

Intermec IP Corp, an affiliate of Unova Inc, Has notified one or more system companies regarding violation of some of their patents by using disk drives either inside a "wrapper" or with SCA-2 connector.

Web site at : <http://www.intermec.com/>

The specific patent is US#4,633,350, dated Dec,30,1986 with a deposit date of Jan.17,1984. The abstract is : "A computer system providing for quick removal and quick and simple installation of a disk drive unit into the system. A latching and positioning arrangement provides releasable support for the disk drive unit and achieves automatic electrical connections with the installation of the disk drive unit in the computer system."

From a cursory review, the claims require three elements: a base, a disk drive module and a disk drive. Special configurations are ascribed to the former two elements, but not the latter. We have concluded that a disk drive with the SCA connector does not violate the patent. However the issue of a combination of the three elements is an open issue.

Based upon the above it appears that SPI requirements do not require violating the patent. However EPI and SCSI Harbor may include requirements which could be at issue.

It is suggested that the Chairs of T10 and STA send a letter to Intermec asking if a license is required to implement the requirements of EPI &/or SCSI Harbor and if so will they agree to license the patent(s) in compliance with the ANSI &/or STA patent policies.

