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[Your Name]

[Your Title]

[Your Company]

[Street Address, City, State ZIP]

May 14, 2026

[Opposing Counsel Name]

[Firm Name]

[Address]

**Re: U.S. Patent No. 5115326 — Response to Assertion of Infringement**

Dear Counsel,

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence asserting infringement of U.S. Patent No. 5115326 (the "5115326 Patent"). After preliminary review, we have substantial concerns about the validity, enforceability, and scope of the asserted claims, summarized below. We reserve all rights and defenses.

## **1. Subject Patent — Summary**

In a detailed analysis of United States Patent 5,115,326, the following information has been compiled based on USPTO records and a review of the patent documentation.

Title: Method of encoding an e-mail address in a fax message and routing the fax message to a destination on a network

Assignee: Hewlett-Packard Company

Inventors: Ken L. Burgess, John S. Marvin

Filing Date: June 26, 1990

Issue Date: May 19, 1992

Abstract:

A fax message transmitted by a facsimile transmitter includes bar coded headers in its first page. At least one of these headers contains the name of an addressee that is also a user on a network. A fax server receiving the incoming fax message inspects the first page...

## **2. Validity Concerns under 35 U.S.C. § 102 — Prior Art**

We have identified prior-art references that, in our preliminary view, anticipate one or more asserted claims of the 5115326 Patent:

Prior Art Analysis for U.S. Patent 5,115,326

Based on the patent documentation for US 5,115,326, the following U.S. Patents were cited as prior art by the applicant. This analysis assesses their relevance to the claims of the '326 patent.

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1. U.S. Patent 4,893,330: "Facsimile Mail System"

- Full Citation: U.S. Patent 4,893,330, issued to R. M. St-Amand, filed on July 29, 1988, and published on January 9, 1990.

- Brief Description: This patent describes a system for sending facsimile messages to subscribers of an electronic mail (E-mail) system. A central "facsimile-mail processing center" receives a fax, digitizes it, and stores it in a database. The sender can then dial into the system and provide the recipient's E-mail address via DTMF (touch-tone) signals. The system retrieves the stored fax and transmits it to the specified E-mail address.

- Potential Anticipation of Claims:

Claim 1 & 9 (Routing fax to a network address): This patent is highly relevant. It discloses the core concept of a centralized system receiving a fax and routing it to a network (E-mail) destination....

### **3. Obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Independent of § 102, we believe the asserted claims are obvious in view of combinations of prior art that a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine:

Obviousness Analysis of U.S. Patent 5,115,326

This analysis evaluates the claims of U.S. Patent 5,115,326 for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103, considering the state of the art prior to the patent's filing date of June 26, 1990. The analysis is based on the previously identified prior art references: U.S. Patents 4,893,330 (St-Amand), 4,754,426 (Tashima), 4,654,724 (Kurihara), and 4,837,834 (O-Otake).

A person having ordinary skill in the art (PHOSITA) at the time of this invention would have been familiar with computer networking (including LANs and early E-mail systems), facsimile technology, and machine-readable optical codes such as bar codes.

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Analysis of Independent Claims 1 and 9

Claim 1: A method for a fax server to automatically route a fax message by inspecting a bar-coded destination address on the first page and sending the message to that network address.

Claim 9: A method for a user to send a document from a fax machine to a network recipient by creating and sending a cover page with the recipient's network address encoded in a bar code. Obviousness...

### **4. Request**

In light of the foregoing, we request that your client (i) provide a detailed claim chart identifying each accused product or service and mapping every limitation of each asserted claim, (ii) identify any prior art known to your client, including any references cited during prosecution or reexamination, and (iii) substantiate the basis for any damages or licensing demand. We are prepared to discuss the matter further once we have received and reviewed the foregoing.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

**DISCLAIMER.** This document is a machine-generated sample. The factual assertions, prior-art citations, and legal arguments above are AI-produced and may contain errors, omissions, or outdated information. Do not transmit this letter, in whole or in part, to any party. This is not legal advice; no attorney-client relationship is created by its existence. Consult a licensed patent attorney before responding to any patent-infringement assertion.

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