

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
WACO DIVISION**

ANCORA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

GOOGLE LLC,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 6:21-cv-735-ADA

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ANCORA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ROKU, INC.,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 6:21-cv-737-ADA

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ANCORA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NINTENDO CO., LTD., and RETRO  
STUDIOS, INC.,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 6:21-cv-738-ADA

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

**DEFENDANTS' OPENING CLAIM CONSTRUCTION BRIEF**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
1. “computer” (claims 1, 6, 7).....	2
2. “memory area of [a/the] BIOS” / “memory of the BIOS” (claims 1, 12).....	3
a. Nintendo’s alternative construction: “dedicated memory area where the BIOS is stored” .....	4
3. “a BIOS of the computer” / “BIOS” (claims 1, 7, 9, 12).....	5
a. Not all startup programs are BIOS, and BIOS was only used in PC-compatible computers. ....	6
b. BIOS not being associated with a file system is consistent with the plain and ordinary meaning. ....	8
4. “program residing in the volatile memory” (claim 1).....	10
5. “agent” (claims 1, 7) .....	13
6. “verification structure” (claims 1, 7) .....	15
7. “accommodating data” (claim 1) .....	20
8. “license record” / “license-record” (claims 1, 6, 7, 9) .....	22
a. Nintendo’s additional argument: Revision of the Court’s prior construction is necessary, because that construction strikes “license” from the term entirely. ....	24
9. “license authentication bureau” (claim 2).....	29
a. Nintendo’s alternative construction: “a telecommunications accessible processor that verifies the license record” .....	30
10. “pseudo-unique key” (claim 7, 9, 12).....	31

## TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

	Page(s)
<b>Cases</b>	
<i>Ancora Techs., Inc. v. Apple, Inc.</i> , 744 F.3d 732 (Fed. Cir. 2014).....	<i>passim</i>
<i>Ancora Techs., Inc. v. Apple Inc.</i> , No. 11-CV-06357 YGR, 2012 WL 6738761 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 31, 2012) .....	26, 27
<i>Ancora Techs., Inc. v. TCT Mobile (US), Inc.</i> , No. 8:19-cv-02192 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 12, 2020) .....	27
<i>Ancora Techs. v. LG Elecs. Inc.</i> , No. 1:20-CV-00034-ADA, Dkt. 44 (W.D. Tex. Mar. 20, 2020) .....	13, 14, 22
<i>Ancora Techs. v. LG Elecs. Inc.</i> , No. 1:20-CV-00034-ADA, Dkt. 69 (W.D. Tex. June 2, 2020) .....	18
<i>Ancora Techs. v. LG Elecs. Inc.</i> , No. 1:20-CV-00034-ADA, Dkt. 93 (W.D. Tex. Aug. 19, 2020).....	14, 22, 27, 28
<i>C.R. Bard, Inc. v. U.S. Surgical Corp.</i> , 388 F.3d 858 (Fed. Cir. 2004).....	17, 23
<i>Ekchian v. Home Depot, Inc.</i> , 104 F.3d 1299 (Fed. Cir. 1997).....	19
<i>Exxon Chem. Pats., Inc. v. Lubrizol Corp.</i> , 64 F.3d 1553 (Fed. Cir. 1995) (Plager, J., concurring).....	13
<i>Interval Licensing LLC v. AOL, Inc.</i> , 766 F.3d 1364 (Fed. Cir. 2014).....	21
<i>Nautilus, Inc. v. Biosig Instruments, Inc.</i> , 572 U.S. 898 (2014).....	15
<i>Phillips v. AWH Corp.</i> , 415 F.3d 1303 (Fed. Cir. 2005).....	7
<i>Southwall Techs., Inc. v. Cardinal IG Co.</i> , 54 F.3d 1570 (Fed. Cir. 1995).....	19
<i>ViaSat, Inc. v. Space Sys./Loral, Inc.</i> , No. 3:12-CV-00260-H, 2013 WL 3927729 (S.D. Cal. May 29, 2013) .....	9
<i>VirnetX, Inc. v. Cisco Sys., Inc.</i> , 767 F.3d 1308 (Fed. Cir. 2014).....	17

Defendants Google LLC (“Google”); Roku, Inc. (“Roku”); Nintendo Co., Ltd. (“Nintendo”); and Retro Studios, Inc. (“Retro”) (collectively, “Defendants”) present the following arguments in support of their proposed claim constructions for U.S. Patent No. 6,411,941 (“the ’941 patent”).

The ’941 patent, filed on October 1, 1998 and titled “Method of Restricting Software Operation within a License Limitation,” is directed toward “identifying and restricting an unauthorized software program’s operation,” by “strongly rel[ying] on the use of a key and of a record, which have been written into the non-volatile memory of a computer.” Ex. 1, ’941 patent, 1:6–8, 1:40–43<sup>1</sup>. The alleged invention in the ’941 patent was based on the presence and unique arrangement in the late 1990s of “BIOS” non-volatile memory modules in personal computers, which were hard to tamper with. *See id.*, 3:4–17. As described below, the asserted claims and the disputed claim terms are rooted in the patent’s express objective of using the then well-known and well-understood “BIOS” as part of a process for verifying that a particular program is licensed to run on a specified PC-compatible computer. Some of the disputed claim terms are so vague and so lacking of definition in the intrinsic record that they could not be understood with reasonable certainty by a person of ordinary skill in the art (“POSITA”) at the time of invention, and thus are indefinite. For the reasons that follow, the Court should adopt Defendants’ proposed constructions and indefiniteness positions.

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated, all exhibits referenced herein are attached to the Declaration of Robert W. Unikel, filed concurrently herewith.

1. “computer” (claims 1, 6, 7)

Defendants’ Construction	Ancora’s Construction
a conventional PC-compatible device	a digital data processor that includes one or more non-volatile memory and volatile memory areas

The parties’ dispute turns largely on whether the claims are directed to any and all computers, or only computers that have “BIOS.” *See* § 3, *infra* (explaining how BIOS was only used in PC-compatible computers).

Myriad devices include computers in a generic sense; however, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have understood from the ’941 patent’s disclosure that the asserted claims were directed to conventional PC-compatible devices, and did not cover every device that included a digital data processor. The meaning of “computer” is particularly important because Ancora now attempts to accuse products as wide-ranging as thermostats, video-game consoles, mobile phones, soundbars, and video streaming devices as “computers” covered by the ’941 patent. The ’941 patent, which was filed in 1998, explains that the invention is directed to “a conventional computer having a conventional BIOS module.” ’941 patent, 1:46–47. The ’941 patent further declares, “In the context of the present invention, a ‘computer’ relates to a digital data processor. These processors are found in *personal computers*, or on one or more processing cards in multi-processor machines.” *Id.*, 3:18–21 (emphasis added). Because, at the time of invention, the required “BIOS” was a term limited to booting personal computers (“PCs”), as explained below, the claimed “computer” in the ’941 patent, which is required to have a “BIOS,” must mean a “conventional PC-compatible device.”

The extrinsic evidence confirms this. In particular, *The BIOS Companion*, published in 1998, emphasizes that a BIOS is used only in a conventional PC-compatible (*i.e.*, “IBM-

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