

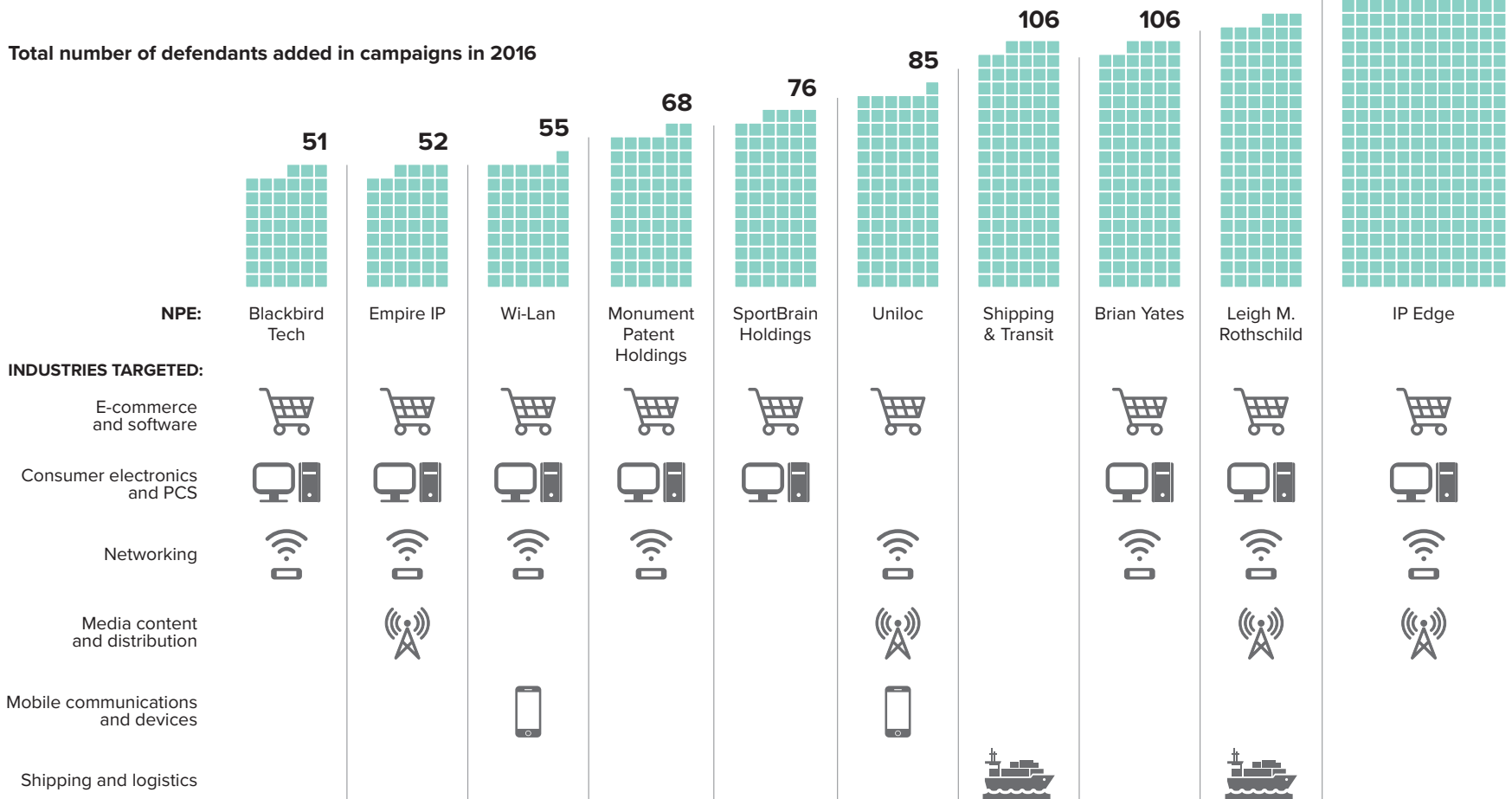
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## The Most Active 'Patent Trolls' of 2016

In 2016, IP Edge overtook Leigh M. Rothschild by a wide margin to become the year's most active so-called patent troll. IP Edge and its many affiliates targeted more than 400 defendants in 33 patent litigation campaigns, accounting for 14 percent of all NPE litigation.

Non-practicing entities, such as IP Edge and Leigh M. Rothschild, routinely add hundreds of defendants to a campaign as part of their strategy to simultaneously claim patent infringement against multiple companies. An NPE is any patent holder that does not actively manufacture a product or provide services related to the patent. While not all NPEs are trolls, all "patent trolls" are NPEs — many firms follow NPE behavior as a proxy for estimating abusive patent activity. According to estimates from patent risk-management firm RPX, the following 10 NPEs accounted for 37 percent of all defendants targeted, but represent 2 percent of all active NPEs:

Total number of defendants added in campaigns in 2016



Note: This graphic was updated to reflect findings from *Iris Connex v. Dell*, which led RPX to add Brian Yates as one of 2016's most active NPEs.

Source: RPX

By Janie Boschma and Todd Lindeman, POLITICO Pro DataPoint