

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE WG CHAIR

The IEEE SA strongly recommends that at each WG meeting the chair or a designee:

- Show slides 1 through 4 of this presentation
- Advise the WG attendees that:
  - The patent policy is described in Clause 6 of the *IEEE SA Standards Board Bylaws*;
  - Early identification of patent claims which may be essential for the use of standards under development is strongly encouraged;
  - There may be Essential Patent Claims of which IEEE is not aware. Additionally, neither IEEE, the WG, nor the WG Chair can ensure the accuracy or completeness of any assurance or whether any such assurance is, in fact, of a Patent Claim that is essential for the use of the standard under development.
- Instruct the WG Secretary to record in the minutes of the relevant WG meeting:
  - That the foregoing information was provided and that slides 1 through 4 (and this slide 0, if applicable) were shown;
  - That the chair or designee provided an opportunity for participants to identify patent claim(s)/patent application claim(s) and/or the holder of patent claim(s)/patent application claim(s) of which the participant is personally aware and that may be essential for the use of that standard
  - Any responses that were given, specifically the patent claim(s)/patent application claim(s) and/or the holder of the patent claim(s)/patent application claim(s) that were identified (if any) and by whom.
- The WG Chair shall ensure that a request is made to any identified holders of potential essential patent claim(s) to complete and submit a Letter of Assurance.
- It is recommended that the WG Chair review the guidance in *IEEE SA Standards Board Operations Manual* 6.3.5 and in FAQs 14 and 15 on inclusion of potential Essential Patent Claims by incorporation or by reference.

Note: **WG** includes Working Groups, Task Groups, and other standards-developing committees with a PAR approved by the IEEE SA Standards Board.

# **PARTICIPANTS HAVE A DUTY TO INFORM THE IEEE**

- Participants shall inform the IEEE (or cause the IEEE to be informed) of the identity of each holder of any potential Essential Patent Claims of which they are personally aware if the claims are owned or controlled by the participant or the entity the participant is from, employed by, or otherwise represents
- Participants should inform the IEEE (or cause the IEEE to be informed) of the identity of any other holders of potential Essential Patent Claims

**Early identification of holders of potential Essential Patent Claims is encouraged**

# **WAYS TO INFORM IEEE**

- **Cause an LOA to be submitted to the IEEE SA ([patcom@ieee.org](mailto:patcom@ieee.org)); or**
- **Provide the chair of this group with the identity of the holder(s) of any and all such claims as soon as possible; or**
- **Speak up now and respond to this Call for Potentially Essential Patents**

If anyone in this meeting is personally aware of the holder of any patent claims that are potentially essential to implementation of the proposed standard(s) under consideration by this group and that are not already the subject of an Accepted Letter of Assurance, please respond at this time by providing relevant information to the WG Chair

# OTHER GUIDELINES FOR IEEE WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

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- All IEEE SA standards meetings shall be conducted in compliance with all applicable laws, including antitrust and competition laws.
  - Don't discuss the interpretation, validity, or essentiality of patents/patent claims.
  - Don't discuss specific license rates, terms, or conditions.
    - Relative costs of different technical approaches that include relative costs of patent licensing terms may be discussed in standards development meetings.
    - **Technical considerations remain the primary focus.**
  - Don't discuss or engage in the fixing of product prices, allocation of customers, or division of sales markets.
  - Don't discuss the status or substance of ongoing or threatened litigation.
  - Don't be silent if inappropriate topics are discussed. Formally object to the discussion immediately.

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For more details, see *IEEE SA Standards Board Operations Manual*, clause 5.3.10 and *Antitrust and Competition Policy: What You Need to Know* at <http://standards.ieee.org/develop/policies/antitrust.pdf>

# **PATENT-RELATED INFORMATION**

The patent policy and the procedures used to execute that policy are documented in the:

- ***IEEE SA Standards Board Bylaws***  
(<http://standards.ieee.org/develop/policies/bylaws/sect6-7.html#6>)
- ***IEEE SA Standards Board Operations Manual***  
(<http://standards.ieee.org/develop/policies/opman/sect6.html#6.3>)

Material about the patent policy is available at  
<http://standards.ieee.org/about/sasb/patcom/materials.html>

**If you have questions, contact the IEEE SA  
Standards Board Patent Committee  
Administrator at [patcom@ieee.org](mailto:patcom@ieee.org)**