IAR Technology Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is a Patent?

A. A patent is a legal right to exclude others from making, using, offering for sale or selling an invention for a limited period of time. Acacia's IAR Patent expires in 2018. In the United States, patents are issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. For more information, go to www.uspto.gov.

Q. Where can I get more information about Acacia's IAR technology?

A. Please visit our website at www.acaciatechnologies.com. Once there, click on "Technology," and then select the "IAR Technology" icon. The IAR Technology section of our website includes an actual copy of Acacia's IAR Patent covering redirection of end-users' Internet access and engineering diagrams illustrating an example of how some of the claims of the IAR Patent apply to your activities.

Q. Exactly what am I doing in connection with providing Internet access services that infringes Acacia's IAR Patent?

A. The IAR Patent covers a system and methods for controlling access to the Internet. The redirection of end-users to a web page in order to register, sign in or pay for Internet access before being authorized to access the Internet constitutes a use of the IAR technology and is covered by the IAR Patent.

Q. What if I buy hardware and software that I use in connection with providing Internet access services from legitimate third party companies like Cisco Systems and Nomadix. Doesn't that give me a right to use their products without needing a license from Acacia?

A. U.S. patent laws permit Acacia to pursue the manufacturer, user or seller of a patented technology for patent infringement. Because we have chosen to license users rather than manufacturers of our patented IAR technology, purchasing hardware and software products of such unlicensed third party manufacturers does not give you a right to use such products without infringing our patent rights.

Q. I allow other service providers to resell access to my network rather than directly providing access to end-users myself. Shouldn't Acacia be contacting such resellers?

A. As a network owner or operator using our IAR technology, U.S. patent laws allow us to pursue you for the infringement of our IAR Patent. Whether you pass this cost onto your reseller is within your discretion.

Q. I provide Internet access services at multiple locations. Will the license with Acacia cover all of my locations?

A. The license is usage-based, therefore all locations where you provide Internet access services will be covered by the license, provided that you pay for all usage at such locations.

Q. What if I don't enter into a license with Acacia?

A. Our preference is to enter into a license agreement with you without the need for patent litigation, which is very expensive. In the event that you elect not to enter into a license agreement with Acacia, Acacia will have the right to seek royalties for past and future infringing activities at rates higher than the rates we are currently seeking.