



FOR RELEASE  
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**ACACIA TECHNOLOGIES LICENSES  
CREDIT CARD FRAUD PROTECTION TECHNOLOGY TO  
ALBERTSONS, THE BOMBAY COMPANY AND HEB GROCERY COMPANY**

Newport Beach, CA. – (BUSINESS WIRE) March 16, 2005 – Acacia Research Corporation (Nasdaq: ACTG: CBMX) announced today that Financial Systems Innovation LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary that is part of the Acacia Technologies group, has entered into non-exclusive licenses and settled patent infringement litigation covering a portfolio of patents that apply to credit card fraud protection technology with Albertsons, The Bombay Company, Inc. and HEB Grocery Company.

“This is the third patent portfolio we have begun generating revenues from since acquiring rights to 27 patent portfolios earlier this quarter,” commented Paul Ryan, Chairman and CEO of Acacia. “We will continue to acquire additional patent portfolios as we move toward our goal of becoming the leading technology licensing company,” concluded Mr. Ryan.

The patented technology generally relates to a computerized system for protecting retailers and consumers engaged in credit card, check card, and debit transactions. The system includes an electronic card reader, and the generation and use of a transaction number, which specifically identifies each transaction processed within the system. As a result, the retailer does not necessarily have to print detailed information concerning the cardholder’s identity or account number on the customer’s receipt.

The credit card fraud protection technology has been previously licensed to the GAP, J.C. Penney, Office Depot, PetSmart, Pier I, Radio Shack, Target and Walgreens.

**ABOUT ACACIA RESEARCH CORPORATION**

Acacia Research Corporation comprises two operating groups, Acacia Technologies group and CombiMatrix group.

The Acacia Technologies group develops, acquires, and licenses patented technologies. Acacia controls 29 patent portfolios, which include 126 U.S. patents, and certain foreign counterparts, covering technologies used in a wide variety of industries including audio/video enhancement & synchronization, broadcast data retrieval, computer memory cache coherency, credit card fraud protection, database management, data encryption & product activation, digital media transmission (DMT®), digital video production, dynamic manufacturing modeling, enhanced Internet navigation, image resolution enhancement, interactive data sharing, interactive television, Internet access redirection, interstitial Internet advertising, microprocessor enhancement, multi-dimensional bar codes, network data storage, resource scheduling, rotational video imaging and spreadsheet automation.

The CombiMatrix group is developing a platform technology to rapidly produce customizable arrays, which are semiconductor-based tools for use in identifying and determining the roles of genes, gene mutations and proteins. The CombiMatrix's group's technology has a wide range of potential applications in the areas of genomics, proteomics, biosensors, drug discovery, drug development, diagnostics, combinatorial chemistry, material sciences and nanotechnology.

Acacia Research-Acacia Technologies (Nasdaq: ACTG) and Acacia Research-CombiMatrix (Nasdaq: CBMX) are both classes of common stock issued by Acacia Research Corporation and are intended to reflect the performance of the respective operating groups and are not issued by the operating groups.

Information about the Acacia Technologies group and the CombiMatrix group is available at [www.acaciaresearch.com](http://www.acaciaresearch.com).

### **Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:**

*This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon our current expectations and speak only as of the date hereof. Our actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statements as a result of various factors and uncertainties, including the recent economic slowdown affecting technology companies, our ability to successfully develop products, rapid technological change in our markets, changes in demand for our future products, legislative, regulatory and competitive developments and general economic conditions. Our Annual Report on Form 10-K, recent and forthcoming Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, recent Current Reports on Forms 8-K and 8-K/A, and other SEC filings discuss some of the important risk factors that may affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. We undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.*