

1. Load and start the ASL kernel module, Name Server, and Resolver.
2. Load and start device drivers for the network interfaces.
3. Load and initialize the Resource Manager which determines how many copies of each ingress and egress microblock group to run.
4. Parse the configuration file, *ixsys.config*, and check for errors.
5. Start the core components of each ACE, which causes the ACE to call its *ix\_init* function.
6. Turn on interfaces, assign microblock groups to specific microengines, and resolve external references (known as *patching*).
7. Bind the ACE targets and physical interfaces.
8. Start the microengines running.

**Figure 23.8** The steps that occur when Intel's *ixstart* program is used to start a set of ACEs running.