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FAQ - Unified Patents

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## Frequently Asked Questions

**Does Unified pay NPEs to settle patent litigation or assertions?**

No. We believe paying NPEs "feeds the beast" and incentivizes further NPE activity.

**Does Unified purchase patents?**

**When was Unified Founded?**

**How does Unified achieve its goals?**

**How is Unified Organized?**

**If Unified files an IPR, how does it decide which patent to challenge?**

**What control do members have over Unified's use of IPR at the USPTO?**

**What is Unified's objective?**

**Who owns Unified Patents (Unified)?**

**Would Unified consider terminating an IPR?**

Still have more question? Ask us below

Your Name (required) Your Message

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `unifiedpatents.com/faq/`. The page header includes the Unified Patents logo and a navigation menu with links for HOME, BENEFITS, NEWS, TWITTER, ZONES, TEAM, MEMBERSHIP, and CONTACT. The main heading is "Frequently Asked Questions". Below this, there is a list of questions, each in a blue box. The first question is "Does Unified pay NPEs to settle patent litigation or assertions?". The second question is "Does Unified purchase patents?", followed by a paragraph of text: "Unified occasionally purchases patents that pose a risk to a Zone before they are acquired by an NPE. When doing so, all Zone members receive immediate perpetual licenses before the patent is... or donated. Unified does not purchase patents or licenses from NPEs. We believe such activities 'feed the beast' and incentivize further NPE activity." The remaining questions are: "When was Unified Founded?", "How does Unified achieve its goals?", "How is Unified Organized?", "If Unified files an IPR, how does it decide which patent to challenge?", "What control do members have over Unified's use of IPR at the USPTO?", "What is Unified's objective?", "Who owns Unified Patents (Unified)?", and "Would Unified consider terminating an IPR?". At the bottom of the list, it says "Still have more question? Ask us below".

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## Frequently Asked Questions

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**When was Unified Founded?**

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## Frequently Asked Questions

- Does Unified pay NPEs to settle patent litigation or assertions?**
- Does Unified purchase patents?**
- When was Unified Founded?**

Unified was founded by the CEO, Kevin Jakel, in the Summer of 2012 before being joined by co-founder Brian Hinman a few months later. Unified signed its first member in January of 2013.
- How does Unified achieve its goals?**
- How is Unified Organized?**
- If Unified files an IPR, how does it decide which patent to challenge?**
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## Frequently Asked Questions

**Does Unified pay NPEs to settle patent litigation or assertions?**

**Does Unified purchase patents?**

**When was Unified Founded?**

**How does Unified achieve its goals?**

Unified uses the subscription fees collected for each Zone to provide a wide range of services. Unified conducts patent analytics and provides those analytics to subscribed members. Unified also monitors ownership data, secondary-market patent sales, demand letters, and litigation to track any NPE activity and NPE risks in the Zone.

**How is Unified Organized?**

**If Unified files an IPR, how does it decide which patent to challenge?**

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## Frequently Asked Questions

- Does Unified pay NPEs to settle patent litigation or assertions?
- Does Unified purchase patents?
- When was Unified Founded?
- How does Unified achieve its goals?
- How is Unified Organized?

Unified is a membership organization created to help companies counter the costs and risks of NPE activity in key technologies or industries, called Zones. Like a trade association, members of Unified subscribe to a Zone for a small annual subscription fee based on company size.

- If Unified files an IPR, how does it decide which patent to challenge?
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