# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

MAZ ENCRYPTION TECHNOLOGIES LLC,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
v.	) C.A. No
ACER, INC. and ACER AMERICA CORPORATION,	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
Defendants.	) )

## COMPLAINT FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT

This is an action for patent infringement in which Plaintiff MAZ Encryption Technologies LLC ("MAZ" or "Plaintiff") makes the following allegations against Defendants Acer, Inc. and Acer America Corporation (collectively, "Defendants"):

## **BACKGROUND**

1. Stephen J. Zizzi is an accomplished electrical engineer and the inventor of United States Patent No. 8,359,476 ("476 patent" or the "Asserted Patent"). In 1996, Mr. Zizzi and Chris Mahne, an entrepreneur and co-inventor on another patent, launched MAZ Technologies, Inc. to develop software security products. Mr. Mahne was the President of MAZ Technologies, Inc., and Mr. Zizzi was the Chief Technology Officer. While at MAZ Technologies, Inc., Mr. Zizzi developed novel technologies relating to electronic information and document security using file-level and biometric encryption. The MAZ technology includes, among other things, information security that is transparent and seamless to the users.

#### **PARTIES**

2. MAZ is a Delaware limited liability company.

- 3. On information and belief, Defendant Acer, Inc. is a Taiwanese corporation with office at 7F.-5, No. 369, Fuxing N. Rd., Songshan Dist., Taipei City 105, Taiwan. Acer, Inc. may be served with process under the Delaware Long Arm Statute, 10 *Del. C.* § 3104.
- 4. On information and belief, Defendant Acer America Corporation is a California corporation with office at 333 West San Carlos Street, Suite 1500, San Jose, CA 95110. On information and belief, Defendant Acer America Corporation is a subsidiary of and controlled by Defendant Acer, Inc. Defendant Acer America Corporation has appointed C T Corporation System, 818 W. Seventh Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017 as its agent for service of process.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 5. This action arises under the patent laws of the United States, 35 U.S.C. § 1, *et seq.*, including § 271. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1338(a).
- 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants because, among other reasons, Defendants have done business in this District, have committed and continue to commit acts of patent infringement in this District, and have harmed and continue to harm MAZ in this District, by, among other things, using, selling, offering for sale, and/or importing infringing products and/or services in this District.
- 7. Venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b)-(d) and 1400(b) because, among other reasons, Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in this District, have committed and continue to commit acts of patent infringement in this District. For example, on information and belief, Defendants have used, sold, offered for sale, and/or imported infringing products and/or services in this District.

# COUNT I (<u>INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 8,359,476</u>)

- 8. MAZ is the owner by assignment of the '476 Patent, entitled "User Authentication System And Method For Encryption And Decryption." The application for the '476 Patent was filed on December 1, 2010. The patent issued on January 22, 2013. A true and correct copy of the '476 Patent is attached as **Exhibit A.**
- 9. Defendants have been and now are directly and/or indirectly infringing the '476 Patent literally and/or through the doctrine of equivalents, in this judicial District and elsewhere in the United States, by, among other things, making, using, importing, offering for sale, and/or selling bio-metric computer encryption systems configured to authenticate a user for encryption or decryption. The infringing products and services include, for example, Defendants' security systems with fingerprint/biometric software and reader, and Defendants' products and services incorporating the same (including but not limited to, *e.g.*, Acer TravelMate Notebooks with fingerprint reader and software), and all versions and variations thereof since the issuance of the '476 patent.
- 10. On information and belief, Defendants had actual knowledge of the '476 Patent at least as early as filing of the Complaint.
- 11. MAZ is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendants have contributorily infringed and are currently contributorily infringing the '476 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(c), by selling or offering for sale to third parties (*e.g.*, Defendants' customers), in this judicial district and elsewhere throughout the United States, without license or authority from MAZ, components that embody a material part of the inventions described in the '476 Patent, are known by Defendants to be especially made or especially adapted for use in infringement of the '476 Patent, and are not staple articles or commodities suitable for

substantial, non-infringing use, including the infringing products set forth above and their respective components. MAZ is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that these third parties have infringed and will infringe the '476 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) by using infringing software and hardware products, including some or all of the infringing products and their respective components.

- 12. MAZ is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendants have actively induced and are currently inducing the infringement of the '476 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b) by knowingly and intentionally encouraging or aiding third parties (*e.g.*, Defendants' customers) to use infringing software and hardware products in this judicial district and elsewhere throughout the United States, without license or authority from MAZ, including at least the infringing products set forth above. MAZ is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that these third parties have infringed and will infringe the '476 Patent in violation of 35 U.S.C. § 271(a) by using infringing software and hardware products, including some or all of the infringing products. The Defendants through at least their user manuals, product support, marketing materials, and training materials actively induced their customers and users of the infringing products to infringe the '476 Patent.
- 13. By engaging in the conduct described herein, Defendants have injured MAZ and are thus liable for infringement of the '476 Patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 271.
- 14. Defendants have committed these acts of infringement without license or authorization.
- 15. As a result of Defendants' infringement of the '476 Patent, MAZ has suffered monetary damages and is entitled to a money judgment in an amount adequate to compensate for Defendants' infringement, but in no event less than a reasonable royalty for the use made of the

invention by Defendants, together with interest and costs as fixed by the Court. MAZ will continue to suffer damages in the future unless this Court enjoins Defendants' infringing activities.

16. MAZ has also suffered and will continue to suffer severe and irreparable harm unless this Court issues a permanent injunction prohibiting Defendants, their agents, servants, employees, representatives, and all others acting in active concert therewith from infringing the '476 Patent.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

MAZ respectfully requests that this Court enter:

- A. A judgment in favor of MAZ that Defendants have infringed, directly and/or indirectly, the '476 Patent (the "Asserted Patent") literally and/or through the doctrine of equivalents;
- B. A permanent injunction enjoining Defendants and their officers, directors, agents, servants, affiliates, employees, divisions, branches, subsidiaries, parents, and all others acting in active concert therewith from infringement of the Asserted Patent, or such other equitable relief the Court determines is warranted;
- C. A judgment and order requiring Defendants to pay MAZ its damages, costs, expenses, and pre-judgment and post-judgment interest for Defendants' infringement of the Asserted Patent as provided to the full extent under 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- D. A judgment and order finding that this is an exceptional case within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 285 and awarding to MAZ its reasonable attorneys' fees against Defendants;

- E. A judgment and order requiring Defendants to provide an accounting and to pay supplemental damages to MAZ, including without limitation, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest; and
  - F. Any and all other relief to which MAZ may be entitled.

## **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

MAZ, under Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, requests a trial by jury of any issues so triable by right.

Dated: May 16, 2014

OF COUNSEL:

Alexander C.D. Giza
C. Jay Chung
RUSS AUGUST & KABAT
12424 Wilshire Boulevard 12<sup>th</sup> Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025
Telephone: (310) 826-7474
Facsimile: (310) 826-6991
agiza@raklaw.com
jchung@raklaw.com

BAYARD, P.A.

/s/ Stephen B. Brauerman

Richard D. Kirk (#0922)
Stephen B. Brauerman (#4952)
Vanessa R. Tiradentes (#5398)
Sara E. Bussiere (#5725)
222 Delaware Avenue, Suite 900
P.O. Box 25130
Wilmington, DE 19899
(302) 655-5000
rkirk@bayardlaw.com
sbrauerman@bayardlaw.com
vtiradentes@bayardlaw.com
sbussiere@bayardlaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff MAZ Encryption Technologies LLC