Investor Relations department, or (2) if you wish for your correspondence to directly reach our Board, you may send it to our Chairman of the Board, who has been selected by our independent directors to receive, distribute and arrange responses for communications from our stockholders to our Board.

In sending any correspondence, you should use the following address:

Extreme Networks, Inc.
3585 Monroe Street
Santa Clara, CA 95051
Attn: Investor Relations
-or-
Attn: Chairman of the Board

We encourage you to conserve natural resources, as well as reduce printing and mailing costs, by signing up for electronic delivery of stockholder communications at <http://investor.extremenetworks.com>. For more information, see above under the heading *Electronic Delivery of Stockholder Communications*.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Oscar Rodriguez

President and Chief Executive Officer

Table of Contents

Annex A

EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.

AND

COMPUTERSHARE SHAREOWNER SERVICES LLC,

as Rights Agent

AMENDED AND RESTATED RIGHTS AGREEMENT

Dated as of April 26, 2012

A-1

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

1.	<u>Certain Definitions</u>	A-3
2.	<u>Appointment of Rights Agent</u>	A-8
3.	<u>Issuance of Right Certificates</u>	A-8
4.	<u>Form of Right Certificates</u>	A-9
5.	<u>Countersignature and Registration</u>	A-10
6.	<u>Transfer, Split Up, Combination and Exchange of Right Certificates; Mutilated, Destroyed, Lost or Stolen Right Certificates</u>	A-11
7.	<u>Exercise of Rights; Purchase Price; Expiration Date of Rights</u>	A-12
8.	<u>Cancellation and Destruction of Right Certificates</u>	A-12
9.	<u>Reservation and Availability of Shares of Preferred Stock</u>	A-13
10.	<u>Preferred Stock Record Date</u>	A-14
11.	<u>Adjustments to Number and Kind of Shares, Number of Rights or Purchase Price</u>	A-14
12.	<u>Certification of Adjustments</u>	A-21
13.	<u>Consolidation, Merger or Sale or Transfer of Assets or Earning Power</u>	A-22
14.	<u>Fractional Rights and Fractional Shares</u>	A-24
15.	<u>Rights of Action</u>	A-25
16.	<u>Agreement of Right Holders</u>	A-25
17.	<u>Right Certificate Holder Not Deemed a Stockholder</u>	A-26
18.	<u>Concerning the Rights Agent</u>	A-26
19.	<u>Merger or Consolidation or Changed Name of Rights Agent</u>	A-27
20.	<u>Duties of Rights Agent</u>	A-27
21.	<u>Change of Rights Agent</u>	A-29
22.	<u>Issuance of New Right Certificates</u>	A-30
23.	<u>Redemption</u>	A-30
24.	<u>Exchange of Rights for Common Stock</u>	A-31
25.	<u>Notice of Proposed Actions</u>	A-32
26.	<u>Notices</u>	A-32
27.	<u>Supplements and Amendments</u>	A-33
28.	<u>Successors</u>	A-34
29.	<u>Determinations and Actions by the Board of Directors</u>	A-34
30.	<u>Benefits of this Rights Agreement</u>	A-34
31.	<u>Governing Law</u>	A-34
32.	<u>Counterparts</u>	A-34
33.	<u>Descriptive Headings</u>	A-34
34.	<u>Severability</u>	A-34
35.	<u>Tax Benefits Review</u>	A-35
36.	<u>Force Majeure</u>	A-35
37.	<u>Patriot Act</u>	A-35

Table of Contents

AMENDED AND RESTATED RIGHTS AGREEMENT

This Amended and Restated Rights Agreement (**Rights Agreement**), is dated as of April 26, 2012, between Extreme Networks, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the **Company**), and Computershare Shareowner Services LLC, a New Jersey limited liability company, as rights agent (the **Rights Agent**).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Company on April 27, 2001 (i) authorized the issuance and declared a dividend of one right (**Right**) for each share of the common stock of the Company (**Common Stock**) outstanding as of the Close of Business (as such term is hereinafter defined) on May 14, 2001 (the **Record Date**), each Right representing the right to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Preferred Stock of the Company upon the terms and subject to the conditions of the Rights Agreement, dated as of April 27, 2001, between the Company and Mellon Investor Services LLC (operating with the service name BNY Mellon Shareowner Services) (**Mellon**) (the **Prior Agreement**), and (ii) further authorized the issuance of one Right with respect to each share of Common Stock of the Company that shall become outstanding between May 14, 2001 and the Distribution Date (as such term is hereinafter defined);

WHEREAS, the Prior Agreement was amended pursuant to (i) Amendment to Rights Agreement dated June 30, 2010 between the Company and Mellon and (ii) Amendment No. 2 to Rights Agreement dated April 27, 2011 between the Company and Mellon (each an **Amendment** and together the **Amendments**);

WHEREAS, the Rights Agent is the successor to Mellon as the rights agent under the Prior Agreement, as amended;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Company has determined that it is desirable and in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders for the Company to amend and restate the Prior Agreement, as amended in order to, among other things, extend the Final Expiration Date, incorporate the provisions of the Amendments into the Rights Agreement and amend certain other terms of the Prior Agreement, as amended as further set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual agreements herein set forth, the parties agree as follows:

1. **Certain Definitions.** For purposes of this Rights Agreement the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

(a) **Acquiring Person** shall mean any Person other than any Related Person or any Exempt Person who or which, together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person, without the prior approval of the Board of Directors, shall be the Beneficial Owner of 4.95% or more of the outstanding Common Stock; provided however, that no Person shall become an Acquiring Person solely as a result of an Exempt Transaction. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Board of Directors of the Company determines in good faith that a Person who would otherwise be an Acquiring Person, as defined pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this paragraph (a), has become such inadvertently (including, without limitation, because (i) such Person was unaware that it beneficially owned a percentage of Common Stock that would otherwise cause such

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

Person to be an Acquiring Person or (ii) such Person was aware of the extent of its Beneficial Ownership but had no actual knowledge of the consequences of such Beneficial Ownership under this Rights Agreement) and without any intention of changing or influencing control of the Company, such inadvertent acquisition did not result in the loss or impairment of Tax Benefits, and such Person divests as promptly as practicable a sufficient number of shares of Common Stock so that such Person would no longer be an Acquiring Person, as defined pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this paragraph (a), then such Person shall not be deemed to be or to have become an Acquiring Person for any purposes of this Rights Agreement.

A-3

Table of Contents

(b) **Affiliate** and **Associate** shall have the respective meanings ascribed to such terms in Rule 12b-2 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (**Exchange Act**), as in effect on the date of this Rights Agreement, and to the extent not included within the foregoing, shall also include with respect to any Person, any other Person whose Common Stock would be deemed to be constructively owned by such first Person, owned by a single entity as defined in Section 1.382-3(a)(1) of the Treasury Regulations, or otherwise aggregated with Common Stock owned by such first Person, pursuant to the provisions of the Code, or any successor or replacement provision, and the Treasury Regulations thereunder.

(c) A Person shall be deemed the **Beneficial Owner** of any securities

(i) which such Person or any of such Person's Affiliates or Associates beneficially owns, directly or indirectly;

(ii) which such Person or any of such Person's Affiliates or Associates, directly or indirectly, has (A) the right to acquire (whether such right is exercisable immediately or only after the passage of time) pursuant to any agreement, arrangement or understanding (other than customary agreements with and between underwriters and selling group members with respect to a bona fide public offering of securities), whether or not in writing, or upon the exercise of conversion rights, exchange rights, rights (other than the Rights), warrants or options, or otherwise; provided, however, that a Person shall not be deemed the **Beneficial Owner** of, or to beneficially own, securities tendered pursuant to a tender or exchange offer made by such Person or any of such Person's Affiliates or Associates until such tendered securities are accepted for purchase or exchange; or (B) the right to vote or dispose of or has beneficial ownership of (as determined pursuant to Rule 13d-3 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Exchange Act, or any comparable or successor rule), including pursuant to any agreement, arrangement or understanding (whether or not in writing); provided, however, that a Person shall not be deemed the **Beneficial Owner** of, or to beneficially own, any securities if the agreement, arrangement or understanding to vote such security (1) arises solely from a revocable proxy or consent given in response to a public proxy or consent solicitation made pursuant to, and in accordance with, the applicable rules and regulations of the Exchange Act and (2) is not also then reportable by such Person on Schedule 13D under the Exchange Act (or any comparable or successor report);

(iii) which are beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, by any other Person with which such Person or any of such Person's Affiliates or Associates has any agreement, arrangement or understanding (whether or not in writing) for the purpose of acquiring, holding, voting except as described in the proviso to clause (B) of subparagraph (ii) of this Section 1(c) or disposing of any securities of the Company; or

(iv) if such Person would be deemed to constructively own securities or such securities otherwise would be aggregated with shares owned by such Person pursuant to Section 382 of the Code or any successor or replacement provision, and the Treasury Regulations thereunder;

provided, however, that no Person who is an officer, director or employee of a Related Person shall be deemed, solely by reason of such Person's status or authority as such, to be the **Beneficial Owner** of, to have **Beneficial Ownership** of or to beneficially own any securities that are beneficially owned (as defined in this Section 1 (c)), including, without limitation, in a fiduciary capacity, by a Related Person or by any other such officer, director or employee of a Related Person.

For all purposes of this Rights Agreement, any calculation of the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding at any particular time, including any calculation for purposes of determining the particular percentage of such outstanding shares of Common Stock of which any Person is the **Beneficial Owner**, shall be made in accordance with the last sentence of Rule 13d-3 (d)(1)(i) of the General Rules and Regulations under the Exchange Act as in effect on the date hereof.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

(d) **Business Day** shall mean any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or a day on which banking institutions in the State of California or the State of New Jersey (or such other state in which the principal office of the Rights Agent is located) are authorized or obligated by law or executive order to close.

A-4

Table of Contents

(e) **Close of Business** on any given date shall mean 5:00 P.M., Pacific time, on such date; provided, however, that if such date is not a Business Day it shall mean 5:00 P.M., Pacific time, on the next succeeding Business Day.

(f) **Code** shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

(g) **Common Stock** when used with reference to the Company shall mean the common stock of the Company. **Common Stock** when used with reference to any Person other than the Company which shall be organized in corporate form shall mean the capital stock or other equity security with the greatest per share voting power of such Person or, if such Person is a Subsidiary of or is controlled by another Person, the Person which ultimately controls such first- mentioned Person. **Common Stock** when used with reference to any Person other than the Company which shall not be organized in corporate form shall mean units of beneficial interest which shall represent the right to participate in profits, losses, deductions and credits of such Person and which shall be entitled to exercise the greatest voting power per unit of such Person.

(h) **Common Stock Equivalents** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11(a)(iii) hereof.

(i) **Current Market Price** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11(d) hereof.

(j) **Current Value** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11(a)(iii) hereof.

(k) **Customer Identification Program** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 37 hereof.

(l) **Distribution Date** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3(a) hereof.

(m) **Equivalent Preferred Stock** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11(b) hereof.

(n) **Exchange Act** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1(b) hereof.

(o) **Exempt Person** shall mean any Person who, together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person,

(i) is the beneficial owner of securities representing 4.95% or more of the shares of Common Stock at the close of business on June 30, 2010; provided, however, that any such Person described in this clause (i) shall no longer be deemed to be an Exempt Person and shall be deemed an Acquiring Person if such Person, together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person, becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing a percentage of Common Stock that exceeds by one-half of one percent (0.5%) or more the lowest percentage of beneficial ownership of Common Stock that such Person had at any time since June 30, 2010, except solely (x) pursuant to equity compensation awards

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

granted to such Person by the Company or as a result of an adjustment to the number of shares of Common Stock represented by such equity compensation award pursuant to the terms thereof; (y) as a result of a redemption of shares of Common Stock by the Company; or (z) pursuant to the exercise of warrants to purchase Common Stock that are beneficially owned by such Person on June 30, 2010; or

(ii) becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing 4.95% or more of the shares of Common Stock then outstanding because of a reduction in the number of outstanding shares of Common Stock then outstanding as a result of the purchase by the Company or a Subsidiary of the Company of shares of Common Stock, provided, however, that any such Person described in this clause (ii) shall no longer be deemed to be an Exempt Person and shall be deemed an Acquiring Person if such Person, together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person, becomes the beneficial owner, at any time after the date such Person became the beneficial owner of 4.95% or more of the then outstanding shares of Common Stock, of securities representing a percentage of Common Stock that exceeds by one-half of one percent (0.5%) or more the lowest percentage of beneficial ownership of Common Stock that such Person had at any time since the date such Person first became the beneficial owner of 4.95% or more of the then outstanding shares of Common Stock, except solely (x) pursuant to equity compensation awards granted to such Person by the Company or as a result of an adjustment to

A-5

Table of Contents

the number of shares of Common Stock represented by such equity compensation award pursuant to the terms thereof; (y) as a result of a redemption of shares of Common Stock by the Company; or (z) pursuant to the exercise of warrants to purchase Common Stock that are beneficially owned by such Person on June 30, 2010; or

(iii) who is a beneficial owner of 4.95% or more of the shares of Common Stock outstanding and whose beneficial ownership, as determined by the Board of Directors of the Company in its sole discretion, (x) would not jeopardize or endanger the availability to the Company of Tax Benefits or (y) is otherwise in the best interests of the Company, provided, however, that if a Person is an Exempt Person solely by reason of this clause (iii), then such Person shall cease to be an Exempt Person if (I) such Person ceases to beneficially own 4.95% or more of the shares of the then outstanding Common Stock, (II) after the date of such determination by the Board, such Person, together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person, becomes the beneficial owner of securities representing a percentage of Common Stock that exceeds by one-half of one percent (0.5%) or more the lowest percentage of beneficial ownership of Common Stock that such Person had at any time since the date such Person first became the beneficial owner of 4.95% or more of the then outstanding shares of Common Stock, except solely (x) pursuant to equity compensation awards granted to such Person by the Company or as a result of an adjustment to the number of shares of Common Stock represented by such equity compensation award pursuant to the terms thereof; (y) as a result of a redemption of shares of Common Stock by the Company; or (z) pursuant to the exercise of warrants to purchase Common Stock that are beneficially owned by such Person on June 30, 2010; or (III) the Board, in its sole discretion, makes a contrary determination with respect to the effect of such Person's beneficial ownership (together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person) with respect to the availability to the Company of Tax Benefits.

A purchaser, assignee or transferee of the shares of Common Stock (or warrants or options exercisable for Common Stock) from an Exempt Person shall not thereby become an Exempt Person, except that a transferee from the estate of an Exempt Person who receives Common Stock as a bequest or inheritance from an Exempt Person shall be an Exempt Person so long as such Person continues to be the beneficial owner of 4.95% or more of the then outstanding shares of Common Stock.

(p) **Exempt Transaction** shall mean any transaction that the Board determines, in its sole discretion, is exempt from this Agreement, which determination shall be made in the sole and absolute discretion of the Board prior to the date of such transaction or within ten Business Days after such transaction, including, without limitation, if the Board determines that (i) neither the beneficial ownership of shares of Common Stock by any Person, directly or indirectly, as a result of such transaction nor any other aspect of such transaction would jeopardize or endanger the availability to the Company of the Tax Benefits or (ii) such transaction is otherwise in the best interests of the Company. In granting an exemption under this definition, the Board may require any Person who would otherwise be an Acquiring Person to make certain representations or undertakings or to agree that any violation or attempted violation of such representations or undertakings will result in such consequences and subject to such conditions as the Board may determine in its sole discretion, including that any such violation shall result in such Person becoming an Acquiring Person.

(q) **Final Expiration Date** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7(a) hereof.

(r) **Flip-In Event** shall mean any event described in Section 11(a)(ii)(A), 11(a)(ii)(B) or 11(a)(ii)(C) hereof.

(s) **Flip-In Trigger Date** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11(a)(ii)(C) hereof.

(t) **Flip-Over Event** shall mean any event described in clause (x), (y) or (z) of Section 13(a) hereof.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

(u) **NASDAQ** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9(b) hereof.

(v) **Person** shall mean any individual, partnership, firm, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, company, association, trust, unincorporated organization, joint venture,

A-6

Table of Contents

syndicate or group, or any group of Persons making a coordinated acquisition of stock or otherwise treated as an entity within the meaning of Section 1.382-3(a)(1) of the Treasury Regulations or otherwise, and shall include any successor (by merger or otherwise) of such entity.

(w) **Preferred Stock** shall mean the Series A Preferred Stock, \$.001 par value, of the Company having the rights, powers and preferences set forth in Exhibit A hereto, and, to the extent that there is not a sufficient number of shares of Series A Preferred Stock authorized to permit the full exercise of the Rights, any other series of Preferred Stock, \$.001 par value, of the Company designated for such purpose containing terms substantially similar to the terms of the Series A Preferred Stock.

(x) **Principal Party** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 13(b) hereof.

(y) **Purchase Price** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 4(a) hereof.

(z) **Record Date** shall have the meaning set forth in the WHEREAS clause at the beginning of the Rights Agreement.

(aa) **Redemption Date** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 7(a) hereof.

(ab) **Redemption Price** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 23(a) hereof.

(ac) **Related Person** shall mean the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company, including, without limitation, in its fiduciary capacity, any employee benefit plan or employee stock plan of the Company or of any Subsidiary of the Company, or any Person, organized, appointed, established or holding Common Stock for or pursuant to the terms of any such plan or any Person funding other employee benefits for employees of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company.

(ad) **Right Certificate** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3(a) hereof.

(ae) **Securities Act** shall mean the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

(af) **Stock Acquisition Date** shall mean the first date of public announcement by the Company or an Acquiring Person that an Acquiring Person has become such or such earlier date as a majority of the directors shall become aware of the existence of an Acquiring Person; provided, however that, if such Person is determined by the Board not to have become an Acquiring Person or that such Person is an Exempt Person, then no Stock Acquisition Date shall be deemed to have occurred.

(ag) **Substitution Period** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11(a)(iii) hereof.

- (ah) **Subsidiary** of a Person shall mean any corporation or other entity of which securities or other ownership interests having ordinary voting power sufficient to elect a majority of the board of directors or other persons performing similar functions are beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, by such Person and any corporation or other entity that is otherwise controlled by such Person.
- (ai) **Summary of Rights** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 3(b) hereof.
- (aj) **Tax Benefits** shall mean the net operating loss carryforwards, capital loss carryforwards, general business credit carryforwards, alternative minimum tax credit carryforwards, foreign tax credit carryforwards, any loss or deduction attributable to a net unrealized built-in loss within the meaning of Section 382 of the Code, and the Treasury Regulations, of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company.
- (ak) **Trading Day** shall have the meaning set forth in Section 11(d) hereof.
- (al) **Treasury Regulations** shall mean the final, temporary and proposed income tax regulations promulgated under the Code, as amended.
- (am) **Triggering Event** shall mean any event described in Section 11(a)(ii)(A), 11(a)(ii)(B) or 11(a)(ii) (C) or Section 13 hereof.
- (an) **Voting Power** shall mean the voting power of all securities of the Company then outstanding and generally entitled to vote for the election of directors of the Company.

Table of Contents

Any determination required by the definitions contained in this Section 1 shall be made by the Board of Directors of the Company in its good faith judgment, which determination shall be binding on the Rights Agent and the holders of the Rights. The Rights Agent, for all purposes of this Rights Agreement, shall always be entitled to assume that the Company's Board of Directors acted in good faith and shall be fully protected and incur no liability in reliance thereon.

2. Appointment of Rights Agent. The Company hereby appoints the Rights Agent to act as agent for the Company in accordance with the express terms and conditions of this Rights Agreement (and no implied terms or conditions), and the Rights Agent hereby accepts such appointment. The Company may from time to time appoint such co-Rights agents as it may deem necessary or desirable, upon ten (10) days prior written notice to the Rights Agent. The Rights Agent shall have no duty to supervise, and shall in no event be liable for, the acts or omissions of any such co-Rights agent. In the event the Company appoints one or more co-Rights agents, the respective duties of the Rights Agents and any co-Rights agents under the provisions of this Rights Agreement shall be as the Company shall determine and shall be acceptable to the Rights Agent.

3. Issuance of Right Certificates.

(a) Until the earlier of (i) the tenth day after but not including the Stock Acquisition Date (or, if the tenth day after but not including the Stock Acquisition Date occurs before the Record Date, the Close of Business on the Record Date) or (ii) the tenth business day (or such later date as may be determined by action of the Board of Directors prior to such time as any Person becomes an Acquiring Person) after but not including the date of the commencement by any Person (other than a Related Person) of, or of the first public announcement of the intent of any Person (other than a Related Person) to commence (which intention to commence remains in effect for five (5) business days after such announcement), a tender or exchange offer upon the successful consummation of which such Person, together with its Affiliates and Associates, would be the Beneficial Owner of 4.95% or more of the outstanding Common Stock (irrespective of whether any shares are actually purchased pursuant to any such offer) (including any such date which is after the date of this Rights Agreement and prior to the issuance of the Rights; the earlier of such dates being herein referred to as the **Distribution Date**), (x) the Rights will be evidenced (subject to the provisions of Section 3(c) hereof) by the certificates for the Common Stock registered in the names of the holders of the Common Stock and not by separate Right Certificates, and (y) each Right will be transferable only in connection with the transfer of a share (subject to adjustment as hereinafter provided) of Common Stock. As soon as practicable after the Company has notified the Rights Agent of the occurrence of a Distribution Date, the Company will prepare and execute, the Rights Agent will mail, at the expense of the Company and if provided with all necessary information, by first-class, postage prepaid mail, to each record holder of the Common Stock as of the Close of Business on the Distribution Date, as shown by the records of the Company, to the address of such holder shown on such records, a Right certificate in substantially the form of Exhibit B hereto (**Right Certificate**) evidencing one Right for each share of Common Stock so held. As of and after the Close of Business on the Distribution Date, the Rights will be evidenced solely by such Right Certificates. The Company shall as promptly as practicable notify the Rights Agent in writing upon the occurrence of the Distribution Date and, if such notification is given orally, the Company shall confirm the same in writing on or prior to the Business Day next following. Until such notice has been received by the Rights Agent, the Rights Agent may presume conclusively for all purposes that the Distribution Date has not occurred.

(b) On the Record Date, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the Company will send a copy of a Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Stock, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C (**Summary of Rights**), by first-class, postage prepaid mail, to each record holder of Common Stock as of the Close of Business on the Record Date, at the address of such holder shown on the records of the Company.

(c) Rights shall be issued in respect of all shares of Common Stock that are issued (either as an original issuance or from the Company's treasury) after the Record Date prior to the earlier of the Distribution Date

Table of Contents

or the Expiration Date. With respect to certificates representing such shares of Common Stock, the Rights will be evidenced by such certificates for Common Stock registered in the names of the holders thereof together with the Summary of Rights. Until the Distribution Date (or, if earlier, the Expiration Date), the surrender for transfer of any certificate for Common Stock outstanding on the Record Date (with or without a copy of the Summary of Rights attached thereto), shall also constitute the surrender for transfer of the Rights associated with the Common Stock represented thereby.

(d) Certificates issued for Common Stock (including, without limitation, certificates issued upon transfer or exchange of Common Stock) after the Record Date but prior to the earlier of the Distribution Date or the Expiration Date shall have impressed on, printed on, written on or otherwise affixed to them the following (or a substantially similar) legend:

This certificate also evidences and entitles the holder hereof to certain Rights as set forth in a Amended and Restated Rights Agreement between Extreme Networks, Inc. and Computershare Shareowner Services LLC, as Rights Agent, dated as of April 26, 2012, as the same may be amended from time to time (the **Rights Agreement**), the terms and conditions of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference and a copy of which is on file at the principal executive office of Extreme Networks, Inc. Under certain circumstances, as set forth in the Rights Agreement, such Rights will be evidenced by separate certificates and will no longer be evidenced by this certificate. Extreme Networks, Inc. will mail to the holder of this certificate a copy of the Rights Agreement without charge after receipt by it of a written request therefor. Under certain circumstances, as provided in the Rights Agreement, Rights issued to, beneficially owned by or transferred to any person who is or becomes an Acquiring Person (as defined in the Rights Agreement) or an Associate or Affiliate (as defined in the Rights Agreement) thereof and certain transferees thereof will be null and void and will no longer be transferable.

With respect to such certificates containing the foregoing legend, the Rights associated with the Common Stock represented by such certificates shall, until the Distribution Date, be evidenced by such certificates alone, and registered holders of Common Stock shall also be the registered holders of the associated Rights, and the surrender for transfer of any such certificate shall also constitute the surrender for transfer of the Rights associated with the Common Stock represented thereby. In the event that the Company purchases or acquires any shares of Common Stock after the Record Date but prior to the earlier of the Distribution Date, the Redemption Date or the Expiration Date, any Rights associated with such shares of Common Stock shall be deemed canceled and retired so that the Company shall not be entitled to exercise any Rights associated with the shares of Common Stock no longer outstanding.

Notwithstanding this paragraph (d), the omission of a legend shall not affect the enforceability of any part of this Rights Agreement or the rights of any holder of the Rights.

4. Form of Right Certificates.

(a) The Right Certificates (and the forms of election to purchase shares and of assignment to be printed on the reverse thereof), when, as and if issued, shall be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit B hereto and may have such changes and marks of identification or designation and such legends, summaries or endorsements printed thereon as the Company may deem appropriate (but which do not affect the rights, duties, obligations or immunities of the Rights Agent) and as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Rights Agreement, or as may be required to comply with any applicable law or with any applicable rule or regulation made pursuant thereto or with any applicable rule or regulation of any stock exchange on which the Rights may from time to time be listed, or to conform to customary usage. Subject to the provisions of Sections 11, 13 and 22 hereof, the Right Certificates evidencing the Rights issued on the Record Date whenever such certificates are issued, shall be dated as of the Record Date and the Right Certificates evidencing Rights to holders of record of Common Stock issued after the Record Date shall be dated as of the Record Date but shall also be dated to reflect the date of issuance of such Right Certificate. On their

Table of Contents

face, Right Certificates shall entitle the holders thereof to purchase, for each Right, one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, or other securities or property as provided herein, as the same may from time to time be adjusted as provided herein, at the price per one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock of \$150.00, as the same may from time to time be adjusted as provided herein (the **Purchase Price**).

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Rights Agreement, any Right Certificate that represents Rights that are or were at any time on or after the earlier of the Stock Acquisition Date or the Distribution Date beneficially owned by an Acquiring Person or any Affiliate or Associate thereof (or any transferee of such Rights) shall have impressed on, printed on, written on or otherwise affixed to it (if the Company and the Rights Agent have knowledge that such Person is an Acquiring Person or an Associate or Affiliate thereof or transferee of such Persons or a nominee of any of the foregoing) the following (or a substantially similar) legend:

The beneficial owner of the Rights represented by this Right Certificate is an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate (as defined in the Rights Agreement) of an Acquiring Person or a subsequent holder of such Right Certificates beneficially owned by such Persons. Accordingly, this Right Certificate and the Rights represented hereby are null and void and will no longer be transferable as provided in the Rights Agreement.

The Company shall give written notice to the Rights Agent promptly after the Company becomes aware of the existence and identity of any Acquiring Person or any Associate or Affiliate thereof. Until such notice is received by the Rights Agent, the Rights Agent may presume conclusively for all purposes that no Person has become an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or an Associate of an Acquiring Person. The Company shall instruct the Rights Agent in writing of the Rights which should be so legended. The provisions of Section 11(a)(ii) and Section 24 of this Rights Agreement shall be operative whether or not the foregoing legend is contained on any such Right Certificates.

5. Countersignature and Registration.

(a) The Right Certificates shall be executed on behalf of the Company by its Chief Executive Officer, its President or any Vice President, either manually or by facsimile signature, and have affixed thereto the Company's seal or a facsimile thereof which shall be attested by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary of the Company, either manually or by facsimile signature. The Right Certificates shall be countersigned, either manually or by facsimile, by the Rights Agent and shall not be valid for any purpose unless so countersigned. In case any officer of the Company who shall have signed any of the Right Certificates shall cease to be such officer of the Company before countersignature by the Rights Agent and issuance and delivery by the Company, such Right Certificates, nevertheless, may be countersigned by the Rights Agent, and issued and delivered by the Company with the same force and effect as though the person who signed such Right Certificates had not ceased to be such officer of the Company; and any Right Certificate may be signed on behalf of the Company by any person who, at the actual date of the execution of such Right Certificate, shall be a proper officer of the Company to sign such Right Certificate, although at the date of the execution of this Rights Agreement any such person was not such an officer. In case any authorized signatory of the Rights Agent who shall have countersigned any of the Right Certificates shall cease to be such signatory before delivery by the Company, such Right Certificates, nevertheless, may be issued and delivered by the Company with the same force and effect as though the person who countersigned such Right Certificates had not ceased to be such signatory; and any Right Certificate may be countersigned on behalf of the Rights Agent by any person who, at the actual date of the countersignature of such Right Certificate, shall be a proper signatory of the Rights Agent to countersign such Right Certificate, although at the date of the execution of this Rights Agreement any such person was not such a signatory.

(b) Following the Distribution Date and receipt by the Rights Agent of written notice to the effect and all other necessary information and documentation referred to in Section 3, the Rights Agent will keep or cause to be kept, at an office or agency designated for such purposes, records for registration and transfer of the Right Certificates issued hereunder. Such records shall show the names and addresses of the respective

Table of Contents

holders of the Right Certificates, the number of Rights evidenced on its face by each of the Right Certificates, the date of each of the Right Certificates and the certificate numbers for each of the Right Certificates.

6. Transfer, Split Up, Combination and Exchange of Right Certificates: Mutilated, Destroyed, Lost or Stolen Right Certificates.

(a) Subject to the provisions of Sections 7(e), 11(a)(ii) and 14 hereof, at any time after the Close of Business on the Distribution Date and at or prior to the Close of Business on the Expiration Date, any Right Certificate or Certificates (other than Right Certificates representing Rights that have become null and void pursuant to Section 11(a)(ii) hereof or that have been exchanged pursuant to Section 24 hereof) may be (i) transferred or (ii) split up, combined or exchanged for another Right Certificate or Right Certificates, entitling the registered holder to purchase a like number of shares of Preferred Stock or other securities as the Right Certificate or Right Certificates surrendered then entitled such holder to purchase. Any registered holder desiring to transfer any Right Certificate shall surrender the Right Certificate at the office of the Rights Agent designated for such purposes with the form of assignment on the reverse side thereof duly endorsed (or enclose with such Right Certificate a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company and the Rights Agent), duly executed by the registered holder thereof or his attorney duly authorized in writing, and with such signature guaranteed by a member of a securities approved medallion program. The Right Certificates are transferable only on the registry books of the Rights Agent. Neither the Rights Agent nor the Company shall be obligated to take any action whatsoever with respect to the transfer of any such surrendered Right Certificate or Right Certificates until the registered holder shall have properly completed and duly executed, with signature guaranteed, the certificate contained in the form of assignment on the reverse side of such Right Certificate or Right Certificates and shall have provided such additional evidence of the identity of the Beneficial Owner (or former Beneficial Owner) or Affiliates or Associates thereof as the Company or the Rights Agent shall request. Any registered holder desiring to split up, combine or exchange any Right Certificate shall make such request in writing delivered to the Rights Agent, and shall surrender the Right Certificate or Right Certificates to be split up, combined or exchanged at the office of the Rights Agent designated for such purposes. Thereupon the Rights Agent shall, subject to Sections 4(b), 7(e), 11 and 14 hereof, countersign (by manual or facsimile signature) and deliver to the Person entitled thereto a Right Certificate or Right Certificates, as the case may be, as so requested. The Company or the Rights Agent may require payment from the holders of Rights Certificates of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or charge that may be imposed in connection with any transfer, split up, combination or exchange of Right Certificates. If and to the extent the Company does require payment of any such taxes or charges, the Company shall give the Rights Agent prompt written notice thereof and the Rights Agent shall not deliver any Right Certificate unless and until it is satisfied that all such payments have been made, and the Rights Agent shall forward any such sum collected by it to the Company or to such Persons as the Company may specify by written notice. The Rights Agent shall have no duty or obligation to take any action under any Section of this Rights Agreement which requires the payment by a Rights holder of applicable taxes and charges unless and until the Rights Agent is satisfied that all such taxes and/or charges have been paid.

(b) Subject to the provisions of Section 11(a)(ii) hereof, upon receipt by the Company and the Rights Agent of evidence reasonably satisfactory to them of the loss, theft, destruction or mutilation of a valid Right Certificate, and, in case of loss, theft or destruction, of indemnity or security satisfactory to them, and, if requested by the Company or the Rights Agent, reimbursement to the Company and the Rights Agent, of all reasonable expenses incidental thereto, and upon surrender to the Rights Agent and cancellation of the Right Certificate if mutilated, the Company will prepare, execute and deliver a new Right Certificate of like tenor to the Rights Agent for countersignature and delivery to the registered owner in lieu of the Right Certificate so lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated.

Table of Contents

7. Exercise of Rights; Purchase Price; Expiration Date of Rights.

(a) Subject to Section 11(a)(ii) hereof, the Rights shall become exercisable, and may be exercised to purchase Preferred Stock, except as otherwise provided herein, in whole or in part at any time after the Close of Business on the Distribution Date upon surrender of the Right Certificate, with the form of election to purchase on the reverse side thereof properly completed and duly executed (with such signature duly guaranteed), to the Rights Agent at Computershare Shareowner Services LLC, 520 Pike St., Suite 1220, Seattle, WA 98101, together with payment of the Purchase Price with respect to each Right exercised, subject to adjustment as hereinafter provided, at or prior to the Close of Business on the earlier of (i) April 30, 2013 (the **Final Expiration Date**), (ii) the time at which the Rights are redeemed as provided in Section 23 hereof (such date being herein referred to as the **Redemption Date**) or (iii) the time at which all such Rights are exchanged as provided in Section 24 hereof (the earliest of (i), (ii) and (iii) being herein referred to as the **Expiration Date**).

(b) The Purchase Price and the number of shares of Preferred Stock or other securities or consideration to be acquired upon exercise of a Right shall be subject to adjustment from time to time as provided in Sections 11 and 13 hereof. The Purchase Price shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America, in accordance with Section 7(c) hereof.

(c) Except as provided in Section 11(a)(ii) hereof, upon receipt of a Right Certificate representing exercisable Rights with the form of election to purchase properly completed and duly executed, with signature guaranteed, accompanied by payment of the Purchase Price (as such amount may be reduced pursuant to Section 11(a)(iii) hereof) or so much thereof as is necessary for the shares to be purchased and an amount equal to any applicable tax or charge, by cash, certified check, money order, draft or official bank check payable to the order of the Company or the Rights Agent, the Rights Agent shall, subject to Section 20(k), thereupon promptly (i) requisition from any transfer agent of the Preferred Stock (or make available if the Rights Agent is the transfer agent) certificates for the number of shares of Preferred Stock so elected to be purchased and the Company will comply and hereby authorizes and directs such transfer agent to comply with all such requests, (ii) requisition from the Company the amount of cash to be paid in lieu of issuance of fractional shares in accordance with Section 14(b) hereof, and (iii) promptly after receipt of such Preferred Stock certificates cause the same to be delivered to or upon the order of the registered holder of such Right Certificate, registered in such name or names as may be designated by such holder, and, when appropriate, after receipt promptly deliver such cash to or upon the order of the registered holder of such Right Certificate. In the event of a purchase of securities, other than Preferred Stock, pursuant to Section 11(a) or Section 13 hereof, the Rights Agent shall promptly take the appropriate actions corresponding to the foregoing clauses (i) through (iii). In the event that the Company is obligated to issue other securities of the Company, pay cash and/or distribute other property pursuant to Section 11(a) hereof, the Company will make all arrangements necessary so that such other securities, cash and/or other property are available for distribution by the Rights Agent, if and when necessary to comply with this Rights Agreement.

(d) Except as otherwise provided herein, in case the registered holder of any Right Certificate shall exercise less than all the Rights evidenced thereby, a new Right Certificate evidencing Rights equivalent to the Rights remaining unexercised shall be issued by the Rights Agent to the registered holder of such Right Certificate or to his duly authorized assigns, subject to the provisions of Sections 6 and 14 hereof.

(e) Notwithstanding anything in this Rights Agreement to the contrary, neither the Rights Agent nor the Company shall be obligated to undertake any action whatsoever with respect to a registered holder of Rights upon the occurrence of any purported exercise as set forth in this Section 7 unless such registered holder shall have (i) properly completed and duly executed the certificate contained in the form of election to purchase set forth on the reverse side of the Right Certificate surrendered for such exercise and (ii) provided such additional evidence of the identity of the Beneficial Owner (or former Beneficial Owner) or Affiliates or Associates thereof as the Company or the Rights Agent shall reasonably request.

8. Cancellation and Destruction of Right Certificates. All Right Certificates surrendered for the purpose of exercise, transfer, split up, combination or exchange shall, if surrendered to the Company or to any of its agents, be delivered to the Rights Agent for cancellation or in

canceled form, or, if surrendered to the Rights

A-12

Table of Contents

Agent, shall be canceled by it, and no Right Certificates shall be issued in lieu thereof except as expressly permitted by any of the provisions of this Rights Agreement. The Company shall deliver to the Rights Agent for cancellation and retirement, and the Rights Agent shall so cancel and retire, any Right Certificate purchased or acquired by the Company otherwise than upon the exercise thereof. The Rights Agent shall deliver all canceled Right Certificates to the Company, or shall, at the written request of the Company, destroy, or cause to be destroyed, such canceled Right Certificates, and in such case shall deliver a certificate of destruction thereof to the Company.

9. Reservation and Availability of Shares of Preferred Stock.

(a) The Company covenants and agrees that at all times it will cause to be reserved and kept available, out of and to the extent of its authorized and unissued shares of Preferred Stock not reserved for another purpose (and, following the occurrence of a Triggering Event, other securities) or held in its treasury, the number of shares of Preferred Stock (and, following the occurrence of a Triggering Event, other securities) that, as provided in this Rights Agreement, including Section 11(a)(iii) hereof, will be sufficient to permit the exercise in full of all outstanding Rights, provided, however, that the Company shall not be required to reserve and keep available shares of Preferred Stock or other securities sufficient to permit the exercise in full of all outstanding Rights pursuant to the adjustments set forth in Section 11 (a)(ii), Section 11(a)(iii) or Section 13 hereof unless, and only to the extent that, the Rights become exercisable pursuant to such adjustments.

(b) The Company shall (i) use its best efforts to cause, from and after such time as the Rights become exercisable, the Rights and all shares of Preferred Stock (and following the occurrence of a Triggering Event, other securities) issued or reserved for issuance upon exercise thereof to be reported by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Automated Quotations System (**NASDAQ**), or such other system then in use, and if the Preferred Stock shall become listed on any national securities exchange, to cause, from and after such time as the Rights become exercisable, the Rights and all shares of Preferred Stock (and, following the occurrence of a Triggering Event, other securities) issued or reserved for issuance upon exercise thereof to be listed on such exchange upon official notice of issuance upon such exercise and (ii) if then necessary, to permit the offer and issuance of such shares of Preferred Stock (and, following the occurrence of a Triggering Event, other securities), register and qualify such share of Preferred Stock (and, following the occurrence of a Triggering Event, other securities) under the Securities Act and any applicable state securities or blue sky laws (to the extent exemptions therefrom are not available), cause such registration statement and qualifications to become effective as soon as possible after such filing and keep such registration and qualifications effective until the Expiration Date of the Rights. The Company may temporarily suspend, for a period of time not to exceed ninety (90) days, the exercisability of the Rights in order to prepare and file a registration statement under the Securities Act and permit it to become effective. Upon any such suspension, the Company shall issue a public announcement stating that the exercisability of the Rights has been temporarily suspended, as well as a public announcement at such time as the suspension is no longer in effect. The Company shall promptly provide written copies of each of such announcements to the Rights Agent. Notwithstanding any provision of this Rights Agreement to the contrary, the Rights shall not be exercisable in any jurisdiction unless the requisite qualification in such jurisdiction shall have been obtained and until a registration statement under the Securities Act (if required) shall have been declared effective.

(c) The Company covenants and agrees that it will take all such action as may be necessary to ensure that all shares of Preferred Stock (and following the occurrence of a Triggering Event, other securities) delivered upon exercise of Rights shall, at the time of delivery of the certificates for such shares (subject to payment of the Purchase Price in respect thereof), be duly and validly authorized and issued and fully paid and nonassessable shares in accordance with applicable law.

(d) The Company further covenants and agrees that it will pay when due and payable any and all taxes and charges which may be payable in respect of the issuance or delivery of the Right Certificates or of any shares of Preferred Stock (or other securities, as the case may be) upon the exercise of Rights. The Company

Table of Contents

shall not, however, be required to pay any tax or charge which may be payable in respect of any transfer or delivery of Right Certificates to a Person other than, or the issuance or delivery of certificates for Preferred Stock (or other securities, as the case may be) upon exercise of Rights in a name other than that of, the registered holder of the Right Certificate, and the Company and the Rights Agent shall not be required to issue or deliver a Right Certificate or certificate for Preferred Stock (or other securities, as the case may be) to a person other than such registered holder until any such tax or charge shall have been paid (any such tax or charge being payable by the holder of such Right Certificate at the time of surrender) or until it has been established to the Company's or the Rights Agent's satisfaction that no such tax or charge is due.

10. Preferred Stock Record Date. Each Person in whose name any certificate for shares of Preferred Stock (or other securities, as the case may be) is issued upon the exercise or exchange of Rights shall for all purposes be deemed to have become the holder of record of the shares of Preferred Stock (or other securities, as the case may be) represented thereby on, and such certificate shall be dated, the date upon which the Right Certificate evidencing such Rights was duly surrendered and payment of the Purchase Price (and any applicable taxes or charges) was made. Prior to the exercise of the Rights evidenced thereby, the holder of a Right Certificate, as such, shall not be entitled to any rights of a stockholder of the Company with respect to the shares for which the Rights shall be exercisable, including, without limitation, the right to vote, to receive dividends or other distributions or to exercise any preemptive rights, and shall not be entitled to receive any notice of any proceedings of the Company, except as provided herein.

11. Adjustments to Number and Kind of Shares, Number of Rights or Purchase Price. The number and kind of shares subject to purchase upon the exercise of each Right, the number of Rights outstanding and the Purchase Price are subject to adjustment from time to time as provided in this Section 11.

(a) (i) In the event the Company shall at any time after the date of this Rights Agreement (A) declare or pay any dividend on Preferred Stock payable in shares of Preferred Stock, (B) subdivide or split the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock into a greater number of shares, (C) combine or consolidate the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock into a smaller number of shares or effect a reverse split of the outstanding shares of Preferred Stock, or (D) issue any shares of its capital stock in a reclassification of the Preferred Stock (including any such reclassification in connection with a consolidation or merger in which the Company is the continuing or surviving corporation), except as otherwise provided in this Section 11(a), the Purchase Price in effect at the time of the record date for such dividend or of the effective date of such subdivision, combination or reclassification, and the number and kind of shares of Preferred Stock or capital stock, as the case may be, issuable on such date, shall be proportionately adjusted so that the holder of any Right exercised after such time shall be entitled to receive, upon payment of the Purchase Price then in effect, the aggregate number and kind of shares of capital stock or other securities which, if such Right had been exercised immediately prior to such date, the holder thereof would have owned upon such exercise and been entitled to receive by virtue of such dividend, subdivision, combination or reclassification. If an event occurs which would require an adjustment under both this Section 11(a)(i) and Section 11(a)(ii) hereof, the adjustment provided for in this Section 11(a)(i) shall be in addition to, and shall be made prior to, any adjustment required pursuant to Section 11(a)(ii).

(i) Subject to Section 24, in the event

(A) any Acquiring Person or any Associate or Affiliate of any Acquiring Person, at any time after the date of this Rights Agreement, directly or indirectly, (1) shall consolidate with or merge with and into the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or otherwise combine with the Company or any of its Subsidiaries and the Company or such Subsidiary shall be the continuing or surviving corporation of such consolidation, merger or combination and the Common Stock of the Company shall remain outstanding and no shares thereof shall be changed into or exchanged for stock or other securities of the Company or of any other Person or cash or any other property, or (2) shall, in one or more transactions, other than in connection with the exercise of a Right or Rights and other than in connection with the exercise or conversion of securities exercisable for or convertible into securities of the Company or of any Subsidiary of the Company, transfer any

Table of Contents

assets or property to the Company or any of its Subsidiaries in exchange (in whole or in part) for any shares of any class of capital stock of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or any securities exercisable for or convertible into shares of any class of capital stock of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, or otherwise obtain from the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, with or without consideration, any additional shares of any class of capital stock of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or any securities exercisable for or convertible into shares of any class of capital stock of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries (other than as part of a pro rata offer or distribution by the Company or such Subsidiary to all holders of such shares), or (3) shall sell, purchase, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer or otherwise acquire (other than as a pro rata dividend) or dispose, to, from or with, as the case may be, in one transaction or a series of transactions, the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, assets (including securities) on terms and conditions less favorable to the Company or such Subsidiary than the Company or such Subsidiary would be able to obtain in arm's-length negotiation with an unaffiliated third party, or (4) shall receive any compensation from the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for services other than compensation for employment as a regular or part-time employee, or fees for serving as a director, at rates in accordance with the Company's (or its Subsidiary's) past practices, or (5) shall receive the benefit, directly or indirectly (except proportionately as a stockholder), of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial assistance or any tax credits or tax advantage provided by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, or (6) shall engage in any transaction with the Company (or any of its Subsidiaries) involving the sale, license, transfer or grant of any right in, or disclosure of, any patents, copyrights, trade secrets, trademarks, know-how or any other intellectual or industrial property rights recognized under any country's intellectual property laws which the Company (including its Subsidiaries) owns or has the right to use on terms and conditions not approved by the Board; or

(B) any Person, alone or together with its Affiliates and Associates, shall become an Acquiring Person; or

(C) during such time as there is an Acquiring Person, there shall be any reclassification of securities (including any reverse stock split), or any recapitalization of the Company, or any merger or consolidation of the Company with any of its Subsidiaries or any other transaction or series of transactions involving the Company or any of its Subsidiaries (whether or not with or into or otherwise involving an Acquiring Person or any Affiliate or Associate of such Acquiring Person) which has the effect, directly or indirectly, of increasing by more than 1% the proportionate share of the outstanding shares of any class of equity securities of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, or securities exercisable for or convertible into equity securities of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, which is directly or indirectly beneficially owned by any Acquiring Person or any Affiliate or Associate of any Acquiring Person (any of (A), (B) or (C) being referred to herein as a **Flip-In Event**), then upon the first occurrence of such Flip-In Event (A) the Purchase Price shall be adjusted to be the Purchase Price in effect immediately prior to the Flip-In Event multiplied by the number of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock for which a Right was exercisable immediately prior to such Flip-In Event, whether or not such Right was then exercisable, and (B) each holder of a Right, except as otherwise provided in this Section 11(a)(ii) and Section 11(a)(iii) hereof, shall thereafter have the right to receive, upon exercise thereof at a price equal to the Purchase Price (as so adjusted), in accordance with the terms of this Rights Agreement and in lieu of shares of Preferred Stock, such number of shares of Common Stock as shall equal the result obtained by dividing the Purchase Price (as so adjusted) by 50% of the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock (determined pursuant to Section 11(d) hereof) on the date of such Flip-In Event; provided, however, that the Purchase Price (as so adjusted) and the number of shares of Common Stock so receivable upon the exercise of a Right shall, following the Flip-In Event, be subject to further adjustment as appropriate in accordance with Section 11(f) hereof. Notwithstanding anything in this Rights Agreement to the contrary, however, from and after the Flip-In Event, any Rights that are beneficially owned by

Table of Contents

(x) any Acquiring Person (or any Affiliate or Associate of any Acquiring Person), (y) a transferee of any Acquiring Person (or any such Affiliate or Associate) who becomes a transferee after the Flip-In Event or (z) a transferee of any Acquiring Person (or any such Affiliate or Associate) who became a transferee prior to or concurrently with the Flip-In Event pursuant to either (I) a transfer from the Acquiring Person to holders of its equity securities or to any Person with whom it has any continuing agreement, arrangement or understanding regarding the transferred Rights or (II) a transfer which the Board of Directors has determined is part of a plan, arrangement or understanding which has the purpose or effect of avoiding the provisions of this paragraph, and subsequent transferees of such Persons, shall be null and void without any further action and any holder of such Rights shall thereafter have no rights whatsoever with respect to such Rights under any provision of this Rights Agreement. The Company shall give the Rights Agent written notice when this Section applies and of the identity of any such Acquiring Person, Associate or Affiliate, or the nominee of any of the foregoing, and the Rights Agent may rely on such notice in carrying out its duties under this Rights Agreement and shall be deemed not to have any knowledge of the identity of any such Acquiring Person, Associate or Affiliate, or the nominee of any of the foregoing unless and until it shall have received such notice. The Company shall use all reasonable efforts to ensure that the provisions of this Section 11 (a)(ii) are complied with, but neither the Company nor the Rights Agent shall have any liability to any holder of Right Certificates or other Person as a result of the Company's failure to make any determinations with respect to an Acquiring Person or its Affiliates, Associates or transferees hereunder. From and after the Flip-In Event, no Right Certificate shall be issued pursuant to Section 3 or Section 6 hereof that represents Rights that are or have become null and void pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph, and any Right Certificate delivered to the Rights Agent that represents Rights that are or have become null and void pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph shall be canceled.

(ii) The Company may at its option substitute for a share of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of Rights in accordance with the foregoing subparagraph (i) such number or fractions of shares of Preferred Stock having an aggregate current market value equal to the Current Market Price of a share of Common Stock. In the event that there shall not be sufficient shares of Common Stock issued but not outstanding or authorized but unissued to permit the exercise in full of the Rights in accordance with the foregoing subparagraph (i), the Board of Directors shall, to the extent permitted by applicable law and any material agreements then in effect to which the Company is a party (A) determine the excess (such excess, the **Spread**) of (1) the value of the shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of a Right in accordance with the foregoing subparagraph (i) (the **Current Value**) over (2) the Purchase Price (as adjusted in accordance with the foregoing subparagraph (i)), and (B) with respect to each Right (other than Rights which have become null and void pursuant to the foregoing subparagraph (i)), make adequate provision to substitute for the shares of Common Stock issuable in accordance with the foregoing paragraph (i) upon exercise of the Right and payment of the Purchase Price (as adjusted in accordance therewith), (1) cash, (2) a reduction in such Purchase Price, (3) shares of Preferred Stock or other equity securities of the Company (including, without limitation, shares or fractions of shares of preferred stock which, by virtue of having dividend, voting and liquidation rights substantially comparable to those of the shares of Common Stock, are deemed in good faith by the Board of Directors to have substantially the same value as the shares of Common Stock (such shares of Preferred Stock and shares or fractions of shares of preferred stock are hereinafter referred to as **Common Stock Equivalents**), (4) debt securities of the Company, (5) other assets, or (6) any combination of the foregoing, having a value which, when added to the value of the shares of Common Stock actually issued upon exercise of such Right, shall have an aggregate value equal to the Current Value (less the amount of any reduction in such Purchase Price), where such aggregate value has been determined by the Board of Directors upon the advice of a nationally recognized investment banking firm selected in good faith by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that if the Company shall not make adequate provision to deliver value pursuant to clause (B) above within thirty (30) days following the Flip-In Event (the **Flip-in Trigger Date**), then the

Table of Contents

Company shall be obligated to deliver, to the extent permitted by applicable law and any material agreements then in effect to which the Company is a party, upon the surrender for exercise of a Right and without requiring payment of such Purchase Price, shares of Common Stock (to the extent available), and then, if necessary, such number or fractions of shares of Preferred Stock (to the extent available) and then, if necessary, cash, which shares and/or cash have an aggregate value equal to the Spread. If the Board of Directors of the Company shall determine in good faith that it is likely that sufficient additional shares of Common Stock and/or Common Stock Equivalents could be authorized for issuance upon exercise in full of the Rights, the thirty (30) day period set forth above may be extended to the extent necessary, but not more than ninety (90) days after the Flip-In Trigger Date, in order that the Company may seek stockholder approval for the authorization of such additional shares or Common Stock Equivalents (such thirty (30) day period, as it may be extended, is herein called the **Substitution Period**). To the extent that the Company determines that some action need be taken pursuant to the second and/or third sentence of this Section 11(a)(iii), the Company (x) shall provide, subject to the last sentence of Section 11(a)(ii) hereof, that such action shall apply uniformly to all outstanding Rights, and (y) may suspend the exercisability of the Rights until the expiration of the Substitution Period in order to seek any authorization of additional shares and/or to decide the appropriate form of distribution to be made pursuant to the first sentence of Section 11(a)(iii) and to determine the value thereof. In the event of any such suspension, the Company shall issue a public announcement stating that the exercisability of the Rights has been temporarily suspended, as well as a public announcement at such time as the suspension is no longer in effect (with prompt written notice of such announcements to the Rights Agent). For purposes of this Section 11(a)(iii), the value of the Common Stock shall be the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock on the Flip-In Trigger Date and the per share or per unit value of any Common Stock Equivalent shall be deemed to equal the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock on such date. The Board of Directors may, but shall not be required to, establish procedures to allocate the right to receive Common Stock upon the exercise of the Rights among holders of Rights pursuant to this Section 11(a)(iii).

(b) In case the Company shall fix a record date for the issuance of rights (other than the Rights), options or warrants to all holders of Preferred Stock entitling them to subscribe for or purchase (for a period expiring within forty-five calendar days after such record date) Preferred Stock, shares having the same rights, privileges and preferences as the Preferred Stock (**Equivalent Preferred Stock**) or securities convertible into Preferred Stock or equivalent preferred stock at a price per share of Preferred Stock or equivalent preferred stock (or having a conversion price per share, if a security convertible into Preferred Stock or equivalent preferred stock) less than the Current Market Price per share of Preferred Stock on such record date, the Purchase Price to be in effect after such record date shall be determined by multiplying the Purchase Price in effect immediately prior to such record date by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the number of shares of Preferred Stock outstanding on such record date, plus the number of shares of Preferred Stock which the aggregate offering price of the total number of shares of Preferred Stock and/or equivalent preferred stock (and/or the aggregate initial conversion price of the convertible securities so to be offered) would purchase at such Current Market Price, and the denominator of which shall be the number of shares of Preferred Stock outstanding on such record date, plus the number of additional shares of Preferred Stock and/or equivalent preferred stock to be offered for subscription or purchase (or into which the convertible securities so to be offered are initially convertible). In case such subscription price may be paid by delivery of consideration part or all of which may be in a form other than cash, the value of such non-cash consideration shall be as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company, whose determination shall be described in a written statement filed with the Rights Agent. Shares of Preferred Stock owned by or held for the account of the Company shall not be deemed outstanding for the purpose of any such computation. Such adjustment shall be made successively whenever such a record date is fixed, and in the event that such rights or warrants are not so issued, the Purchase Price shall be adjusted to be the Purchase Price which would then be in effect if such record date had not been fixed.

(c) In case the Company shall fix a record date for a distribution to all holders of Preferred Stock (including any such distribution made in connection with a consolidation or merger in which the Company

Table of Contents

is the continuing corporation) of evidences of indebtedness, cash, assets (other than a dividend payable in Preferred Stock, but including any dividend payable in stock other than Preferred Stock) or subscription rights or warrants (excluding those referred to in Section 11(b) hereof), the Purchase Price to be in effect after such record date shall be determined by multiplying the Purchase Price in effect immediately prior to such record date by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the Current Market Price per share of Preferred Stock on such record date, less the fair market value (as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company, whose determination shall be described in a written statement filed with the Rights Agent) of the portion of the cash, assets or evidences of indebtedness to be distributed or of such subscription rights or warrants applicable to a share of Preferred Stock and the denominator of which shall be such Current Market Price per share of Preferred Stock. Such adjustments shall be made successively whenever such a record date is fixed, and in the event that such distribution is not so made, the Purchase Price shall be adjusted to be the Purchase Price which would have been in effect if such record date had not been fixed.

(d) (i) For the purpose of any computation hereunder, other than computations made pursuant to Section 11(a)(iii) hereof, the Current Market Price per share of Common Stock on any date shall be deemed to be the average of the daily closing prices per share of the Common Stock for the thirty (30) consecutive Trading Days (as such term is hereinafter defined) immediately prior to but not including such date, and for purpose of computations made pursuant to Section 11(a)(iii) hereof, the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock on any date shall be deemed to be the average of the daily closing prices per share of the Common Stock for the ten (10) consecutive Trading Days immediately following but not including such date; provided, however, that in the event that the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock is determined during a period following the announcement by the issuer of the Common Stock of (i) any dividend or distribution on the Common Stock (other than a regular quarterly cash dividend and other than the Rights), (ii) any subdivision, combination or reclassification of the Common Stock, and prior to the expiration of the requisite thirty (30) Trading Day or ten (10) Trading Day period, as set forth above, after the ex-dividend date for such dividend or distribution, or the record date for such subdivision, combination or reclassification occurs, then, and in each such case, the Current Market Price shall be properly adjusted to take into account ex-dividend trading. The closing price for each day shall be the last sale price, regular way, or, in case no such sale takes place on such day, the average of the closing bid and asked prices, regular way, in either case as reported in the principal consolidated transaction reporting system with respect to securities listed or admitted to trading on the New York Stock Exchange or, if the shares of Common Stock are not listed or admitted to trading on the New York Stock Exchange, as reported in the principal consolidated transaction reporting system with respect to securities listed on the principal national securities exchange on which the shares of Common Stock are listed or admitted to trading or, if the shares of Common Stock are not listed or admitted to trading on any national securities exchange, the last quoted sale price or, if not so quoted, the average of the high bid and low asked prices in the over-the-counter market, as reported by NASDAQ or such other system then in use, or, if on any such date the shares of Common Stock are not quoted by any such organization, the average of the closing bid and asked prices as furnished by a professional market maker making a market in the Common Stock selected by the Board of Directors of the Company. If on any such date no market maker is making a market in the Common Stock, the fair value of such shares on such date as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company shall be used and shall be binding on the Rights Agent. The term Trading Day shall mean a day on which the principal national securities exchange on which the shares of Common Stock are listed or admitted to trading is open for the transaction of business or, if the shares of Common Stock are not listed or admitted to trading on any national securities exchange, a Business Day. If the Common Stock is not publicly held or not so listed or traded, Current Market Price per share shall mean the fair value per share as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company, whose determination shall be described in a written statement filed with the Rights Agent and shall be conclusive for all purposes.

(i) For the purpose of any computation hereunder, the Current Market Price per share (or one one-thousandth of a share) of Preferred Stock shall be determined in the same manner as set forth above for the Common Stock in clause (i) of this Section 11(d) (other than the last sentence thereof). If

Table of Contents

the Current Market Price per share (or one one-thousandth of a share) of Preferred Stock cannot be determined in the manner provided above or if the Preferred Stock is not publicly held or listed or traded in a manner described in clause (i) of this Section 11(d), the Current Market Price per share of Preferred Stock shall be conclusively deemed to be an amount equal to 1,000 (as such number may be appropriately adjusted for such events as stock splits, stock dividends and recapitalizations with respect to the Common Stock occurring after the date of this Rights Agreement) multiplied by the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock, and the Current Market Price per one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock shall, be equal to the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock (as appropriately adjusted). If neither the Common Stock nor the Preferred Stock is publicly held or so listed or traded, Current Market Price per shall mean the fair value per share as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Company, whose determination shall be described in a statement filed with the Rights Agent and shall be conclusive for all purposes.

(e) Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, no adjustment in the Purchase Price shall be required unless such adjustment would require an increase or decrease of at least one percent in the Purchase Price; provided, however, that any adjustments which by reason of this Section 11(e) are not required to be made shall be carried forward and taken into account in any subsequent adjustment. All calculations under this Section 11 shall be made to the nearest cent or to the nearest ten-thousandth of a share of Common Stock or other share or one-hundred-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, as the case may be. Notwithstanding the first sentence of this Section 11(e), any adjustment required by this Section 11 shall be made no later than the earlier of (i) three years from the date of the transaction which mandates such adjustment, or (ii) the Expiration Date.

(f) If, as a result of an adjustment made pursuant to Section 11(a)(iii) or Section 13(a) hereof, the holder of any Right thereafter exercised shall become entitled to receive any shares of capital stock of the Company other than Preferred Stock, thereafter the number of such other shares so receivable upon exercise of any Right and the Purchase Price thereof shall be subject to adjustment from time to time in a manner and on terms as nearly equivalent as practicable to the provisions with respect to the shares of Preferred Stock contained in Section 11(a), (b), (c), (e), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k) and (m) hereof, and the provisions of Sections 7, 9, 10, 13 and 14 hereof with respect to the Preferred Stock shall apply on like terms to any such other shares.

(g) All Rights originally issued by the Company subsequent to any adjustment made to the Purchase Price hereunder shall evidence the right to purchase, at the adjusted Purchase Price, the number of shares of Preferred Stock purchasable from time to time hereunder upon exercise of the Rights, all subject to further adjustment as provided herein.

(h) Unless the Company shall have exercised its election as provided in Section 11(i), upon each adjustment of the Purchase Price as a result of the calculations made in Sections 11(b) and (c), each Right outstanding immediately prior to the making of such adjustment shall thereafter evidence the right to purchase, at the adjusted Purchase Price, that number of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock (calculated to the nearest one-hundred-thousandth) obtained by (i) multiplying (x) the number of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock covered by a Right immediately prior to this adjustment, by (y) the Purchase Price in effect immediately prior to such adjustment of the Purchase Price, and (ii) dividing the product so obtained by the Purchase Price in effect immediately after such adjustment of the Purchase Price.

(i) The Company may elect on or after the date of any adjustment of the Purchase Price or any adjustment to the number of shares of Preferred Stock for which a Right may be exercised made pursuant to Sections 11(a)(i), 11(b) or 11(c), to adjust the number of Rights in lieu of any adjustment in the number of shares of Preferred Stock purchasable upon the exercise of a Right. Each of the Rights outstanding after the adjustment in the number of Rights shall be exercisable for the number of shares of Preferred Stock for which a Right was exercisable immediately prior to such adjustment. Each Right held of record prior to such adjustment of the number of Rights shall become that number of Rights (calculated to the nearest one hundred-thousandth) obtained by dividing the Purchase Price in effect immediately prior to adjustment of

Table of Contents

the Purchase Price by the Purchase Price in effect immediately after adjustment of the Purchase Price. The Company shall make a public announcement (with prompt written notice thereof to the Rights Agent) of its election to adjust the number of Rights, indicating the record date for the adjustment, and, if known at the time, the amount of the adjustment to be made. This record date may be the date on which the Purchase Price is adjusted or any day thereafter, but, if the Right Certificates have been issued, shall be at least ten days later than the date of the public announcement. If Right Certificates have been issued, upon each adjustment of the number of Rights pursuant to this Section 11(i), the Company shall, as promptly as practicable, cause to be distributed to holders of record of Right Certificates on such record date Right Certificates evidencing, subject to Section 14 hereof, the additional Rights to which such holders shall be entitled as a result of such adjustment, or, at the option of the Company, shall cause to be distributed to such holders of record in substitution and replacement for the Right Certificates held by such holders prior to the date of adjustment, and upon surrender thereof, if required by the Company, new Right Certificates evidencing all the Rights to which such holders shall be entitled after such adjustment. Right Certificates so to be distributed shall be issued, executed and delivered by the company and countersigned and delivered by the Rights Agent in the manner provided for herein (and may bear, at the option of the Company, the adjusted Purchase Price) and shall be registered in the names of the holders of record of Right Certificates on the record date specified in the public announcement.

(j) Irrespective of any adjustment or change in the Purchase Price or the number of shares of Preferred Stock issuable upon the exercise of the Rights, the Right Certificates theretofore and thereafter issued may continue to express the Purchase Price per share and the number of shares which were expressed in the initial Right Certificate issued hereunder.

(k) Before taking any action that would cause an adjustment reducing the Purchase Price below the then par value, if any, of the shares of Common Stock, Preferred Stock or other capital stock issuable upon exercise of the Rights, the Company shall take any corporate action, including using its best efforts to obtain any required stockholder approvals, which may, in the opinion of its counsel, be necessary in order that the Company may validly and legally issue fully paid and nonassessable shares of Common Stock, Preferred Stock or other capital stock at such adjusted Purchase Price. If upon any exercise of the Rights, a holder is to receive a combination of Common Stock and Common Stock Equivalents, a portion of the consideration paid upon such exercise, equal to at least the then par value of a share of Common Stock of the Company, shall be allocated as the payment for each share of Common Stock of the Company so received.

(l) In any case in which this Section 11 shall require that an adjustment in the Purchase Price be made effective as of a record date for a specified event, the Company may elect to defer (with prompt written notice of such election to the Rights Agent) until the occurrence of such event the issuance to the holder of any Right exercised after such record date the shares of Preferred Stock and other capital stock or securities of the Company, if any, issuable upon such exercise over and above the shares of Preferred Stock and other capital stock or securities of the Company, if any, issuable upon such exercise on the basis of the Purchase Price in effect prior to such adjustment; provided, however, that the Company shall deliver to such holder a due bill or other appropriate instrument evidencing such holder's right to receive such additional shares of Preferred Stock and other capital stock or securities upon the occurrence of the event requiring such adjustment.

(m) Anything in this Section 11 to the contrary notwithstanding, the Company shall be entitled to make such reductions in the Purchase Price, in addition to those adjustments expressly required by this Section 11, as and to the extent that in their good faith judgment the Board of Directors of the Company shall determine to be advisable in order that any (i) consolidation or subdivision of the Preferred Stock, (ii) issuance for cash of any shares of Preferred Stock at less than the Current Market Price, (iii) issuance for cash of shares of Preferred Stock or securities which by their terms are convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Preferred Stock, (iv) stock dividends or (v) issuance of rights, options or warrants referred to in this Section 11, hereafter made by the Company to holders of its Preferred Stock shall not be taxable to such stockholders.

Table of Contents

(n) The Company covenants and agrees that it shall not, at any time after the Distribution Date, (i) consolidate with any other Person, (ii) merge with or into any other Person, or (iii) sell or transfer (or permit any Subsidiary to sell or transfer), in one transaction or a series of related transactions, assets or earning power aggregating more than 50% of the assets or earning power of the Company and its Subsidiaries (taken as a whole) to, any other Person or Persons, if (x) at the time of or immediately after such consolidation, merger or sale there are any charter or bylaw provisions or any rights, warrants or other instruments or securities outstanding or agreements in effect which substantially diminish or otherwise eliminate the benefits intended to be afforded by the Rights or (y) prior to, simultaneously with or immediately after such consolidation, merger or sale, the stockholders of the Person who constitutes, or would constitute, the Principal Party for purposes of Section 13(a) hereof shall have received a distribution of Rights previously owned by such Person or any of its Affiliates and Associates. The Company shall not consummate any such consolidation, merger or sale unless prior thereto the Company and such other Person shall have executed and delivered to the Rights Agent a supplemental agreement evidencing compliance with this subsection.

(o) The Company covenants and agrees that, after the Distribution Date, it will not, except as permitted by Section 23, Section 24 or Section 27 hereof, take (or permit any Subsidiary to take) any action if at the time such action is taken it is reasonably foreseeable that such action will diminish substantially or eliminate the benefits intended to be afforded by the Rights.

(p) Anything in this Rights Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, in the event that the Company shall at any time after the Record Date and prior to the Distribution Date (i) declare or pay any dividend on the outstanding shares of Common Stock payable in shares of Common Stock, (ii) subdivide the outstanding shares of Common Stock, or (iii) combine the outstanding shares of Common Stock into a smaller number of shares, the number of Rights associated with each share of Common Stock then outstanding, or issued or delivered thereafter, shall be proportionately adjusted so that the number of Rights thereafter associated with each share of Common Stock following any such event equals the result obtained by multiplying the number of Rights associated with each share of Common Stock immediately prior to such event by a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to the occurrence of such event and the denominator of which shall be the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding immediately following the occurrence of such event.

12. Certification of Adjustments. Whenever an adjustment is made or any event affecting the Rights or their exercisability (including without limitation an event that causes Rights to become null and void) occurs as provided in Sections 11 and 13 hereof, the Company shall (a) promptly prepare a certificate signed by its Chief Executive Officer, its President or any Vice President and by the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer or the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Company setting forth such adjustment or describing such event and a brief, reasonably detailed statement of the fact, computations and methodology accounting giving rise to such adjustment, (b) promptly file with the Rights Agent and with each transfer agent for the Preferred Stock and the Common Stock a copy of such certificate and (c) mail a brief summary thereof to each holder of a Right Certificate (or, if prior to the Distribution Date, to each holder of a certificate representing shares of Common Stock) in accordance with Section 26 hereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, the failure of the Company to give such notice shall not affect the validity of or the force or effect of or the requirement for such adjustment. The Rights Agent shall be fully protected in relying on any certificate prepared by the Company pursuant to Sections 11 and 13 and on any adjustment or statement therein contained and shall not be responsible or obligated for calculating any adjustment and shall have no duty with respect to and shall not be deemed to have knowledge of any adjustment or any such event unless and until it shall have received such a certificate. Any adjustment to be made pursuant to Sections 11 and 13 of this Rights Agreement shall be effective as of the date of the event giving rise to such adjustment.

Table of Contents**13. Consolidation, Merger or Sale or Transfer of Assets or Earning Power.**

(a) In the event that following the first occurrence of a Flip-In Event, directly or indirectly, (x) the Company shall consolidate with, or merge with and into, any other Person or Persons and the Company shall not be the surviving or continuing corporation of such consolidation or merger, or (y) any Person or Persons shall consolidate with, or merge with and into, the Company, and the Company shall be the continuing or surviving corporation of such consolidation or merger and, in connection with such consolidation or merger, all or part of the outstanding shares of Common Stock shall be changed into or exchanged for stock or other securities of any other Person or of the Company or cash or any other property other than, in the case of the transactions described in subparagraphs (x) or (y), a merger or consolidation which would result in all of the Voting Power represented by the securities of the Company outstanding immediately prior thereto continuing to represent (either by remaining outstanding or by being converted into securities of the surviving entity) all of the Voting Power represented by the securities of the Company or such surviving entity outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation and the holders of such securities not having changed as a result of such transactions), or (z) the Company or one or more of its Subsidiaries shall sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer to any other Person or any Affiliate or Associate of such Person, in one transaction, or a series of related transactions, assets or earning power aggregating more than 50% of the assets or earning power of the Company and its Subsidiaries (taken as a whole), then, on the first occurrence of any such event (a **Flip-Over Event**), proper provision shall be made so that (i) each holder of a Right (other than Rights which have become null and void pursuant to Section 11(a)(ii) hereof) shall thereafter have the right to receive, upon the exercise thereof at the Purchase Price (as theretofore adjusted in accordance with Section 11(a)(ii) hereof), in accordance with the terms of this Rights Agreement and in lieu of shares of Preferred Stock or Common Stock of the Company, such number of validly authorized and issued, fully paid, non-assessable and freely tradeable shares of Common Stock of the Principal Party (as such term is hereinafter defined), not subject to any liens, encumbrances, rights of first refusal or other adverse claims, as shall equal the result obtained by dividing the Purchase Price (as theretofore adjusted in accordance with Section 11(a)(ii) hereof) by 50% of the Current Market Price per share of the Common Stock of such Principal Party (determined pursuant to Section 11(d) hereof) on the date of consummation of such consolidation, merger, sale or transfer; provided, however, that the Purchase Price (as theretofore adjusted in accordance with Section 11(a)(ii) hereof) and the number of shares of Common Stock of such Principal Party so receivable upon exercise of a Right shall be subject to further adjustment as appropriate in accordance with Section 11(f) hereof to reflect any events occurring in respect of the Common Stock of such Principal Party after the occurrence of such consolidation, merger, sale or transfer; (ii) such Principal Party shall thereafter be liable for, and shall assume, by virtue of such Flip-Over Event, all the obligations and duties of the Company pursuant to this Rights Agreement; (iii) the term **Company** for all purposes of this Rights Agreement shall thereafter be deemed to refer to such Principal Party, it being specifically intended that the provisions of Section 11 hereof shall only apply to such Principal Party following the first occurrence of a Flip-Over Event; and (iv) such Principal Party shall take such steps (including, but not limited to, the reservation of a sufficient number of shares of its Common Stock in accordance with Section 9 hereof) in connection with the consummation of any such transaction as may be necessary to assure that the provisions hereof shall thereafter be applicable, as nearly as reasonably may be, in relation to its shares of Common Stock thereafter deliverable upon the exercise of the Rights; provided, however, that, upon the subsequent occurrence of any merger, consolidation, sale of all or substantially all assets, recapitalization, reclassification of shares, reorganization or other extraordinary transaction in respect of such Principal Party, each holder of a Right shall thereupon be entitled to receive, upon exercise of a Right, such cash, shares, rights, warrants and other property which such holder would have been entitled to receive had he, at the time of such transaction, owned the shares of Common Stock of the Principal Party purchasable upon the exercise of a Right, and such Principal Party shall take such steps (including, but not limited to, reservation of shares of stock) as may necessary to permit the subsequent exercise of the Rights in accordance with the terms hereof for such cash, shares, rights, warrants and other property.

Table of Contents

(b) **Principal Party** shall mean

(i) in the case of any transaction described in (x) or (y) of the first sentence of Section 13(a) hereof, (A) the Person that is the issuer of the securities into which shares of Common Stock of the Company are converted in such merger or consolidation, or, if there is more than one such issuer, the issuer the Common Stock of which has the greatest aggregate market value, or (B) if no securities are so issued, (x) the Person that is the other party to the merger or consolidation and that survives said merger or consolidation, or, if there is more than one such Person, the Person the Common Stock of which has the greatest market value, or (y) if the Person that is the other party to the merger or consolidation does not survive the merger or consolidation, the Person that does survive the merger or consolidation (including the Company if it survives); and

(ii) in the case of any transaction described in (z) of the first sentence in Section 13(a) hereof, the Person that is the party receiving the greatest portion of the assets or earning power transferred pursuant to such transaction or transactions, or, if each Person that is a party to such transaction or transactions receives the same portion of the assets or earning power so transferred or if the Person receiving the greatest portion of the assets or earning power cannot be determined, whichever of such Persons as is the issuer of Common Stock having the greatest aggregate market value of shares outstanding;

provided, however, that in any such case described in the foregoing (b)(i) or (b)(ii), (1) if the Common Stock of such Person is not at such time and has not been continuously over the preceding 12-month period registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, and such Person is a direct or indirect Subsidiary of another Person the Common Stock of which is and has been so registered, the term **Principal Party** shall refer to such other Person, or (2) if such Person is a Subsidiary, directly or indirectly, of more than one Person, the Common Stocks of all of which are and have been so registered, the term **Principal Party** shall refer to whichever of such Persons is the issuer of the Common Stock having the greatest market value of shares outstanding, or (3) if such Person is owned, directly or indirectly, by a joint venture formed by two or more Persons that are not owned, directly or indirectly, by the same Person, the rules set forth in clauses (1) and (2) above shall apply to each of the owners having an interest in the joint venture as if the Person owned by the joint venture was a Subsidiary of both or all of such joint venturers, and the **Principal Party** in each such case shall bear the obligations set forth in this Section 13 in the same ratio as its interest in such Person bears to the total of such interests.

(c) The Company shall not consummate any consolidation, merger, sale or transfer referred to in Section 13(a) unless the **Principal Party** shall have a sufficient number of authorized shares of its Common Stock that have not been issued or reserved for issuance to permit the exercise in full of the Rights in accordance with this Section 13 and unless prior thereto the Company and the **Principal Party** involved therein shall have executed and delivered to the Rights Agent an agreement confirming that the requirements of Sections 13(a) and (b) hereof shall promptly be performed in accordance with their terms and that such consolidation, merger, sale or transfer of assets shall not result in a default by the **Principal Party** under this Rights Agreement as the same shall have been assumed by the **Principal Party** pursuant to Sections 13(a) and (b) hereof and further providing that, as soon as practicable after executing such agreement pursuant to this Section 13, the **Principal Party** at its own expense shall:

(i) prepare and file a registration statement under the Securities Act, if necessary, with respect to the Rights and the securities purchasable upon exercise of the Rights on an appropriate form, use its best efforts to cause such registration statement to become effective as soon as practicable after such filing and use its best efforts to cause such registration statement to remain effective (with a prospectus at all times meeting the requirements of the Securities Act) until the date of expiration of the Rights, and similarly comply with applicable state securities laws;

(ii) use its best efforts, if the Common Stock of the **Principal Party** shall become listed on a national securities exchange, to list (or continue the listing of) the Rights and the securities purchasable upon exercise of the Rights on such securities exchange and, if the Common Stock of the **Principal Party** shall not be listed on a national securities exchange, to cause the Rights and the securities purchased upon exercise of the Rights to be reported by NASDAQ or such other system then in use;

Table of Contents

(iii) deliver to holders of the Rights historical financial statements for the Principal Party which comply in all respects with the requirements for registration on Form 10 (or any successor form) under the Exchange Act; and

(iv) obtain waivers of any rights of first refusal or preemptive rights in respect of the shares of Common Stock of the Principal Party subject to purchase upon exercise of outstanding Rights. In the event that any of the transactions described in Section 13(a) hereof shall occur at any time after the occurrence of a transaction described in Section 11(a)(ii) hereof, the Rights which have not theretofore been exercised shall thereafter be exercisable in the manner described in Section 13(a).

(d) Furthermore, in case the Principal Party which is to be a party to a transaction referred to in this Section 13 has a provision in any of its authorized securities or in its Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws or other instrument governing its corporate affairs, which provision would have the effect of (i) causing such Principal Party to issue, in connection with, or as a consequence of, the consummation of a transaction referred to in this Section 13, shares of Common Stock of such Principal Party at less than the then Current Market Price per share (determined pursuant to Section 11(d) hereof) or securities exercisable for, or convertible into, Common Stock of such Principal Party at less than such then current market price (other than to holders of Rights pursuant to this Section 13) or (ii) providing for any special payment, tax or similar provisions in connection with the issuance of the Common Stock of such Principal Party pursuant to the provisions of Section 13, then, in such event, the Company hereby agrees with each holder of Rights that it shall not consummate any such transaction unless prior thereto the Company and such Principal Party shall have executed and delivered to the Rights Agent a supplemental agreement providing that the provision in question of such Principal Party shall have been canceled, waived or amended, or that the authorized securities shall be redeemed, so that the applicable provision will have no effect in connection with, or as a consequence of, the consummation of the proposed transaction.

14. Fractional Rights and Fractional Shares.

(a) The Company shall not be required to issue fractions of Rights or to distribute Right Certificates which evidence fractional Rights. In lieu of such fractional Rights, there shall be paid to the holders of record of the Right Certificates with regard to which such fractional Rights would otherwise be issuable, an amount in cash equal to the same fraction of the then current market value of a whole Right. For the purposes of this Section 14(a), the then current market value of a Right shall be determined in the same manner as the Current Market Price of a share of Common Stock shall be determined pursuant to Section 11(d) hereof.

(b) The Company shall not be required to issue fractions of shares of Preferred Stock (other than fractions which are integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock) upon exercise of the Rights or to distribute certificates which evidence fractional shares of Preferred Stock (other fractions which are integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock). Fractions of shares of Preferred Stock in integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock may, at the election of the Company, be evidenced by depository receipts, pursuant to an appropriate agreement between the Company and a depository selected by it, provided that such agreement shall provide that the holders of such depository receipts shall have all the rights, privileges and preferences to which they are entitled as beneficial owners of the shares of Preferred Stock represented by such depository receipts. In lieu of fractional shares of Preferred Stock that are not integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, the Company may pay to the registered holders of Right Certificates at the time such Rights are exercised as herein provided an amount in cash equal to the same fraction of the current market value of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock. For purposes of this Section 14(b), the current market value of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock shall be the Current Market Price of a share of Common Stock (as determined pursuant to Section 11(d) (ii) hereof) for the Trading Day immediately prior to the date of such exercise.

(c) Following the occurrence of a Flip-In Event, the Company shall not be required to issue fractions of shares or units of Common Stock or Common Stock Equivalents or other securities upon exercise of the

Table of Contents

Rights or to distribute certificates which evidence fractional shares of such Common Stock or Common Stock Equivalents or other securities. In lieu of fractional shares or units of such Common Stock or Common Stock Equivalents or other securities, the Company may pay to the registered holders of Right Certificates at the time such Rights are exercised as herein provided an amount in cash equal to the same fraction of the Current Market Value of a share or unit of such Common Stock or Common Stock Equivalent or other securities. For purposes of this Section 14(c), the Current Market Value shall be determined in the manner set forth in Section 11(d) hereof for the Trading Day immediately prior to the date of such exercise and, if such Common Stock Equivalent is not traded, each such Common Stock Equivalent shall have the value of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock.

(d) The holder of a Right by the acceptance of a Right expressly waives his right to receive any fractional Right or any fractional shares upon exercise of a Right.

(e) Whenever a payment for fractional Rights or fractional shares is to be made by the Rights Agent under any section of this Rights Agreement, the Company shall (i) promptly prepare and deliver to the Rights Agent a certificate setting forth in reasonable detail the facts related to such payment and the prices and/or formulas utilized in calculating such payments, and (ii) provide sufficient monies to the Rights Agent in the form of fully collected funds to make such payments. The Rights Agent shall be fully protected in relying upon such a certificate and shall have no duty with respect to, and shall not be deemed to have knowledge of any payment for fractional Rights or fractional shares under any Section of this Agreement relating to the payment of fractional Rights or fractional shares unless and until the Rights Agent shall have received such a certificate and sufficient monies.

15. Rights of Action. All rights of action in respect of this Rights Agreement, other than any rights of action vested in the Rights Agent pursuant to any sections of this Rights Agreement, are vested in the respective holders of record of the Right Certificates (and, prior to the Distribution Date, the holders of record of the Common Stock); and any holder of record of any Right Certificate (or, prior to the Distribution Date, of the Common Stock), without the consent of the Rights Agent or of the holder of any other Right Certificate (or, prior to the Distribution Date, of the Common Stock), may, in his own behalf and for his own benefit, enforce, and may institute and maintain any suit, action or proceeding against the Company or any other Person to enforce, or otherwise act in respect of, his right to exercise the Rights evidenced by such Right Certificate in the manner provided in such Right Certificate and in this Rights Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing or any remedies available to the holders of Rights, it is specifically acknowledged that the holders of Rights would not have an adequate remedy at law for any breach of this Rights Agreement by the Company and, accordingly, that they will be entitled to specific performance of the obligations under, and injunctive relief against actual or threatened violations by the Company of, the obligations of any Person subject to this Rights Agreement. Holders of Rights shall be entitled to recover the reasonable costs and expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by them in any action to enforce the provisions of this Rights Agreement.

16. Agreement of Right Holders. Every holder of a Right by accepting the same consents and agrees with the Company and the Rights Agent and with every other holder of a Right that:

(a) prior to the Distribution Date, the Rights will not be evidenced by a Right Certificate and will be transferable only in connection with the transfer of Common Stock;

(b) after the Distribution Date, the Right Certificates will be transferable only on the registry books of the Rights Agent if surrendered at the office of the Rights Agent designated for such purpose, duly endorsed or accompanied by a proper instrument of transfer and with the appropriate forms and certificates properly completed and duly executed;

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

(c) the Company and the Rights Agent may deem and treat the Person in whose name the Right Certificate (or, prior to the Distribution Date, the associated Common Stock certificate) is registered as the absolute owner thereof and of the Rights evidenced thereby (notwithstanding any notations of ownership or writing on the Right Certificate or the associated Common Stock certificate made by anyone other than the

A-25

Table of Contents

Company or the Rights Agent or the transfer agent of the Common Stock) for all purposes whatsoever, and neither the Company nor the Rights Agent shall be affected by any notice to the contrary; and

(d) notwithstanding anything in this Rights Agreement to the contrary, neither the Company nor the Rights Agent shall have any liability to any holder of a Right or other Person as a result of its inability to perform any of its obligations under this Rights Agreement by reason of any preliminary or permanent injunction or other order, judgment, decree or ruling (whether interlocutory or final) issued by a court of competent jurisdiction or by a governmental, regulatory, self-regulatory, or administrative agency or commission, or any statute, rule, regulation or executive order promulgated or enacted by any governmental authority, prohibiting or otherwise restraining performance of such obligation; provided, however, that the Company must use its best efforts to have any such order, decree or ruling lifted or otherwise overturned as soon as possible.

17. Right Certificate Holder Not Deemed a Stockholder. No holder of a Right, as such, shall be entitled to vote, receive dividends in respect of or be deemed for any purpose to be the holder of Common Stock or any other securities of the Company which may at any time be issuable upon the exercise of the Rights, nor shall anything contained herein or in any Right Certificate be construed to confer upon the holder of any Right Certificate, as such, any of the rights of a stockholder of the Company or any right to vote in the election of directors or upon any matter submitted to stockholders at any meeting thereof, or to give or withhold consent to any corporate action, or to receive notice of meetings or other actions affecting stockholders (except as provided in Section 25 hereof), or to receive dividends or subscription rights in respect of any such stock or securities, or otherwise, until the Right or Rights evidenced by such Right Certificate shall have been exercised in accordance with the provisions hereof.

18. Concerning the Rights Agent.

(a) The Company agrees to pay to the Rights Agent reasonable compensation for all services rendered by it hereunder and, from time to time, on demand of the Rights Agent, its reasonable expenses and counsel fees and other disbursements incurred in the preparation, negotiation, execution, delivery, amendment and administration of this Rights Agreement and the exercise and performance of its duties hereunder. The Company also agrees to indemnify the Rights Agent for, and to hold it harmless against, any loss, liability damage, judgment, fine, penalty, claim, demand, settlement, cost or expense (including without limitation, the reasonable fees and expenses of legal counsel), incurred without gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct (each as determined by a final, non-appealable order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction) on the part of the Rights Agent for any action taken, suffered or omitted to be taken by the Rights Agent in connection with the acceptance, administration, exercise and performance of its duties under this Rights Agreement, including, without limitation, the cost and expenses of defending against any claim of liability in the premises. The costs and expenses incurred in enforcing this right of indemnification shall also be paid by the Company. The provisions of this Section 18 and Section 20 below shall survive the exercise or expiration of the Rights and the termination of this Rights Agreement and the resignation, replacement or removal of the Rights Agent. Anything in this Rights Agreement to the contrary notwithstanding, in no event shall the Rights Agent be liable for special, indirect, incidental, punitive or consequential loss or damage of any kind whatsoever (including but not limited to lost profits), even if the Rights Agent has been advised of the likelihood of such loss or damage and regardless of the form of action.

(b) The Rights Agent may conclusively rely upon and shall be protected and shall incur no liability for or in respect of any action taken, suffered or omitted to be taken by it in connection with its acceptance and administration of this Rights Agreement and the exercise and performance of its duties hereunder, in reliance upon any Right Certificate, certificate for Common Stock or other securities of the Company, instrument of assignment or transfer, power of attorney, endorsement, affidavit, letter, notice, direction, consent, certificate, statement or other paper or document believed by it to be genuine and to be signed, executed and, where necessary, guaranteed, verified or acknowledged, by the proper Person or Persons, or otherwise upon the advice of counsel as set forth in Section 20 hereof. The Rights Agent shall not be

Table of Contents

deemed to have knowledge of any event of which it was supposed to receive notice thereof hereunder, and the Rights Agent shall be fully protected and shall incur no liability for failing to take any action in connection therewith unless and until it has received such notice.

19. Merger or Consolidation or Changed Name of Rights Agent.

(a) Any Person into which the Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent may be merged or with which it may be consolidated, or any Person resulting from any merger or consolidation to which the Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent shall be a party, or any Person succeeding to the stock transfer business of the Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent, shall be the successor to the Rights Agent under this Rights Agreement without the execution or filing of any paper or any further act on the part of any of the parties hereto, provided that such Person would be eligible for appointment as a successor Rights Agent under the provisions of Section 21 hereof. The purchase of all or substantially all of the Rights Agent's assets employed in the performance of transfer agent activities shall be deemed a merger or consolidation for purposes of this Section 19. In case at the time such successor Rights Agent shall succeed to the agency created by this Rights Agreement, any of the Right Certificates shall have been countersigned but not delivered, any such successor Rights Agent may adopt the countersignature of the predecessor Rights Agent and deliver such Right Certificates so countersigned; and, in case at that time any of the Right Certificates shall not have been countersigned, any successor Rights Agent may countersign such Right Certificates either in the name of the predecessor Rights Agent or in the name of the successor Rights Agent; and in all such cases such Right Certificates shall have the full force provided in the Right Certificates and in this Rights Agreement.

(b) In case at any time the name of the Rights Agent shall be changed and at such time any of the Right Certificates shall have been countersigned but not delivered, the Rights Agent may adopt the countersignature under its prior name and deliver such Right Certificates so countersigned; and, in case at that time any of the Right Certificates shall not have been countersigned, the Rights Agent may countersign such Right Certificates either in its prior name or in its changed name; and in all such cases such Right Certificate shall have the full force provided in the Right Certificates and in this Rights Agreement.

20. Duties of Rights Agent. The Rights Agent undertakes to perform only the duties and obligations expressly imposed by this Rights Agreement upon the following terms and conditions, and no implied duties or obligations shall be read into this Rights Agreement against the Rights Agent by all of which the Company and the holders of Right Certificates, by their acceptance thereof, shall be bound:

(a) Before the Rights Agent acts or refrains from acting, the Rights Agent may consult with legal counsel (who may be legal counsel for the Company or any employee of the Rights Agent), and the advice or opinion of such counsel shall be full and complete authorization and protection to the Rights Agent and the Rights Agent shall incur no liability for or in respect to, any action taken, suffered or omitted to be taken by it and in accordance with such advice or opinion.

(b) Whenever in the performance of its duties under this Rights Agreement the Rights Agent shall deem it necessary or desirable that any fact or matter (including, without limitation, the identity of any Acquiring Person and the determination of Current Market Price) be proved or established by the Company prior to taking, suffering or omitting to take any action hereunder, such fact or matter (unless other evidence in respect thereof be herein specifically prescribed) may be deemed to be conclusively proved and established by a certificate signed by the President or any Vice President and by the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer or the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Company and delivered to the Rights Agent; and such certificate shall be full and complete authorization and protection to the Rights Agent and the Rights Agent shall incur no liability for it in respect to any action taken, suffered or omitted to be taken by it under the provisions of this Rights Agreement in reliance upon such certificate.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

(c) The Rights Agent shall be liable hereunder to the Company and any other Person only for its own gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct, (each as determined by a final, non-appealable order or

A-27

Table of Contents

judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction). Any liability of the Rights Agent under this Rights Agreement will be limited to the fees paid by the Company to the Rights Agent.

(d) The Rights Agent shall not be liable for or by reason of any of the statements of fact or recitals contained in this Rights Agreement or in the Right Certificates (except its countersignature thereof) or be required to verify the same, but all such statements and recitals are and shall be deemed to have been made by the Company only.

(e) The Rights Agent shall not have any liability for or be under any responsibility or have any liability in respect of the validity of this Rights Agreement or the execution and delivery hereof (except the due execution hereof by the Rights Agent) or in respect of the validity or execution of any Right Certificate (except its countersignature thereof); nor shall it be responsible for any breach by the Company of any covenant or failure by the Company to satisfy any condition contained in this Rights Agreement or in any Right Certificate; nor shall it be responsible for any change in the exercisability of the Rights (including the Rights becoming null and void pursuant to Section 11(a)(ii) hereof) or any change or adjustment in the terms of the Rights (including any adjustment required under the provisions of Sections 11, 13, 23 or 24 hereof or responsible for the manner, method or amount thereof) or the ascertaining of the existence of facts that would require any such change or adjustment (except with respect to the exercise of Rights evidenced by Right Certificates after receipt of a Certificate furnished pursuant to Section 12 describing any such adjustment); nor shall it by any act hereunder be deemed to make any representation or warranty as to the authorization or reservation of any shares of Common Stock to be issued pursuant to this Rights Agreement or any Right Certificate or as to whether any shares of Common Stock will, when issued, be validly authorized and issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

(f) The Company agrees that it will perform, execute, acknowledge and deliver or cause to be performed, executed, acknowledged and delivered all such further and other acts, instruments and assurances as may reasonably be required by the Rights Agent for the carrying out or performing by the Rights Agent of its duties under this Rights Agreement.

(g) The Rights Agent is hereby authorized and directed to accept instructions with respect to the performance of its duties hereunder any one of from the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the President or any Vice President or the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary or the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the Company, and to apply to such officers for advice or instructions in connection with its duties, and such instructions shall be full authorization and protection to the Rights Agent and the Rights Agent shall incur no liability for or in respect of any action taken, suffered or omitted to be taken by it in accordance with instructions of any such officer or for any delay in acting while waiting for those instructions. Any application by the Rights Agent for written instructions from the Company may, at the option of the Rights Agent, set forth in writing any action proposed to be taken, suffered or omitted by the Rights Agent under this Rights Agreement and the date on and/or after which such action shall be taken, suffered or such omission shall be effective. Subject to Section 20(c) hereof, the Rights Agent shall not be liable for any action taken or suffered by, or omission of, the Rights Agent in accordance with a proposal included in any such application on or after the date specified in such application (which date shall not be less than five Business Days after the date any officer of the Company actually receives such application, unless any such officer shall have consented in writing to an earlier date) unless, prior to taking any such action (or the effective date in the case of an omission), the Rights Agent shall have received written instructions in response to such application specifying the action to be taken, suffered or omitted.

(h) The Rights Agent and any stockholder, affiliate, director, officer or employee of the Rights Agent may buy, sell or deal in any of the Rights or other securities of the Company or become pecuniarily interested in any transaction in which the Company may be interested, or contract with or lend money to the Company or otherwise act as fully and freely as though it were not the Rights Agent under this Rights Agreement. Nothing herein shall preclude the Rights Agent, any stockholder, affiliate, director, officer or employee of the Rights Agent from acting in any other capacity for the Company or for any other Person.

Table of Contents

(i) The Rights Agent may execute and exercise any of the rights or powers hereby vested in it or perform any duty hereunder either itself (through its directors, officers, and employees) or by or through its attorneys or agents, and the Rights Agent shall not be answerable or accountable for any act, default, neglect or misconduct of any such attorneys or agents or for any loss to the Company or any other Person resulting from any such act, default, neglect or misconduct, absent gross negligence, bad faith or willful misconduct (each as determined by a final, non-appealable order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction) in the selection and continued employment thereof.

(j) No provision of this Rights Agreement shall require the Rights Agent to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur any financial liability in the performance of any of its duties hereunder or in the exercise of its rights if it believes that repayment of such funds or adequate indemnification against such risk or liability is not assured to it.

(k) If, with respect to any Right Certificate surrendered to the Rights Agent for exercise or transfer, the certificate contained in the form of assignment or the form of election to purchase set forth on the reverse thereof, as the case may be, has either not been properly completed or indicates an affirmative response to clause 1 and/or 2 thereof, the Rights Agent shall not take any further action with respect to such requested exercise of transfer without first consulting with the Company.

(l) The Rights Agent shall not be required to take notice or be deemed to have notice of any fact, event or determination (including, without limitation, any dates or events defined in this Rights Agreement or the designation of any Person as an Acquiring Person, Affiliate or Associate) under this Rights Agreement unless and until the Rights Agent shall be specifically notified in writing by the Company of such fact, event or determination.

21. **Change of Rights Agent.** The Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent may resign and be discharged from its duties under this Rights Agreement upon thirty (30) days' notice in writing, or such earlier period as shall be agreed to in writing, mailed to the Company and to each transfer agent of the Common Stock known to the Rights Agent by registered or certified mail, and, at the expense of the Company, to the holders of the Right Certificates by first-class mail. The Company may remove the Rights Agent or any successor Rights Agent (with or without cause) upon thirty (30) days' notice in writing, or such earlier period as shall be agreed to in writing, mailed to the Rights Agent or successor Rights Agent, as the case may be, and to each transfer agent of the Common Stock by registered or certified mail, and to the holders of the Right Certificates by first-class mail. If the Rights Agent shall resign or be removed or shall otherwise become incapable of acting, the Company shall appoint a successor to the Rights Agent. If the Company shall fail to make such appointment within a period of thirty (30) days after giving notice of such removal or after it has been notified in writing of such resignation or incapacity by the resigning or incapacitated Rights Agent or by the holder of a Right Certificate (who shall, with such notice, submit his Right Certificate for inspection by the Company), then the Rights Agent or the holder of record of any Right Certificate may apply, at the expense of the Company, to any court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a new Rights Agent. Any successor Rights Agent, whether appointed by the Company or by such a court, shall be (a) a Person organized and doing business under the laws of the United States or any State thereof, in good standing, which is authorized under such laws to exercise corporate trust, stock transfer or shareholder services powers and is subject to supervision or examination by federal or state authority and which, alone or with its Affiliates, has at the time of its appointment as Rights Agent a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000 or (b) an Affiliate controlled by a Person described in clause (a) of this sentence. After appointment, the successor Rights Agent shall be vested with the same powers, rights, duties and responsibilities as if it had been originally named as Rights Agent without further act or deed; but the predecessor Rights Agent shall deliver and transfer to the successor Rights Agent any property at the time held by it hereunder, and execute and deliver any further assurance, conveyance, act or deed necessary for the purpose; and, except as the context herein otherwise requires, such successor Rights Agent shall be deemed to be the Rights Agent for all purposes of this Agreement. Not later than the effective date of any such appointment the Company shall file notice thereof in writing with the predecessor Rights Agent and each transfer agent of the Common Stock, and mail a notice thereof in writing to the registered holders of the Right Certificates. Failure to give any notice provided for

Table of Contents

in this Section 21, however, or any defect therein, shall not affect the legality or validity of the resignation or removal of the Rights Agent or the appointment of the successor Rights Agent, as the case may be.

22. Issuance of New Right Certificates. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this Rights Agreement or of the Rights to the contrary, the Company may, at its option, issue new Right Certificates evidencing Rights in such form as may be approved by its Board of Directors to reflect any adjustment or change in the Purchase Price per share and the number or kind or class of shares of stock or other securities or property purchasable under the Right Certificates made in accordance with the provisions of this Rights Agreement. In addition, in connection with the issuance or sale of shares of Common Stock following the Distribution Date and prior to the redemption or expiration of the Rights, the Company shall, with respect to shares of Common Stock so issued or sold pursuant to the exercise of stock options or under any employee plan or arrangement, granted or awarded, or upon the exercise, conversion or exchange of securities hereinafter issued by the Company, in each case existing prior to the Distribution Date, issue Right Certificates representing the appropriate number of Rights in connection with such issuance or sale; provided, however, that (i) no such Right Certificate shall be issued if, and to the extent that, the Company shall be advised by counsel that such issuance would create a significant risk of material adverse tax consequences to the Company or the Person to whom such Right Certificate would be issued, and (ii) no such Right Certificate shall be issued, if, and to the extent that, appropriate adjustment shall otherwise have been made in lieu of the issuance thereof.

23. Redemption.

(a) The Board of Directors of the Company may, at its option, at any time prior to the earlier of (x) the first occurrence of a Flip-In Event or (y) the Close of Business on the Expiration Date, redeem all but not less than all the then outstanding Rights at a redemption price of \$.001 per Right, as such amount may be appropriately adjusted to reflect any stock split, stock dividend or similar transaction occurring after the date hereof (such redemption price being hereinafter referred to as the **Redemption Price**).

(b) Immediately upon the action of the Board of Directors of the Company ordering the redemption of the Rights pursuant to paragraph (a) of this Section 23 (or at such later time as the Board of Directors may establish for the effectiveness of such redemption), and without any further action and without any notice, the right to exercise the Rights will terminate and the only right thereafter of the holders of Rights shall be to receive the Redemption Price. The Company shall promptly give public notice of any such redemption (as well as prompt written notice thereof to the Rights Agent) of any such redemption; provided, however, that the failure to give, or any defect in, any such notice shall not affect the validity of such redemption. Within ten (10) days after such action of the Board of Directors ordering the redemption of the Rights (or such later time as the Board of Directors may establish for the effectiveness of such redemption), the Company shall mail a notice of redemption to all the holders of the then outstanding Rights at their last addresses as they appear upon the registry books of the Rights Agent or, prior to the Distribution Date, on the registry books of the transfer agent for the Common Stock. Any notice which is mailed in the manner herein provided shall be deemed given, whether or not the holder receives the notice. Each such notice of redemption shall state the method by which the payment of the Redemption Price will be made. The failure to give notice required by this Section 23(b) or any defect therein shall not affect the legality or validity of the action taken by the Company.

(c) In the case of a redemption permitted under Section 23(a), the Company may, at its option, discharge all of its obligations with respect to the Rights by (i) issuing a press release announcing the manner of redemption of the Rights and (ii) mailing payment of the Redemption Price to the registered holders of the Rights at their last addresses as they appear on the registry books of the Rights Agent or, prior to the Distribution Date, on the registry books of the transfer agent of the Common Stock, and upon such action, all outstanding Right Certificates shall be null and void without any further action by the Company.

Table of Contents

24. Exchange of Rights for Common Stock.

(a) The Board of Directors of the Company may, at its option, at any time after the occurrence of a Flip-In Event, exchange all or part of the then outstanding and exercisable Rights (which (i) shall not include Rights that have become null and void pursuant to the provisions of Section 11(a)(ii) and (ii) shall include, without limitation, any Rights issued after the Distribution Date in accordance with Section 22) for shares of Common Stock at an exchange ratio of one share of Common Stock per Right, appropriately adjusted to reflect any stock split, stock dividend or similar transaction occurring after the date hereof (such exchange ratio being hereinafter referred to as the **Exchange Ratio**). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors shall not be empowered to effect such exchange at any time after any Person (other than a Related Person), together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person, becomes the Beneficial Owner of shares of Common Stock aggregating 50% or more of the shares of Common Stock then outstanding. From and after the occurrence of an event specified in Section 13(a) hereof, any Rights that theretofore have not been exchanged pursuant to this Section 24(a) shall thereafter be exercisable only in accordance with Section 13 and may not be exchanged pursuant to this Section 24(a).

(b) Immediately upon the action of the Board of Directors of the Company ordering the exchange of any Rights pursuant to subsection (a) of this Section 24 and without any further action and without any notice, the right to exercise such Rights shall terminate and the only right thereafter of a holder of such Rights shall be to receive that number of shares of Common Stock equal to the number of such Rights held by such holder multiplied by the Exchange Ratio. The Company shall promptly give public notice of any such exchange; provided, however, that the failure to give, or any defect in, such notice shall not affect the validity of such exchange. The Company promptly shall mail a notice of any such exchange to the Rights Agent and to all of the holders of such Rights at their last addresses as they appear upon the registry books of the Rights Agent. Any notice which is mailed in the manner herein provided shall be deemed given, whether or not the holder receives the notice. Each such notice of exchange will state the method by which the exchange of the shares of Common Stock for Rights will be effected and, in the event of any partial exchange, the number of Rights which will be exchanged. Any partial exchange shall be effected pro rata based on the number of Rights (other than Rights which have become null and void pursuant to the provisions of Section 11(a)(ii) hereof) held by each holder of Rights.

(c) In any exchange pursuant to this Section 24, the Company, at its option, may substitute, and, in the event that there shall not be sufficient shares of Common Stock issued but not outstanding or authorized but unissued to permit any exchange of Rights as contemplated in accordance with this Section 24, the Company shall substitute to the extent of such insufficiency, for each share of Common Stock that would otherwise be issuable upon exchange of a Right, a number of shares of Preferred Stock or fractions thereof (or Equivalent Preferred Shares, as such term is defined in Section 11(b)) having an aggregate current per share market price (determined pursuant to Section 11(d) hereof) equal to the current per share market price of one share of Common Stock (determined pursuant to Section 11(d) hereof) as of the date of the Flip-In Event.

(d) In the event that there shall not be sufficient shares of Common Stock issued but not outstanding or authorized but unissued to permit any exchange of Rights as contemplated in accordance with this Section 24, the Company shall take all such action as may be necessary to authorize additional shares of Common Stock for issuance upon exchange of the Rights.

(e) The Company shall not be required to issue fractions of shares of Common Stock or to distribute certificates which evidence fractional shares of Common Stock. In lieu of such fractional shares of Common Stock, the Company shall pay to the registered holders of the Right Certificates with regard to which such fractional shares of Common Stock would otherwise be issuable an amount in cash equal to the same fraction of the current market value of a whole share of Common Stock. For the purposes of this paragraph (e), the current market value of a whole share of Common Stock shall be the Current Market Price of a share of Common Stock (as defined in Section 11(d) hereof for the purposes of computations made other than pursuant to Section 11(a)(iii) for the Trading Day immediately prior to the date of exchange pursuant to this Section 24.

Table of Contents

25. Notice of Proposed Actions.

(a) In case the Company, at any time after the Distribution Date, shall propose (i) to effect any of the transactions referred to in Section 11(a)(i) or to pay any dividend to the holders of record of its Preferred Stock payable in stock of any class or to make any other distribution to the holders of record of its Preferred Stock (other than a regular periodic cash dividend), or (ii) to offer to the holders of record of its Preferred Stock or options, warrants, or other rights to subscribe for or to purchase shares of Preferred Stock (including any security convertible into or exchangeable for Preferred Stock) or shares of stock of any other class or any other securities, options, warrants, convertible or exchangeable securities or other rights, or (iii) to effect any reclassification of its Preferred Stock or any recapitalization or reorganization of the Company, or (iv) to effect any consolidation or merger with or into, or to effect any sale or other transfer (or to permit one or more of its Subsidiaries to effect any sale or other transfer), in one or more transactions, of more than 50% of the assets or earning power of the Company and its Subsidiaries (taken as a whole) to, any other Person or Persons, or (v) to effect the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, then, in each such case, the Company shall give to the Rights Agent and each holder of record of a Right Certificate, in accordance with Section 26 hereof, a notice of such proposed action (with a copy thereof to the Rights Agent), which shall specify the record date for the purposes of such transaction referred to in Section 11(a)(i), or such dividend or distribution of rights, or the date on which such reclassification, recapitalization, reorganization, consolidation, merger, sale or transfer of assets, liquidation, dissolution or winding up is to take place and the record date for determining participation therein by the holders of record of Preferred Stock, if any such date is to be fixed, and such notice shall be so given in the case of any action covered by clause (i) or (ii) above at least 10 days prior to but not including the record date for determining holders of record of the Preferred Stock for purposes of such action, and in the case of any such other action, at least 10 days prior to but not including the date of the taking of such proposed action or the date of participation therein by the holders of record of Preferred Stock, whichever shall be the earlier.

(b) In case any of the transactions referred to in Section 11(a)(ii) or Section 13 of this Rights Agreement are proposed, then, in any such case, the Company shall give to the Rights Agent and to each holder of Rights, in accordance with Section 26 hereof, written notice of the proposal of such transaction at least 10 days prior to consummating such transaction, which notice shall specify the proposed event and the consequences of the event to holders of Rights under Section 11(a)(ii) or Section 13 hereof, as the case may be, and, upon consummating such transaction, shall similarly give notice thereof to each holder of Rights.

(c) The failure to give notice required by this Section 25 or any defect therein shall not affect the legality or validity of the action taken by the Company or the vote upon any such action.

26. Notices. Notices or demands authorized by this Rights Agreement to be given or made by the Rights Agent or by the holder of record of any Right Certificate or Right to or on behalf of the Company shall be sufficiently given or made if in writing and sent by overnight delivery service, first-class mail, postage prepaid, addressed (until another address is filed in writing with the Rights Agent) or by facsimile transmission as follows:

Extreme Networks, Inc.

3585 Monroe Street

Santa Clara, CA 95051

Attention: General Counsel

Facsimile No.: (408) 579-3029

A-32

Table of Contents

Subject to the provisions of Section 20 hereof, any notice or demand authorized by this Rights Agreement to be given or made by the Company or by the holder of record of any Right Certificate or Right to or on the Rights Agent shall be sufficiently given or made if in writing and sent by overnight delivery service, registered or certified mail and shall be deemed given upon receipt (until another address is filed in writing with the Company) as follows:

Computershare Shareowner Services LLC

520 Pike St., Suite 1220

Seattle, WA 98101

Attention: Lisa Porter

Facsimile No.: (206) 674-3059

with a copy to:

Computershare Shareowner Services LLC

Newport Office Center VII

480 Washington Boulevard

Jersey City, New Jersey 07310

Attention: Legal Department

Facsimile No.: (201) 680-4610

Notices or demands authorized by this Rights Agreement to be given or made by the Company or the Rights Agent to the holder of record of any Right Certificate or Right shall be sufficiently given or made if in writing and sent by overnight delivery service or first-class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to such holder at the address of such holder as it appears upon the registry books of the Rights Agent or, prior to the Distribution Date, on the registry books of the transfer agent.

27. Supplements and Amendments. Except as otherwise provided in this Section 27, for so long as the Rights are then redeemable, the Company may in its sole and absolute discretion, and the Rights Agent shall if the Company so directs, supplement or amend any provision of this Rights Agreement in any respect without the approval of any holders of the Rights. At any time when the Rights are no longer redeemable, except as otherwise provided in the this Section 27, the Company may, and the Rights Agent shall, if the Company so directs, supplement or amend this Rights Agreement without the approval of any holders of Rights Certificates in order to (i) cure any ambiguity, (ii) correct or supplement any provision contained herein which may be defective or inconsistent with any other provisions herein, (iii) shorten or lengthen any time period hereunder, or (iv) change or supplement the provisions hereunder in any manner which the Company may deem necessary or desirable; provided that any such supplement or amendment to be evidenced by a writing signed by the Company and the Rights Agent; provided, however, that, at any such time when the Rights are no longer redeemable, this Agreement shall not be amended or supplemented in any manner which would adversely affect the interests of the holders of Rights as such (other than an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person), and no such amendment may cause the Rights again to become redeemable or cause the Rights Agreement again to become amendable other than in accordance with this sentence. Upon delivery of a certificate from an appropriate officer of the Company and, if requested by the Rights Agent, an opinion of counsel, that states that the proposed supplement or amendment is in compliance with the terms of this Section 27, the Rights Agent shall execute such supplement or amendment. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Rights Agreement to the contrary, no supplement or amendment shall be made which changes the Redemption Price and no supplement or amendment that changes the rights and duties of the Rights Agent under this Rights Agreement will be effective against the Rights Agent without the written consent of the Rights Agent, which shall be evidenced by the execution of such supplement or amendment by the Rights Agent. Prior to the Distribution Date, the interests of the holders of Rights shall be deemed coincident with the interests of the

Table of Contents

holders of Common Stock. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement to the contrary, the Rights Agent may, but shall not be obligated to, enter into any supplement or amendment that affects the Rights Agent's own rights, duties, liabilities, obligations or immunities.

28. Successors. All of the covenants and provisions of this Rights Agreement by or for the benefit of the Company or the Rights Agent shall bind and inure to the benefit of their respective successors and assigns hereunder.

29. Determinations and Actions by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have the exclusive power, authority and discretion to administer this Rights Agreement and to exercise all rights and powers specifically granted to such Board of Directors or to the Company, or as may be necessary or advisable in the administration of this Rights Agreement, including, without limitation, the right and power to (i) interpret the provisions of this Rights Agreement, and (ii) make all determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the administration of this Rights Agreement (including, but not limited to, a determination to redeem or not redeem the Rights, to amend the Rights Agreement or to find or to announce publicly that any Person has become an Acquiring Person). All such actions, calculations, interpretations and determinations (including, for purposes of clauses (i) and (iii) below, all omissions with respect to the foregoing) which are done or made by the Board of Directors of the Company or the Company (i) shall be within the discretion of the Board of Directors, (ii) shall be final, conclusive and binding on the Company, the Rights Agent, the holders of the Right Certificates and all other parties, and (iii) shall not subject the Board of Directors of the Company to any liability to the holders of the Rights and Right Certificates. The Rights Agent is entitled always to assume that the Company's Board of Directors acted in good faith and shall be fully protected and incur no liability in reliance thereon.

30. Benefits of this Rights Agreement. Nothing in this Rights Agreement shall be construed to give to any Person other than the Company, the Rights Agent and the registered holders of the Right Certificates (and, prior to the Distribution Date, the Common Stock) any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim under this Rights Agreement; but this Rights Agreement shall be for the sole and exclusive benefit of the Company, the Rights Agent and the holders of record of the Right Certificates (and, prior to the Distribution Date, the Common Stock).

31. Governing Law. This Rights Agreement and each Right Certificate issued hereunder shall be deemed to be a contract made under the laws of the State of Delaware and for all purposes shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of such state applicable to contracts to be made solely by residents of such state and performed entirely within such state; provided, however, that all provisions regarding the rights, duties and obligations of the Rights Agent shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of New York applicable to contracts made and to be performed entirely within such state, without regard to the principles or rules concerning conflicts of laws which might otherwise require application of the substantive laws of another jurisdiction.

32. Counterparts. This Rights Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts and each of such counterparts shall for all purposes be deemed to be an original, and all such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument.

33. Descriptive Headings. Descriptive headings of the several sections of this Rights Agreement are inserted for convenience only and shall not control or affect the meaning or construction of any of the provisions hereof.

34. Severability. If any term, provision, covenant or restriction of this Rights Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction or other authority to be invalid, void, illegal or unenforceable, the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions of this Rights Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated; provided, however, that if any such excluded term, provision, covenant or restriction shall adversely affect the rights, immunities, duties or obligations of the Rights Agent, the Rights Agent shall be entitled to resign immediately.

Table of Contents

35. **Tax Benefits Review**. In addition to the review and evaluation otherwise required by this Agreement, from and after June 30, 2010 and for so long as the threshold for determining whether a Person, together with all Affiliates and Associates of such Person, is an Acquiring Person is 4.95%, the Board shall review the calculation for determining whether an ownership change has occurred under Section 382 of the Code once per year. The Board shall determine after such review whether the ownership structure of the Company poses an undue risk of the loss of or inability to use all or a substantial portion of the Tax Benefits. If the ownership structure of the Company no longer poses an undue risk of the loss of or the inability to use all or a substantial portion of the Tax Benefits, the Board shall consider whether maintenance of the 4.95% threshold continues to be in the best interests of the Company, its stockholders and other relevant constituencies.

36. **Force Majeure**. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Rights Agent shall not be liable for any delays or failures in performance resulting from acts beyond its reasonable control including, without limitation, acts of God, terrorist acts, shortage of supply, breakdowns or malfunctions, interruptions or malfunction of computer facilities, or loss of data due to power failures or mechanical difficulties with information storage or retrieval systems, labor difficulties, war, or civil unrest.

37. **Patriot Act**. The Company acknowledges that the Rights Agent is subject to the customer identification program (**Customer Identification Program**) requirements under the USA PATRIOT Act and its implementing regulations, and that the Rights Agent must obtain, verify and record information that allows the Rights Agent to identify the Company. Accordingly, prior to accepting an appointment hereunder, the Rights Agent may request information from the Company that will help the Rights Agent to identify the Company, including without limitation the Company's physical address, tax identification number, organizational documents, certificate of good standing, license to do business, or any other information that the Company deems necessary. The Company agrees that the Rights Agent cannot accept an appointment hereunder unless and until the Rights Agent verifies the Company's identity in accordance with the Customer Identification Program requirements.

Table of Contents

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Amended and Restated Rights Agreement to be duly executed, and their seals affixed and attested, all as of the date and year first above written.

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.

By:
Diane Honda
Secretary

By:
Oscar Rodriguez
Chief Executive Officer and President

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

Computershare SHAREOWNER SERVICES LLC
as Rights Agent

By:
Name:
Title:

By:

A-36

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT A

EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.

CERTIFICATE

OF DESIGNATION, PREFERENCES AND RIGHTS

OF THE TERMS OF THE

SERIES A PREFERRED STOCK

Pursuant to Section 151 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware

We, the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Secretary, respectively, of Extreme Networks, Inc., organized and existing under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, in accordance with the provisions of Section 103 thereof, DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

That pursuant to the authority conferred upon the Board of Directors by the Certificate of Incorporation of the said Corporation, the said Board of Directors on April 26, 2001, adopted the following resolution creating a series of 750,000 shares of Preferred Stock designated as Series A Preferred Stock:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board of Directors of this Corporation in accordance with the provisions of its Certificate of Incorporation, a series of Preferred Stock of the Corporation be and it hereby is created, and that the designation and amount thereof and the powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional and other special rights of the shares of such series, and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof are as follows:

Section 1. Designation and Amount. The shares of such series shall be designated as Series A Preferred Stock (the **Series A Preferred Stock**), \$.001 par value per share, and the number of shares constituting such series shall be 750,000.

Section 2. Dividends and Distributions.

(A) The dividend rate on the shares of Series A Preferred Stock shall be for each quarterly dividend hereinafter referred to as a (**quarterly dividend period**), which quarterly dividend periods shall commence on April 1, July 1, October 1 and January 1 each fiscal year (each such date being referred to herein as a **Quarterly Dividend Payment Date**) (or in the case of original issuance, from the date of original issuance) and shall end on and include the day next preceding the first date of the next quarterly dividend period, at a rate per quarterly dividend period (rounded to the nearest cent) equal to the greater of (a) \$3,750.00 or (b) subject to the provisions for adjustment hereinafter set forth, 1,000 times the aggregate per share amount of all cash dividends, and 1,000 times the aggregate per share amount (payable in cash, based upon the fair market value at the time the non-cash dividend or other distribution is declared as determined in good faith by the Board of Directors) of all non-cash dividends or other distributions other than a dividend payable in shares of Common Stock or a subdivision of the outstanding shares of Common Stock (by reclassification or otherwise), declared (but not withdrawn) on the Common Stock, par value \$.001 per share, of the Corporation (the **Common Stock**) during the immediately preceding quarterly dividend period, or, with respect to the first quarterly dividend period, since the first issuance of any share or fraction of a share of Series A Preferred Stock. In the event this Corporation shall at any time after May 14, 2001 (the **Rights Declaration Date**) (i) declare any dividend on Common Stock payable in shares of Common Stock, (ii) subdivide the outstanding Common Stock, or (iii) combine the outstanding Common Stock into a smaller number of shares, then in each such case the amount to which holders of

A-37

Table of Contents

shares of Series A Preferred Stock were entitled immediately prior to such event under clause (b) of the preceding sentence shall be adjusted by multiplying such amount by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding immediately after such event and the denominator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock that were outstanding immediately prior to such event.

(B) Dividends shall begin to accrue and be cumulative on outstanding shares of Series A Preferred Stock from the Quarterly Dividend Payment Date next preceding the date of issue of such shares of Series A Preferred Stock, unless the date of issue of such shares is prior to the record date for the first Quarterly Dividend Payment Date, in which case dividends on such shares shall begin to accrue from the date of issue of such shares, or unless the date of issue is a Quarterly Dividend Payment Date or is a date after the record date for the determination of holders of shares of Series A Preferred Stock entitled to receive a quarterly dividend and before such Quarterly Dividend Payment Date, in either of which events such dividends shall begin to accrue and be cumulative from such Quarterly Dividend Payment Date. Accrued but unpaid dividends shall not bear interest. Dividends paid on the shares of Series A Preferred Stock in an amount less than the total amount of such dividends at the time accrued and payable on such shares shall be allocated pro rata on a share-by-share basis among all such shares at the time outstanding. The Board of Directors may fix a record date for the determination of holders of shares of Series A Preferred Stock entitled to receive payment of a dividend or distribution declared thereon, which record date shall be no more than forty-five (45) days prior to the date fixed for the payment thereof.

Section 3. Voting Rights. The holders of shares of Series A Preferred Stock shall have the following voting rights:

(A) Subject to the provision for adjustment hereinafter set forth, each share of Series A Preferred Stock shall entitle the holder thereof to 1,000 votes on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders of the Corporation. In the event the Corporation shall at any time after the Rights Declaration Date (i) declare any dividend on Common Stock payable in shares of Common Stock, (ii) subdivide the outstanding Common Stock, or (iii) combine the outstanding Common Stock into a smaller number of shares, then in each such case the number of votes per share to which holders of shares of Series A Preferred Stock were entitled immediately prior to such event shall be adjusted by multiplying such number by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding immediately after such event and the denominator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock that were outstanding immediately prior to such event.

(B) Except as otherwise provided herein, in the Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws, the holders of shares of Series A Preferred Stock and the holders of shares of Common Stock shall vote together as one class on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders of the Corporation.

(C) Except as set forth herein, in the Certificate of Incorporation and in the Bylaws, holders of Series A Preferred Stock shall have no special voting rights and their consent shall not be required (except to the extent they are entitled to vote with holders of Common Stock as set forth herein) for taking any corporate action.

Section 4. Reacquired Shares. Any shares of Series A Preferred Stock purchased or otherwise acquired by the Corporation in any manner whatsoever shall be retired and canceled promptly after the acquisition thereof. All such shares shall upon their cancellation become authorized but unissued shares of Preferred Stock and may be reissued as part of a new series of Preferred Stock to be created by resolution or resolutions of the Board of Directors, subject to the conditions and restrictions on issuance set forth herein.

Section 5. Liquidation, Dissolution or Winding Up. In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Corporation, the holders of the Series A Preferred Stock shall be entitled to receive the greater of (a) \$150,000.00 per share, plus accrued dividends to the date of distribution, whether or not earned or declared, or (b) an amount per share, subject to the provision for adjustment hereinafter set forth, equal to 1,000 times the aggregate amount to be distributed per share to holders of Common Stock. In the event the

Table of Contents

Corporation shall at any time after the Rights Declaration Date (i) declare any dividend on Common Stock payable in shares of Common Stock, (ii) subdivide the outstanding Common Stock, or (iii) combine the outstanding Common Stock into a smaller number of shares, then in each such case the amount to which holders of shares of Series A Preferred Stock were entitled immediately prior to such event pursuant to clause (b) of the preceding sentence shall be adjusted by multiplying such amount by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding immediately after such event and the denominator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock that were outstanding immediately prior to such event.

Section 6. Consolidation, Merger, etc. In case the Corporation shall enter into any consolidation, merger, combination or other transaction in which the shares of Common Stock are exchanged for or changed into other stock or securities, cash and/or any other property, then in any such case the shares of Series A Preferred Stock shall at the same time be similarly exchanged or changed in an amount per share (subject to the provision for adjustment hereinafter set forth) equal to 1,000 times the aggregate amount of stock, securities, cash and/or any other property (payable in kind), as the case may be, into which or for which each share of Common Stock is changed or exchanged. In the event the Corporation shall at any time after the Rights Declaration Date (i) declare any dividend on Common Stock payable in shares of Common Stock, (ii) subdivide the outstanding Common Stock, or (iii) combine the outstanding Common Stock into a smaller number of shares, then in each such case the amount set forth in the preceding sentence with respect to the exchange or change of shares of Series A Preferred Stock shall be adjusted by multiplying such amount by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding immediately after such event and the denominator of which is the number of shares of Common Stock that were outstanding immediately prior to such event.

Section 7. No Redemption. The shares of Series A Preferred Stock shall not be redeemable.

Section 8. Fractional Shares. Series A Preferred Stock may be issued in fractions of a share which shall entitle the holder, in proportion to such holder's fractional shares, to exercise voting rights, receive dividends, participate in distributions and have the benefit of all other rights of holders of Series A Preferred Stock. All payments made with respect to fractional shares hereunder shall be rounded to the nearest whole cent.

Section 9. Certain Restrictions.

(A) Whenever quarterly dividends or other dividends or distributions payable on the Series A Preferred Stock as provided in Section 2 are in arrears, thereafter and until all accrued and unpaid dividends and distributions, whether or not declared, on shares of Series A Preferred Stock outstanding shall have been paid in full, the Corporation shall not:

(i) declare or pay dividends on, make any other distributions on, or redeem or purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration any shares of stock ranking junior (either as to dividends or upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up) to the Series A Preferred Stock;

(ii) declare or pay dividends on or make any other distributions on any shares of stock ranking on a parity (either as to dividends or upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up) with the Series A Preferred Stock, except dividends paid ratably on the Series A Preferred Stock and all such parity stock on which dividends are payable or in arrears in proportion to the total amounts to which the holders of all such shares are then entitled;

(iii) redeem or purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration shares of any stock ranking on a parity (either as to dividends or upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up) with the Series A Preferred Stock, provided that the Corporation may at any time redeem, purchase or otherwise

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

acquire shares of any such parity stock in exchange for shares of any stock of the Corporation ranking junior (either as to dividends or upon dissolution, liquidation or winding up) to the Series A Preferred Stock; or

(iv) purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration any shares of Series A Preferred Stock, or any shares of stock ranking on a parity with the Series A Preferred Stock, except in accordance with a

A-39

Table of Contents

purchase offer made in writing or by publication (as determined by the Board of Directors) to all holders of such shares upon such terms as the Board of Directors, after consideration of the respective annual dividend rates and other relative rights and preferences of the respective series and classes shall determine in good faith will result in fair and equitable treatment among the respective series or classes.

(B) The Corporation shall not permit any subsidiary of the Corporation to purchase or otherwise acquire for consideration any shares of stock of the Corporation unless the Corporation could, under paragraph (A) of this Section 9, purchase or otherwise acquire such shares at such time and in such manner.

Section 10. Ranking. The Series A Preferred Stock shall be junior to all other Series of the Corporation's preferred stock as to the payment of dividends and the distribution of assets, unless the terms of any series shall provide otherwise.

Section 11. Amendment. The Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation shall not be amended in any manner which would materially alter or change the powers, preferences or special rights of the Series A Preferred Stock so as to affect them adversely without the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds or more of the outstanding shares of Series A Preferred Stock voting together as a single class.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have executed and subscribed this Certificate and do affirm the foregoing as true under the penalties of perjury this 27/th/ day of April, 2001.

ATTEST:

EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.

By: /S/ VITO PALERMO
Vito Palermo
Secretary

By: /S/ GORDON L. STITT
Gordon L. Stitt
Chief Executive Officer and President

A-40

Table of ContentsEXHIBIT B**[Form of Right Certificate]**

Certificate No.	Rights
-----------------	--------

NOT EXERCISABLE AFTER APRIL 30, 2013, OR EARLIER IF REDEEMED OR EXCHANGED. AT THE OPTION OF THE COMPANY, THE RIGHTS MAY BE REDEEMED AT \$.001 PER RIGHT OR EXCHANGED FOR PREFERRED STOCK ON THE TERMS SET FORTH IN THE RIGHTS AGREEMENT. IN THE EVENT THAT THE RIGHTS REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE ARE ISSUED TO A PERSON WHO IS AN ACQUIRING PERSON OR CERTAIN TRANSFEREE OF THE RIGHTS PREVIOUSLY OWNED BY SUCH PERSONS, THIS RIGHT CERTIFICATE AND THE RIGHTS REPRESENTED HEREBY SHALL BE NULL AND VOID AND WILL NO LONGER BE TRANSFERABLE. RIGHT CERTIFICATE

This certifies that _____, or registered assigns, is the registered owner of the number of Rights set forth above, each of which entitles the owner thereof, subject to the terms, provisions and conditions of the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement dated as of April 26, 2012 (**Rights Agreement**) between Extreme Networks, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the **Company**), and Computershare Shareowner Services LLC (the **Rights Agent**), to purchase from the Company at any time after the Distribution Date (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement) and prior to 5:00 p.m. (New York time) on April 30, 2013 at the office of the Rights Agent, or its successors as Rights Agent, designated for such purposes, one one-thousandth of a fully paid and nonassessable share of Series A Preferred Stock of the Company (**Preferred Stock**) at a purchase price of \$150.00 per one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, as the same may from time to time be adjusted in accordance with the Rights Agreement (**Purchase Price**), upon presentation and surrender of this Right Certificate with the Form of Election to Purchase duly executed. Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Rights Agreement.

As provided in the Rights Agreement, the Purchase Price and the number of shares of Preferred Stock or other securities which may be purchased upon the exercise of the Rights evidenced by this Right Certificate are subject to modification and adjustment upon the happening of certain events and, upon the happening of certain events, securities other than shares of Preferred Stock, or other property, may be acquired upon exercise of the Rights evidenced by this Right Certificate, as provided by the Rights Agreement. Upon the occurrence of a Flip-In Event, if the Rights evidenced by this Rights Certificate are beneficially owned by (i) an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate of any such Acquiring Person, (ii) a transferee of any such Acquiring Person, Associate or Affiliate, or (iii) under certain circumstances specified in the Rights Agreement, a transferee of a person who, after such transfer, became an Acquiring Person, or any Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person, such Rights shall be null and void and will no longer be transferable and no holder hereof shall have any right with respect to such Rights from and after the occurrence of such Flip-In Events.

This Right Certificate is subject to all the terms, provisions and conditions of the Rights Agreement, which terms, provisions and conditions are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof and to which Rights Agreement reference is hereby made for a full description of the rights, limitations of rights, obligations, duties and immunities of the Rights Agent, the Company and the holders of record of the Right Certificates, which limitation of rights include the temporary suspension of the exercisability of such Rights under the specific circumstances set forth in the Rights Agreement. Copies of the Rights Agreement are on file at the principal executive office of the Company and are available upon written request to the Company.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

This Right Certificate, with or without other Right Certificates, upon surrender at the principal office of the Rights Agent, may be exchanged for another Right Certificate or Right Certificates of like tenor and date evidencing Rights entitling the holder of record to purchase a like aggregate number of shares of Preferred Stock as the Rights evidenced by the Right Certificate or Right Certificates surrendered shall have entitled such holder to purchase. If this Right Certificate shall be exercised in part, the holder shall be entitled to receive upon surrender hereof, another Right Certificate or Right Certificates for the number of whole Rights not exercised.

A-41

Table of Contents

Subject to the provisions of the Rights Agreement, at any time prior to the earlier of (i) the occurrence of a Flip-In Event (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement) or (ii) the Expiration Date (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement), the Rights evidenced by this Certificate may be redeemed by the Company at its option at a redemption price of \$.001 per Right. Subject to the provisions of the Rights Agreement, the Company may, at its option, at any time after a Flip-In Event, exchange all or part of the Rights evidenced by this Certificate for shares of the Company's Common Stock or for Preferred Stock (or shares of a class or series of the Company's preferred stock having the same rights, privileges and preferences as the Preferred Stock).

In the event (i) any person or group becomes an Acquiring Person or (ii) any of the types of transactions, acquisitions or other events described above as self-dealing transactions occur, and prior to the acquisition by such person or group of 50% or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock, the Board may require all or any portion of the outstanding Rights (other than Rights owned by such Acquiring Person which have become null and void) to be exchanged for Common Stock on a pro rata basis, at an exchange ratio of one share of Common Stock or one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock (or of a share of a class or series of the Company's Preferred Stock having equivalent rights, preferences and privileges), per Right (subject to adjustment).

No fractional shares of Preferred Stock shall be issued upon the exercise of any Right or Rights evidenced hereby (other than fractions which are integral multiples of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, which may, at the option of the Company, be evidenced by depository receipts), and no fractional shares of Common Stock will be issued upon the exchange of any Right or Rights evidenced hereby, and in lieu thereof, as provided in the Rights Agreement, fractions of shares of Preferred Stock or Common Stock shall receive an amount in cash equal to the same fraction of the then Current Market Price (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement) of a share of Preferred Stock or Common Stock, as the case may be.

No holder of this Right Certificate, as such, shall be entitled to vote or receive dividends or be deemed for any purpose the holder of Common Stock or of any other securities of the Company which may at any time be issuable on the exercise hereof, nor shall anything contained in the Rights Agreement or herein be construed to confer upon the holder hereof, as such, any of the rights of a stockholder of the Company or any right to vote in the election of directors, or upon any matter submitted to stockholders at any meeting thereof, or to give or withhold consent to any corporate action or to receive notice of meetings or other actions affecting stockholders (other than certain actions specified in the Rights Agreement) or to receive dividends or subscription rights, or otherwise, until the Right or Rights evidenced by this Right Certificate shall have been exercised or exchanged as provided in the Rights Agreement.

This Right Certificate shall not be valid or obligatory for any purpose until it shall have been countersigned by the Rights Agent.

WITNESS the facsimile signature of the proper officers of the Company and its corporate seal. Dated as of _____, 20__.

ATTEST:

Secretary

COUNTERSIGNED:

Extreme Networks, Inc.

By:

Title:

Computershare Shareowner Services LLC

By:

Authorized Officer

Table of Contents

Form of Reverse Side of Right Certificate

FORM OF ASSIGNMENT

(To be executed by the registered holder if such holder desires to transfer any or all of the Rights represented by this Right Certificate)

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto

(Name, address and social security or other identifying number of transferee)

() of the Rights represented by this Right Certificate, together with all right, title and interest in and to said Rights, and hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints attorney to transfer said Rights on the books of the within-named Company with full power of substitution.

Dated: (Signature)

Signature Guaranteed:

Signatures should be guaranteed by a participant in a Medallion Signature Guarantee Program at a guarantee level acceptable to the Company's Rights Agent. **CERTIFICATE**

The undersigned hereby certifies by checking the appropriate boxes that:

(1) the rights evidenced by this Right Certificate [] are [] are not being sold, assigned and transferred by or on behalf of a Person who is or was an Acquiring Person (as such capitalized terms are defined in the Rights Agreement);

(2) after due inquiry and to the best knowledge of the undersigned, it [] did [] did not acquire the Rights evidenced by this Right Certificate from any Person who is or was an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person or any transferee of such Persons.

Dated: (Signature)

Signature Guaranteed:

Signatures should be guaranteed by a participant in a Medallion Signature Guarantee Program at a guarantee level acceptable to the Company's Rights Agent.

A-43

Table of Contents

Form of Reverse Side of Right Certificate

(continued)

NOTICE

The signatures to the foregoing Assignment and the foregoing Certificate, if applicable, must correspond to the name as written upon the face of this Right Certificate in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatsoever, and must be guaranteed by a participant in a Securities Transfer Association (**STA**) recognized signature program. In the event that the foregoing Certificate is not duly executed, with signature guaranteed, the Company may deem the Rights represented by this Right Certificate to be Beneficially Owned by an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person (as such capitalized terms are defined in the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement), and not issue any Right Certificate or Right Certificates in exchange for this Right Certificate.

A-44

Table of Contents

Form of Reverse of Right Certificate

(continued)

FORM OF ELECTION TO PURCHASE

(To be executed by the registered holder if such holder desires to exercise any or all of the Rights represented by this Right Certificate)

To:

The undersigned hereby irrevocably elects to exercise () of the Rights represented by this Right Certificate to purchase the shares of the Common Stock of the Company, or other securities or property issuable upon the exercise of said number of Rights pursuant to the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement.

The undersigned hereby requests that a certificate for any such securities and any such property be issued in the name of and delivered to:

(Name, address and social security or other identifying number of issuee)

The undersigned hereby further requests that if said number of Rights shall not be all the Rights represented by this Right Certificate, a new Right Certificate for the remaining balance of such Rights be issued in the name of and delivered to:

(Name, address and social security or other identifying number of issuee)

Dated: (Signature)

Signature Guaranteed:

Signatures should be guaranteed by a participant in a Medallion Signature Guarantee Program at a guarantee level acceptable to the Company's Transfer Agent.

Table of Contents

NOTICE

The signature to the foregoing Election to Purchase and the foregoing Certificate, if applicable, must correspond to the name as written upon the face of the this Right Certificate in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatsoever, and must be guaranteed by a member firm of a registered national securities exchange, a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., or a commercial bank or trust company having an office or correspondent in the United States.

In the event that the foregoing Certificate is not executed, with signature guaranteed, the Company may deem the Rights represented by this Right Certificate to be Beneficially Owned by an Acquiring Person or an Affiliate or Associate of an Acquiring Person (as such capitalized terms are defined in the Rights Agreement), and not issue any Right Certificate or Right Certificates in exchange for this Right Certificate.

A-47

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT C

UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, AS SET FORTH IN THE RIGHTS AGREEMENT, RIGHTS ISSUED TO, BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY OR TRANSFERRED TO ANY PERSON WHO IS OR BECOMES AN ACQUIRING PERSON (AS DEFINED IN THE RIGHTS AGREEMENT) OR AN ASSOCIATE OR AFFILIATE (AS DEFINED IN THE RIGHTS AGREEMENT) THEREOF AND CERTAIN TRANSFEREES THEREOF WILL BE NULL AND VOID AND WILL NO LONGER BE TRANSFERABLE.

Extreme Networks, Inc.

Summary of Terms of

Amended and Restated Rights Agreement

Nature of Right:	When exercisable, each Right (a Right) will initially entitle the holder to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Preferred Stock (Preferred Stock) of Extreme Networks, Inc. (the Company).
Means of Distribution:	The Rights will be distributed to holders of the Company's outstanding Common Stock at a dividend of one Right for each share of Common Stock. The Rights will also be attached to all future issuances of Common Stock prior to the Distribution Date (as defined below).
Exercisability:	Rights become exercisable on the earlier of: (i) the tenth day following the date of public announcement by the Company or by any person or group (an Acquiring Person) that such person or group has acquired beneficial ownership of 4.95% or more of the Company's outstanding Common Stock, or (ii) the tenth business day (unless extended by the Board prior to the time a person becomes an Acquiring Person) following the commencement, or announcement of an intention to commence, by any person or group of a tender or exchange offer which would result in such person owning 4.95% or more of the outstanding Common Stock of the Company (the earlier of such dates being referred to as the Distribution Date), provided that an Acquiring Person does not include an Exempt Person (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement). Rights will trade separately from the Common Stock once the Rights become exercisable.
Exercise Price:	\$150.00 per one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, which is the amount that in the judgment of the Board of Directors represents the long-term value of the Common Stock over the term of the Rights Agreement (the Exercise Price).
Term:	The Rights will expire upon the earlier of (i) ten years after the date of issuance, or April 30, 2013 or (ii) redemption or exchange by the Company as described below.

Redemption of Rights:

Rights are redeemable at a price of \$.001 per Right, by the vote of the Company's Board of Directors, at any time until the occurrence of a Flip-In Event (defined below).

A-48

Table of Contents

Preferred Stock:

The Preferred Stock purchasable upon exercise of the Rights will be nonredeemable and junior to any other series of preferred stock the Company may issue (unless otherwise provided in the terms of such other series). Each share of Preferred Stock will have a preferential cumulative quarterly dividend in an amount equal to the greater of (a) \$3,750.00 or (b) 1,000 times the dividend declared on each share of Common Stock. In the event of liquidation, the holders of Preferred Stock will receive a preferred liquidation payment equal to the greater of (a) \$150,000.00 per share, plus accrued dividends to the date of distribution, whether or not earned or declared, or (b) an amount per share equal to 1,000 times the aggregate payment to be distributed per share of Common Stock. Each share of Preferred Stock will have 1,000 votes, voting together with the shares of Common Stock. In the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which shares of Common Stock are exchanged for or changed into other securities, cash and/or other property, each share of Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive 1,000 times the amount and type of consideration received per share of Common Stock. The rights of the Preferred Stock as to dividends, liquidation and voting, and in the event of mergers and consolidations, are protected by customary anti-dilution provisions. Fractional shares (in integral multiples of one one-thousandth) of Preferred Stock will be issuable; however, the Company may elect to distribute depositary receipts in lieu of such fractional shares. In lieu of fractional shares other than fractions that are multiples of one one-thousandth of a share, an adjustment in cash will be made based on the market price of the Preferred Stock on the last trading date prior to the date of exercise. Because of the nature of the Preferred Stock's dividend, liquidation and voting rights, the value of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock purchasable upon exercise of each Right should approximate the value of one share of Common Stock.

Rights in Event of Self-Dealing Transaction or Acquisition of Substantial Amount of Common Stock:

In the event that an Acquiring Person engages in certain self-dealing transactions or becomes a beneficial owner of 4.95% or more of the outstanding Common Stock (**Flip-In Events**), a holder of a Right thereafter has the right to purchase, upon payment of the then current Exercise Price, in lieu of one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock, such number of shares of Common Stock having a market value at the time of the transaction equal to the Exercise Price divided by one-half the Current Market Price (as defined in the Rights Agreement) of the Common Stock. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Rights held by the Acquiring Person or any Associate or Affiliate thereof or certain transferees will be null and void and no longer be transferable.

Self-dealing transactions are defined to include a consolidation, merger or other combination of an Acquiring Person with the Company in which the Company is the surviving corporation, the transfer of assets to the Company in exchange for securities of the Company, the acquisition of securities of the Company (other than in a pro rata distribution to all stockholders), the sale, purchase, transfer, distribution, lease, mortgage, pledge or acquisition of assets by the

Table of Contents

Acquiring Person to, from or with the Company on other than an arm's length basis, compensation to an Acquiring Person for services (other than for employment as a regular or part-time employee or director on a basis consistent with the Company's past practice), a loan or provision of other financial assistance (except proportionately as a stockholder) to an Acquiring Person or the licensing, sale or other transfer of proprietary technology or know-how from the Company to the Acquiring Person on terms not approved by the Board of Directors or a reclassification, recapitalization or other transaction with the effect of increasing by more than 1% the Acquiring Person's proportionate share of any class of securities of the Company.

Rights in Event of Business Combination:

If, following the occurrence of a Flip-In Event, the Company is acquired by any person in a merger or other business combination transaction in which the Common Stock is exchanged or converted or in which the Company is not the surviving corporation, or 50% or more of its assets or earnings power are sold to any person, each holder of a Right (other than an Acquiring Person, or Affiliates or Associates thereof) shall thereafter have the right to purchase, upon payment of the then current Exercise Price, such number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company having a current market value equal to the Exercise Price divided by one-half the Current Market Price of such common stock.

Exchange Option:

In the event (i) any person or group becomes an Acquiring Person or (ii) any of the types of transactions, acquisitions or other events described above as self-dealing transactions occur, and prior to the acquisition by such person or group of 50% or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock, the Board may require all or any portion of the outstanding Rights (other than Rights owned by such Acquiring Person which have become void) to be exchanged for Common Stock on a pro rata basis, at an exchange ratio of one share of Common Stock or one one-thousandth of a share of Preferred Stock (or of a share of a class or series of the Company's Preferred Stock having equivalent rights, preferences and privileges) per Right (subject to adjustment).

Fractional Shares:

No fractional shares of Common Stock will be issued upon exercise of the Rights and, in lieu thereof, a payment in cash will be made to the holder of such Rights equal to the same fraction of the current market value of a share of Common Stock.

Adjustment:

The Exercise Price payable, and the number of shares of Preferred Stock or other securities or property issuable, upon exercise of the Rights are subject to adjustment from time to time to prevent dilution (i) in the event of a stock dividend on, or a subdivision, combination or reclassification of the Preferred Stock, (ii) upon the grant to holders of the Preferred Stock of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for Preferred Stock or convertible securities at less than the current market price of the Preferred Stock or (iii) upon the distribution to holders of the Preferred Stock of evidences of indebtedness or assets (excluding dividends payable in Preferred

Table of Contents

Stock) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above). The number of Rights associated with each share of Common Stock is also subject to adjustment in the event of a stock split of the Common Stock or a stock dividend on the Common Stock payable in Common Stock or subdivisions, consolidations or combinations of the Common Stock occurring, in any such case, prior to the Distribution Date.

Rights as Stockholder:

The Rights themselves do not entitle the holder thereof to any rights as a stockholder, including, without limitation, voting rights or the right to receive dividends.

Amendment of Rights:

Until the Rights become nonredeemable, the Company may, except with respect to the redemption price, amend the Rights Agreement in any manner. After the Rights become nonredeemable, the Company may amend the Rights Agreement to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision which may be defective or inconsistent with any other provisions, to shorten or lengthen any time period under the Rights Agreement, or to change or supplement any provision in any manner the Company may deem necessary or desirable, provided that no such amendment may adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Rights (other than the Acquiring Person or its Affiliates or Associates) or cause the Rights to again be redeemable or the Rights Agreement to again be freely amendable.

A copy of the Rights Agreement is available, free of charge, from the Company, Extreme Networks, Inc, 3585 Monroe Street, Santa Clara, California 95051, Attention: Corporate Secretary. This summary description of the Rights Agreement does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Rights Agreement, as amended from time to time, which is incorporated in this summary description by reference.

Table of Contents

VOTE BY INTERNET - www.proxyvote.com

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site and follow the instructions to obtain your records and to create an electronic voting instruction form.

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF FUTURE PROXY MATERIALS

If you would like to reduce the costs incurred by our company in mailing proxy materials, you can consent to receiving all future proxy statements, proxy cards and annual reports electronically via e-mail or the Internet. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions above to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access proxy materials electronically in future years.

VOTE BY PHONE - 1-800-690-6903

Use any touch-tone telephone to transmit your voting instructions up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you call and then follow the instructions.

VOTE BY MAIL

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS: x

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.

<p>The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR the following:</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"> <p>For All</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Withhold All</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"> <p>For All Except</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>For All</p>	<p>Withhold All</p>	<p>For All Except</p>	<p>To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark For All Except and write the number(s) of the nominee(s) on the line below.</p>
<p>For All</p>	<p>Withhold All</p>	<p>For All Except</p>			
	<p>.. </p>				

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

1. Election of Directors

Nominees

- 01 Edward B. Meyercord III 02 John H. Kispert 03 Oscar Rodriguez 04 Harry Silverglide 05 Maury Austin
- 06 Edward Terino

The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR proposals 2, 3 and 4.

For Against Abstain

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <p>2 To approve an extension to the term of the Amended and Restated Shareholders Rights Plan for an additional year until April 30, 2014.</p> <p>3 To approve a non-binding advisory resolution regarding executive compensation.</p> <p>4 To ratify the appointment of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as Extreme Networks, Inc s independent auditors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.</p> | <p>..</p> <p>..</p> <p>..</p> | <p>..</p> <p>..</p> <p>..</p> | <p>..</p> <p>..</p> <p>..</p> |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|

NOTE: Such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) hereon. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, or other fiduciary, please give full title as such. Joint owners should each sign personally. All holders must sign. If a corporation or partnership, please sign in full corporate or partnership name, by authorized officer.

Investor Address Line 1

Investor Address Line 2

Investor Address Line 3

Investor Address Line 4

Investor Address Line 5

John Sample

1234 ANYWHERE STREET

ANY CITY, ON A1A 1A1

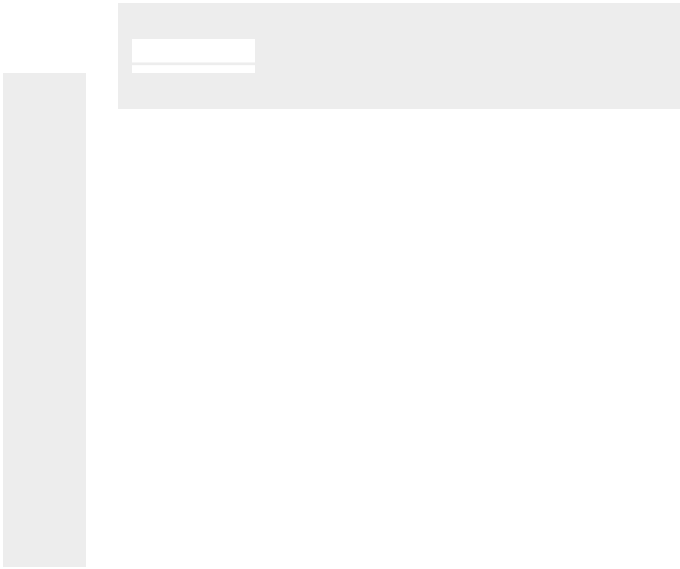
JOB #			SHARES
			CUSIP #
			SEQUENCE #

Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX]

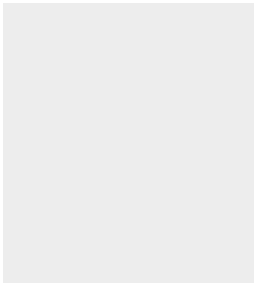
Signature (Joint Owners)

Date

Table of Contents



Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting: The Notice & Proxy Statement, Form 10-K is/are available at www.proxyvote.com.



EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.

Proxy for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders

To be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 1:00 PM

Solicited by the Board of Directors

The undersigned hereby appoints Oscar Rodriguez and Edward Meyercord, and each of them, with full power of substitution, to represent the undersigned and to vote all of the shares of stock in Extreme Networks, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, which the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of Extreme Networks, Inc. to be held at The Hyatt House, Raleigh Durham Airport, 10962 Chapel Hill Road, Morrisville, NC 27560, on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 1:00 PM local time, and at any adjournment or postponement thereof (1) as hereby specified on the proposals listed on the reverse side and as more particularly described in the Extreme Networks Proxy Statement dated October 1, 2012. (Proxy Statement), receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, and (2) in their discretion upon other such matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Edgar Filing: EXTREME NETWORKS INC - Form PRE 14A

THE SHARES REPRESENTED HEREBY SHALL BE VOTED AS SPECIFIED. IF NO SPECIFICATION IS MADE, SUCH SHARES SHALL BE VOTED FOR PROPOSALS 1, 2, 3 AND 4, SET FORTH IN THE PROXY STATEMENT.

Continued and to be signed on reverse side