

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOCSIS LICENSE AGREEMENT

The DOCSIS License Agreement creates a royalty-free pool for intellectual property rights essential for implementation of the Data Over Cable Service Interface Specification (DOCSIS) standard.

DOCSIS defines interface requirements for cable modems involved in high-speed data distribution over a cable television network. The pool includes only intellectual property that is essential to the DOCSIS interface standard, and does not include technology or intellectual property for how each company might choose to implement the standard.

By entering the pool, a company both contributes to the pool a non-exclusive license for any of its intellectual property that is essential to the DOCSIS standard, and gets a license from the pool for all of the intellectual property contributed by other signatories. Any company desiring to make equipment compliant with the DOCSIS standard may join the pool, and thus have access to the intellectual property in the pool, in return for contributing to the pool the intellectual property it has (if any) relating to the DOCSIS standard.

Vendors are not required to itemize their essential IPR contained in the DOCSIS specification. However, based on the companies that have signed the pool to date, CableLabs believes it contains the basis for compliance with the specification. If you have specific questions about the IPR that may be in the pool, CableLabs suggests that you contact those companies that have already signed the agreement (this information is posted on this website) for more information.

Because it is the vendor's responsibility to obtain any necessary intellectual property rights for manufacturing and selling DOCSIS products, whether or not the vendor has signed the DOCSIS License Agreement, CableLabs also recommends that vendors conduct a patent search prior to entering into the pool. The License Agreement disclaims any warranty that the rights and licenses granted by it comprise all the rights and licenses necessary or desirable to practice, develop, make and sell products compliant with the DOCSIS specification.

To enter the pool, a vendor must (after downloading and reading the License Agreement) notify CableLabs of its request for a sublicense from the pool, and submit TWO signed originals of the License Agreement.

By signing the License Agreement, a vendor also agrees to use best efforts to obtain DOCSIS certification in accordance with the procedures contained in this web site.

The license granted is solely for DOCSIS-compliant products. If the DOCSIS product is integrated with another product, such as a video set-top box, no rights are granted for the additional functionality. And, the license cannot be used for a modem that complies with only part of the specification.