



Articles of Association

of

**secunet Security Networks AG
in Essen**

I.

General Provisions

Article 1

Company Name, Registered Office and Fiscal Year

- (1) The Company is registered under the name of
secunet Security Networks Aktiengesellschaft
- (2) Its registered office is in Essen.
- (3) The fiscal year is the calendar year.

Article 2

Object of the Company

- (1) The object of the Company is the provision of telecommunications and information technology security services, in particular consultancy and systems solutions for information security, as well as the manufacture and sale of security technology products and systems, and related activities.
- (2) The Company is entitled to engage in all transactions and take all measures that appear suited to serving the object of the Company. It may also establish, acquire or invest in other companies with the same or a related object, as well as manage such companies or restrict itself to administering the investments. It may spin off its operations in whole or in part to affiliated companies or transfer them to affiliated companies.

Article 3

Announcements and Information

- (1) The announcements of the Company shall be published in the German Federal Gazette ("Bundesanzeiger").
- (2) Information may also be communicated to the holders of listed securities of the Company by means of remote data transmission.

II.

Share Capital and Shares

Article 4

Share Capital

- (1) The share capital of the Company amounts to 6,500,000.00 euros (in words: six million five hundred thousand euros).
- (2) The share capital is divided into 6,500,000 no-par-value bearer shares. In the amount of 1,278,229.70 euros, the share capital consists of the share capital of Secunet Networks GmbH, which was transformed by way of a change of legal form pursuant to Sections 190 et seq. of the German Transformation Act (Umwandlungsgesetz, UmwG).

Article 5

Shares

- (1) The shares are bearer shares. If, in the event of a capital increase, the resolution on the increase does not specify whether the new no-par-value shares should be bearer shares or registered shares, they shall be bearer shares.
- (2) Collective certificates may be issued for multiple shares. Shareholders are not entitled to have certificates issued for their shares.
- (3) A facsimile signature of the Management Board shall be sufficient for the signing of shares and interim certificates. In all other respects, the form and content of the share certificates and the dividend and renewal coupons shall be determined by the Management Board with the approval of the Supervisory Board. The same applies to bonds and interest coupons.
- (4) In a capital increase resolution, the profit participation of new no-par-value shares may be determined in deviation from Section 60 (2), sentence 3 of the German Stock Corporation Act (Aktiengesetz, AktG).

III.

Management Board

Article 6

Composition of the Management Board

- (1) The Management Board comprises one or more members. The appointment of deputy members of the Management Board is permissible.
- (2) The Supervisory Board determines the number of Management Board members, appoints the Management Board members and deputy Management Board members, and revokes their appointments. It is also responsible for appointing a member of the Management Board as Chairman and other members of the Management Board as Deputy Chairmen.

Article 7

Representation

- (1) If only one Management Board member is appointed, this member shall be the sole representative of the Company. If more than one Management Board member is appointed, the Company shall be represented by two Management Board members, or by one Management Board member together with an authorised signatory (Prokurist).
- (2) Deputy members of the Management Board have the same rights as full members of the Management Board with regard to external representation of the Company.
- (3) The Supervisory Board may authorise all or individual members of the Management Board to represent the Company alone and exempt them from the restrictions of Section 181 of the German Civil Code (Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch, BGB) regarding multiple representation. Section 112 of the German Stock Corporation Act remains unaffected.
- (4) The Management Board shall conduct the Company's business in accordance with the provisions of the law, the Articles of Association and the rules of procedure established by the Supervisory Board.
- (5) The Management Board shall direct the Company on its own responsibility and decide on all matters of material or fundamental im-

portance. Notwithstanding this overall responsibility, each member of the Management Board shall independently direct the area of operations assigned to him by the schedule of responsibilities.

- (6) The Management Board shall take appropriate measures, in particular setting up a monitoring system, in order to identify at an early stage any developments that could jeopardise the continued existence of the Company.

Article 8
Rules of Procedure and Resolutions of the Management Board,
Transactions requiring Approval

- (1) The Supervisory Board shall establish the rules of procedure for the Management Board.
- (2) Resolutions of the Management Board are passed by a simple majority of votes. Different majority requirements and further regulations concerning the passing of resolutions by the Management Board may be laid down in the rules of procedure.
- (3) The Supervisory Board shall stipulate certain types of transactions that the Management Board may only undertake with the prior approval of the Supervisory Board. The approval of the Supervisory Board may be granted in advance in the form of a general authorisation for a specific category of the transactions designated.

IV.

Supervisory Board

Article 9
Composition and Term of Office of the Supervisory Board

- (1) The Supervisory Board comprises six members, four of whom are elected by the Annual General Meeting and two by the employees in accordance with the German One-Third Participation Act.
- (2) The members of the Supervisory Board are appointed for the period up to the end of the Annual General Meeting that resolves on the discharge from liability for the fourth fiscal year after commencement of the term of office. The Annual General Meeting may determine a shorter term of office for the Supervisory Board members that it ap-

points. The fiscal year in which the term of office begins is not taken into account. The appointment of a successor for a member of the Supervisory Board retiring from the board before the end of their term of office shall be for the remainder of the term of office of the member retiring prematurely.

- (3) The members of the Supervisory Board may resign from office at any time by means of a written declaration addressed to the Chairman of the Supervisory Board or to the Management Board, subject to a notice period of four weeks without stating any reasons, or at any time for good cause.

Article 10 **Duties and Powers of the Supervisory Board**

- (1) The rights and duties of the Supervisory Board are determined by the statutory regulations, the provisions of these Articles of Association and rules of procedure established in accordance with Article 13.
- (2) The members of the Supervisory Board have the same rights and duties. They are not bound by orders and instructions. In exercising their mandate, they must act with the diligence of a prudent and conscientious controller of the management.
- (3) They must maintain secrecy with regard to confidential information and secrets of the Company, namely business or trade secrets, which have become known to them through their work on the Supervisory Board. In particular, they are obliged to maintain secrecy about confidential reports they have received and about confidential discussions. If a member of the Supervisory Board wishes to pass on information to third parties, where it cannot be ruled out with certainty that said information is confidential or relates to Company secrets, the member is obliged to inform the Chairman of the Supervisory Board in advance and give him an opportunity to express his opinion.
- (4) Members of the Supervisory Board who violate their duties are jointly and severally liable to compensate the Company for any resulting damage.
- (5) The Supervisory Board is entitled to adopt amendments and additions to the Articles of Association that only affect the wording by a majority of votes.

Article 11
Declarations of Intent of the Supervisory Board

Declarations of intent of the Supervisory Board are made on behalf of the Supervisory Board by the Chairman or, if he is unavailable, by the Deputy Chairman.

Article 12
Chairman of the Supervisory Board and Deputy Chairman

The Supervisory Board shall elect a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman from among its members for the term of office determined in Article 9 (2) of these Articles of Association. The election shall take place in a meeting, which does not have to be specially convened, at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which the shareholders' representatives on the Supervisory Board to be elected by the Annual General Meeting have been appointed. If the Chairman or Deputy Chairman resigns from office before the end of their term of office, the Supervisory Board shall hold a new election for the remaining term of office of the resigning member.

Article 13
Rules of Procedure and Committees of the Supervisory Board

- (1) The Supervisory Board shall establish its own rules of procedure.
- (2) The Supervisory Board may form committees and, to the extent permitted by law, also delegate decision-making powers to them.

Article 14
Convening of the Supervisory Board

- (1) The Supervisory Board must hold at least two meetings in each half of the calendar year.
- (2) It must be convened immediately if this is necessary for business reasons or if a member of the Supervisory Board or the Management Board requests a meeting, stating the purpose and reasons. In such cases, the meeting of the Supervisory Board must take place within two weeks of being convened.

- (3) The Chairman of the Supervisory Board is responsible for convening a meeting and determining the agenda and the form of the meeting. The proposed resolutions must be included with the invitation.
- (4) Meetings shall be convened in writing, by fax or by e-mail, stating the agenda and the form of the meeting and giving two weeks' notice. In urgent cases, the Chairman may shorten the period of notice and convene a meeting by word of mouth or telephone.

Article 15 **Resolutions of the Supervisory Board**

- (1) The Supervisory Board shall have a quorum if all members are invited and at least half of the members participate in the resolution process. Members also participate in the resolution process if they abstain from voting.
- (2) Unless the rules of procedure of the Supervisory Board contain special provisions, the form of voting shall be determined by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board.
- (3) Resolutions are passed by a simple majority of the votes cast, unless otherwise required by law or the Articles of Association. This also applies to elections.
- (4) If there is a tie vote, a fresh debate is only initiated if the majority of the Supervisory Board so decides. Otherwise, a new vote must be held immediately. In this new vote on the same matter, the Chairman of the Supervisory Board shall have two votes if the result is still a tie vote.
- (5) An absent member of the Supervisory Board may have their written vote submitted by another member of the Supervisory Board. This also applies to the casting of votes in the event of a renewed vote on the same matter. The written vote shall only be effective if the content of the resolution adopted does not deviate from the announced resolution content.
- (6) Resolutions on matters whose treatment has not been announced at least one week prior to the meeting, as well as voting outside meetings, are only permissible if no Supervisory Board member objects immediately.

- (7) A Supervisory Board member may not participate in voting on an item on the agenda if the resolution relates to the execution of a legal transaction with said member or the initiation of a legal dispute between said member and the Company.

Article 16 **Minutes of the Supervisory Board**

Minutes shall be taken of meetings of the Supervisory Board and of votes taken outside meetings and shall be signed by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board.

Article 17 **Remuneration of the Supervisory Board**

- (1) Each member of the Supervisory Board shall receive an annual remuneration of 15,000.00 euros for their activities. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board shall receive an annual remuneration of 30,000.00 euros; the Deputy Chairman shall receive an annual remuneration of 22,500.00 euros.
- (2) For their work on the committees of the Supervisory Board, the members of the Supervisory Board receive an additional annual remuneration of 5,000 euros per committee.
- (3) Members of the Supervisory Board who have belonged to the Supervisory Board for only part of a fiscal year shall receive the remuneration pursuant to paragraph 1 pro rata corresponding to the ratio of their period of membership to the full fiscal year. The same applies to the membership in committees pursuant to Article 17 paragraph 2.
- (4) The members of the Supervisory Board shall also be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Any value-added tax payable on their remuneration shall be reimbursed to the members of the Supervisory Board by the Company.
- (5) The members of the Supervisory Board may receive additional remuneration further to the remuneration specified in this Article 17, provided that this is resolved by the Annual General Meeting with the required majority.

- (6) The provisions of this Article 17 are applicable for the first time for the fiscal year beginning on January 1, 2021. Article 17 of the Articles of Association as amended by the resolution of the Annual General Meeting on May 15, 2019, was applicable for the last time to the fiscal year ending December 31, 2020.

V.

Annual General Meeting

Article 18

Convening of the Annual General Meeting

- (1) The Annual General Meeting shall be held at the registered office of the Company or in a German city with more than 200,000 inhabitants. The Annual General Meeting shall be convened by the Executive Board or, in the cases prescribed by law, by the Supervisory Board. The period of notice for convening the meeting shall be governed by the statutory regulations.
- (2) The Annual General Meeting shall be held within the first eight months of each fiscal year. Extraordinary General Meetings may be convened as often as appears necessary in the interest of the Company.
- (3) The Management Board is authorised until the end of 30 May 2028 to provide that the Annual General Meeting may be held without the physical presence of the shareholders or their proxies at the place of the Annual General Meeting (virtual Annual General Meeting), subject to compliance with the legal requirements provided for this purpose. The virtual Annual General Meeting shall be governed by all the provisions of the Articles of Association relating to Annual General Meetings, except where otherwise provided by mandatory law or expressly provided in these Articles of Association.

Article 19

Participation in and Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting

- (1) Only those shareholders who register for the Annual General Meeting and furnish proof of their entitlement are entitled to participate in the Annual General Meeting and exercise their voting rights. The registration and proof of entitlement must be received by the Company at the

address specified in the invitation at least six days before the Annual General Meeting, not including the day of receipt.

- (2) Registration according to paragraph 1 must be made in text form. Proof of entitlement according to paragraph 1 requires proof of share ownership. Evidence in text form provided by the final intermediary pursuant to Section 67c (3) AktG shall be sufficient in any case. The proof of share ownership must relate to the beginning of the 21st day prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- (3) The chairman of the meeting is authorised to permit the full or partial video and audio transmission of the Annual General Meeting in a manner to be specified by him. The transmission may also be made in a form to which the public has unrestricted access.
- (4) The Management Board is authorized to permit the complete or partial video and audio transmission of the Annual General Meeting. The Management Board shall determine the further details.
- (5) The Management Board is authorized to provide that shareholders may exercise their votes in writing or by means of electronic communication without attending the meeting (postal vote). The Management Board may determine the scope and procedure of the postal vote in detail and shall announce this together with the notice convening the Annual General Meeting.
- (6) The Management Board is authorized to provide that shareholders may participate in the Annual General Meeting without being present at its location and without a proxy and may exercise all or some of their rights in whole or in part by means of electronic communication (online participation). The Management Board is also authorized to make provisions regarding the scope and procedure for participation and the exercise of rights pursuant to sentence 1 above and shall announce such provisions together with the notice convening the Annual General Meeting.
- (7) Members of the Supervisory Board shall, in agreement with the Chairman of the Supervisory Board, be permitted to participate in the Annual General Meeting by means of video and audio transmission in

those cases in which their physical presence at the location of the Annual General Meeting would not be possible or would only be possible with considerable effort due to their residence abroad or due to an unreasonable travel time, or if the Annual General Meeting is held as a virtual Annual General Meeting.

Article 20

Voting Rights at the Annual General Meeting

- (1) Each share entitles the holder to one vote at the Annual General Meeting.
- (2) Voting rights may be exercised by a proxy. Outside the scope of Section 135 AktG, granting or revoking a power of attorney and providing proof of authorisation to the Company shall be done in text form (Section 126b BGB). In the invitation to the Annual General Meeting, the Company shall offer an electronic means of transmitting the proof of authorisation. If the shareholder appoints more than one person as a proxy, the Company may reject one or more of these persons.

Article 21

Chairing of the Annual General Meeting

- (1) The Annual General Meeting shall be chaired by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board or, if he is unavailable, by the Deputy Chairman or, if he too is unavailable, by a Supervisory Board member to be designated by the Supervisory Board. If no member of the Supervisory Board takes the chair, the chairman of the meeting shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting.
- (2) The chairman shall conduct the proceedings and determine the order in which the agenda is dealt with, the method and order of voting and the order of verbal contributions. The chairman may impose reasonable time limits on the shareholders' right to speak and ask questions.

Article 22
Resolutions of the Annual General Meeting

The resolutions of the Annual General Meeting require a simple majority of the votes cast, insofar as the Articles of Association or statutory legal provisions do not specify anything to the contrary.

VI.
Annual Financial Statements, Management Report,
Appropriation of the Balance Sheet Profit

Article 23
Annual Financial Statements and Management Report,
Discharge of the Management Board and the Supervisory Board

- (1) Within the first three months of each fiscal year, the Management Board shall prepare the management report and the annual financial statements for the past fiscal year and submit them to the auditor.
- (2) After the audit report has been received, the annual financial statements and the management report, together with the audit report and the proposal for the resolution of the Annual General Meeting on appropriation of the balance sheet profit, shall be presented to the Supervisory Board.
- (3) The Supervisory Board shall submit its comments on these documents within one month of receipt.
- (4) The annual financial statements, the management report, the report of the Supervisory Board and the proposal of the Management Board on appropriation of the balance sheet profit shall be made available to every shareholder in accordance with the statutory provisions from the time the Annual General Meeting is convened.
- (5) Within the first eight months of each fiscal year, the Annual General Meeting shall resolve, after receiving the report to be submitted by the Supervisory Board pursuant to Section 171 (2) AktG, on the discharge of the Management Board and the Supervisory Board from their liability, on the appropriation of the balance sheet profit, on the election of the auditor and, in the cases prescribed by law, on the adoption of the annual financial statements.

- (6) If the Company is obliged to prepare consolidated financial statements and a Group management report, paragraphs 1-5 shall apply accordingly to the consolidated financial statements and the Group management report.

VII.

Other Conditions

**Article 24
Partial Invalidity**

The invalidity of any provision of the Articles of Association shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of the Articles of Association.

**Article 25
Costs**

The Company shall bear the formation expenses in the amount of DM 20,000.00.