

### Introduction

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The Current/OS Foundation brings together Partners who may also be competitors. Therefore, it is important to be able to progress our discussions in a constructive manner, in compliance with applicable competition rules. It will be particularly essential not to share sensitive information about prices, markets, R&D plans or sales to particular groups of customers etc. or agree or discuss with a competitor to fix prices / production quota / capacities, allocate customers / markets / territories / products or projects to restrict/increase production or any other form of coordination of market conduct.

The objective of this guideline on Compliance with competition laws is to enhance Partners' understanding and offer guidance regarding competition law matters as a participant in various Current/OS Foundation meetings, including Plenary sessions, General Assembly meetings, Forums, Committees, Working Groups, and any global exchange of information between Partners, regardless of the level of responsibility in the Foundation.

Please note that this guideline complements any existing competition law guidelines and policies implemented by the Partners' company or organization.

The Guideline provides a non-exhaustive list of Do's and Don'ts to assist you in preventing any violations of competition law. Failure to comply with these guidelines can result in serious consequences, both for you as a participant and for your company or organization, including civil and criminal liability.

It is mandatory for you to familiarize yourself with this Guideline and ensure strict adherence to its principles.

### ✓ What we do

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- We **support** competition worldwide for the benefit of the industry, the society, and consumers.
- We **develop** specifications, certification scheme, technical guides in a way that is voluntary, open and transparent and does not exclude other market participants.
- We **grant access** to any standard on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and engage in good faith disclosure of essential IP rights.
- We **limit** the discussions or exchanges to technical issues and general economic data required to develop relevant specifications, lobbying activities, industry overview, standardization, and legislative projects relevant to the Foundation.
- We **feel free** to use and share information from the public domain.
- We **ensure** that we have the appropriate technical and/or marketing expertise to contribute to the work of the Foundation.
- We **have read** the Foundation articles, by-laws and any legal documents issued by the Foundation, and available on the web site.
- We **proactively stop** any meetings or exchanges if an inappropriate topic arises during the discussion, and we ensure that this is documented in the meeting minutes.
- We **ensure** that the agenda of meetings is defined and discussion at meetings are limited to those points set out in the agenda.
- We **ensure** that meetings are minuted and that meeting minutes are unambiguous and accurately reflect our presence and the discussion.

### ✘ What we don't do

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- We **don't agree or discuss** any market sharing with competitors, which includes the allocation of territories, customers, distributors, suppliers or projects (bid rigging).
- We **don't discuss** or agree with competitors to fix prices, production quota or capacities.
- We **don't engage** in the exchange or discussion of commercially sensitive or strategic information with competitors. This includes, but is not limited to, data related to prices or price-related conditions, timing of pricing changes, profit, profit margins, cost data, market share, customer lists, supply or marketing schedules, bidding behavior, or any information that could aid in predicting future commercial behavior of a competitor.
- We **don't go beyond** what is strictly necessary for purposes of the Foundation when it comes to sharing, exchanging, or discussing information during our discussions.
- We **don't take part** – even passively – in inappropriate discussions.
- We **don't include** elements in standards that exclude other market participants or agree on standards that restrict effectiveness or efficiency or are disadvantageous for customer and/or hamper innovation or technical development.
- We **don't agree or discuss** imposition of collective boycott or a supplier or customer
- We **don't engage** in a vote which results in the exclusion of any member of the industry from participation in standards or the exclusion of other market initiatives or new technologies from the standard, without a legitimate reason.
- We **don't impose** obligations or pressure on businesses to comply with the agreed standard or otherwise making it difficult for businesses to develop alternative standards.
- We don't underestimate the importance of competition law matters, as they can lead to significant financial or civil consequences for you and for your company or organization.

### Practical guidelines during the meetings

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#### ✓ Dos

- **limit** the discussions or exchanges to technical issues and general economic data required to develop relevant specifications, lobbying activities, industry overview, standardization and legislative projects relevant to the Foundation.
- **feel free** to use and share information from the public domain.
- **have read** the Foundation articles, by-laws and any legal documents issued by the Foundation, and available on the web site.
- **proactively stop** any meetings or exchanges if an inappropriate topic arises during the discussion, and we ensure that this is documented in the meeting minutes.
- **ensure** that the discussion in meetings are limited to those points set out in the agenda
- **ensure** that meeting minutes are unambiguous and accurately reflect our presence and the discussion.
- **develop** specifications, certification scheme, technical guides in a way that is voluntary, open and transparent and does not exclude other market participants.
- **grant access** to any standard on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and engage in good faith disclosure of essential IP rights.

#### ✗ Don'ts

- **don't agree or discuss** any market sharing, including allocation of territories, customers, distributors, suppliers or projects (bid rigging).
- **don't discuss or agree** to fix prices, production quota or capacities.
- **don't engage in the exchange or discussion** of commercially sensitive or strategic information, e.g. prices, profit, cost data, market share, customer lists, bidding behavior, ...
- **don't go beyond what is strictly necessary** for purposes of the Foundation when it comes to sharing, exchanging, or discussing information during discussions.
- **don't take part** – even passively – in inappropriate discussions.
- **don't include** elements in standards that exclude other market participants or agree on standards that restrict effectiveness or efficiency or are disadvantageous for customer and/or hamper innovation or technical development.
- **don't agree** or discuss imposition of collective boycott of a supplier or customer.
- **don't underestimate** the importance of competition law matters, as they can lead to significant financial or civil consequences for you and for your company or organization.