

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-A

**FOR REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CLASSES OF SECURITIES
PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR 12(g) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

EXTREME NETWORKS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

77-0430270
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

6480 Via Del Oro
San Jose, California
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

95119
(Zip Code)

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class
to be so registered

Name of each exchange on which
each class is to be registered

Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

NASDAQ Global Select Market

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(c), check the following box.

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A.(d), check the following box.

Securities Act registration statement file number to which this form relates: Not applicable

(If applicable)

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None
(Title of Class)

Item 1. Description of Registrant's Securities to be Registered.

On May 17, 2021 the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Extreme Networks, Inc. (the "Company") approved, and on May 17, 2021, the Company entered into, an Amended and Restated Tax Benefit Preservation Plan with Computershare Inc., as rights agent (the "Restated Tax Plan"). The Restated Tax Plan amends and restates in its entirety the Company's existing rights agreement (as previously amended, the "Rights Agreement").

By adopting the Restated Tax Plan, the Board intends to continue to help preserve the value of certain deferred tax benefits, including those generated by net operating losses and certain other tax attributes (collectively, the "Tax Benefits"). The ability to use these Tax Benefits would be substantially limited if it were to experience an "ownership change" as defined under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). In general, an ownership change would occur if there is a greater than fifty-percentage point change in ownership of securities by stockholders owning (or deemed to own under Section 382 of the Code) five-percent or more of a corporation's securities over a rolling three-year period. The Restated Tax Plan reduces the likelihood that changes in the Company's investor base have the unintended effect of limiting the use of the Company's Tax Benefits. The Board believes it is in the best interest of the Company and its stockholders that the Company provide for the continued protection of the Tax Benefits by adopting the Restated Tax Plan.

The Restated Tax Plan is intended to act as a deterrent to any person acquiring shares of the Company's securities equal to or exceeding the Trigger Amount (as defined below) without the approval of the Board. This would protect the Tax Benefits because changes in ownership by a person owning less than 4.95% of the Company's stock are not included in the calculation of "ownership change" for purposes of Section 382 of the Code. The Board has established procedures to consider requests to exempt certain acquisitions of the Company's securities from the Restated Tax Plan if the Board determines that doing so would not limit or impair the availability of the Tax Benefits or is otherwise in the best interests of the Company.

Among other things, the Restated Tax Plan (i) extends the expiration date of the Rights (as defined below), (ii) adjusts the purchase price for the Rights, and (iii) provides procedures and logistics for seeking exemptions. The Restated Tax Plan specifying the terms of the Rights is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.1, and is incorporated herein by reference as exhibits hereto. The following summary provides only a general description of the Restated Tax Plan and is qualified in its entirety by reference to such exhibit.

Dividend of Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

In connection with its adoption of the Rights Agreement, on April 27, 2001, the Board declared a dividend distribution of one Preferred Stock Purchase Right (each a "Right" and collectively the "Rights") for each outstanding share of common stock, par value \$0.001, of the Company (the "Common Stock"). The distribution was paid as of May 14, 2001 (the "Record

Date”), to stockholders of record on that date. As long as the Rights are attached to the Common Stock, the Company will issue one Right (subject to adjustment) with each new share of the Common Stock so that all such shares will have attached Rights. When exercisable, each Right will entitle the registered holder to purchase from the Company one one-thousandth of a share of the Company’s Series A Preferred Stock, \$0.001 par value (the “Series A Preferred”), at a price of \$70 per Right, subject to adjustment (the “Purchase Price”).

Transfer, “Flip In” and Exercise of the Rights

The Rights detach from the Common Stock and become exercisable if: (i) at the close of business on the tenth business day following a public announcement that a person or group of affiliated or associated persons has acquired, or obtained the right to acquire, beneficial ownership of 4.95% or more of the Common Stock (each such person, an “Acquiring Person”) or (ii) at the close of business on the tenth business day (or such later date as may be determined by action of the Board prior to such time as any person or group of affiliated persons becomes an Acquiring Person) following the commencement or announcement of an intention to make a tender offer or exchange offer the consummation of which would result in the beneficial ownership by a person or group of affiliated or associated persons of shares of Common Stock equal to or exceeding 4.95% of the outstanding Common Stock (the earlier of (i) and (ii) being called the “Distribution Date”). The Board may postpone the Distribution Date of the rights under certain circumstances.

The Restated Tax Plan provides that any person who beneficially owned shares of Common Stock equal to or exceeding 4.95% of the outstanding Common Stock prior, including immediately prior, to the first public announcement of the adoption of the Restated Tax Plan, together with any affiliates and associates of that person (each, an “Existing Holder”), shall not be deemed to be an “Acquiring Person” for purposes of the Restated Tax Plan unless the Existing Holder becomes the beneficial owner of one or more additional shares of Common Stock (other than pursuant to (a) a dividend or distribution paid or made by the Company on the outstanding Common Stock in Common Stock, (b) a split or subdivision of the outstanding Common Stock or (c) an Exempt Acquisition). However, if upon acquiring beneficial ownership of one or more additional shares of Common Stock, the Existing Holder does not beneficially own shares of Common Stock equal to or exceeding 4.95% of the Common Stock outstanding, the Existing Holder shall not be deemed to be an “Acquiring Person” for purposes of the Restated Tax Plan.

The Rights will be transferred only with the Common Stock until the Distribution Date (or earlier redemption, exchange, termination or expiration of the Rights). After the Distribution Date, separate rights certificates will be issued evidencing the Rights and become separately transferable apart from the Common Stock.

Unless redeemed or exchanged earlier by the Company or terminated, the rights will expire upon the earliest to occur of (i) the close of business on May 17, 2024, (ii) the close of business on May 17, 2022, if stockholder approval of the Restated Tax Plan has not been obtained by that date, (iii) the close of business on the effective date of the repeal of Section 382 of the Code if the Board determines that the Restated Tax Plan is no longer necessary or desirable for the preservation of the Tax Benefits or (iv) the time at which the Board determines that the Tax Benefits are fully utilized or no longer available under Section 382 of the Code or

that an ownership change under Section 382 of the Code would not adversely impact in any material respect the time period in which the Company could use the Tax Benefits, or materially impair the amount of the Tax Benefits that could be used by the Company in any particular time period, for applicable tax purposes.

Rights and Preferences of Preferred Stock

Each share of Series A Preferred purchasable upon exercise of the Rights will be entitled, when, as and if declared, to a minimum preferential quarterly dividend payment of \$3,750.00 per share or, if greater, an aggregate dividend of 1,000 times the dividend, if any, declared per share of Common Stock. In the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, the holders of the Series A Preferred will be entitled to a minimum preferential liquidation payment of \$150,000.00 per share (plus any accrued but unpaid dividends), provided that such holders of the Series A Preferred will be entitled to an aggregate payment of 1,000 times the payment made per share of Common Stock. Each share of Series A Preferred will have 1,000 votes and will vote together with the Common Stock. Finally, in the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which shares of the Common Stock are exchanged, each share of Series A Preferred will be entitled to receive 1,000 times the amount received per share of Common Stock. The Series A Preferred will not be redeemable. These rights are protected by customary antidilution provisions. Because of the nature of the Series A Preferred's dividend, liquidation and voting rights, the value of one one-thousandth of a share of Series A Preferred purchasable upon exercise of each Right should approximate the value of one share of Common Stock.

The Purchase Price payable, and the number of shares of Series A Preferred 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 Series A Preferred, (ii) upon the grant to holders of the Series A Preferred of certain rights or warrants to subscribe for or purchase Series A Preferred or convertible securities at less than the then current market price of the Series A Preferred or (iii) upon the distribution to holders of the Series A Preferred of evidences of indebtedness, cash, securities or assets (excluding regular periodic cash dividends at a rate not in excess of 125% of the rate of the last regular periodic cash dividend theretofore paid or, in case regular periodic cash dividends have not theretofore been paid, at a rate not in excess of 50% of the average net income per share of the Company for the four quarters ended immediately prior to the payment of such dividend, or dividends payable in shares of Series A Preferred (which dividends will be subject to the adjustment described in clause (i) above)) or of subscription rights or warrants (other than those referred to above).

Until a Right is exercised, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a stockholder of the Company beyond those as an existing stockholder, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends.

Merger, Exchange or Redemption of the Rights

In the event that a Person becomes an Acquiring Person or if the Company were the surviving corporation in a merger with an Acquiring Person or any affiliate or associate of an Acquiring Person and shares of the Common Stock were not changed or exchanged, each holder

of a Right, other than Rights that are or were acquired or beneficially owned by the Acquiring Person (which Rights will thereafter be null and void), will thereafter have the right to receive upon exercise that number of shares of Common Stock having a market value of two times the then current Purchase Price of the Right. In the event that, after a Person has become an Acquiring Person, the Company were acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction or more than 50% of its assets or earning power were sold, proper provision shall be made so that each holder of a Right shall thereafter have the right to receive, upon the exercise thereof at the then current Purchase Price of the Right, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company which at the time of such transaction would have a market value of two times the then current Purchase Price of the Right.

At any time after a Person becomes an Acquiring Person and prior to the earlier of one of the events described in the last sentence of the previous paragraph or the acquisition by such Acquiring Person of 50% or more of the then outstanding Common Stock, the Board of Directors may cause the Company to exchange the Rights (other than Rights owned by an Acquiring Person which will have become null and void), in whole or in part, for shares of Common Stock at an exchange rate of one share of Common Stock per Right (subject to adjustment).

The Rights may be redeemed in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$0.01 per Right (the “*Redemption Price*”) by the Board of Directors at any time prior to the time that an Acquiring Person has become such. The redemption of the Rights may be made effective at such time, on such basis and with such conditions as the Board of Directors in its sole discretion may establish. Immediately upon any redemption of the Rights, the right to exercise the Rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of Rights will be to receive the Redemption Price.

Amendment of Tax Benefit Preservation Plan

Any of the provisions of the Restated Tax Plan may be amended by the Board of Directors, or a duly authorized committee thereof, for so long as the Rights are then redeemable, and after the Rights are no longer redeemable, the Company may amend or supplement the Restated Tax Plan in any manner that does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Rights (other than an Acquiring Person or any affiliate or associate of an Acquiring Person).

Item 2. Exhibits

1. Amended and Restated Tax Benefit Preservation Plan, dated as of May 17, 2021 between Extreme Networks, Inc. and Computershare Inc., which includes the Form of Right Certificate as Exhibit A (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 17, 2021 of Extreme Networks, Inc.).
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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

Extreme Networks, Inc.

Date: May 18, 2021

By: /s/ Katayoun ("Katy") Motiey

Katayoun ("Katy") Motiey

Chief Administrative and Sustainability Officer