

# **Call for Information**

## **Issued by the**

### **Analog Reconversion Discussion Group**

### **Copy Protection Technical Working Group**

### **Version 1.0.1**

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## **1. Purpose**

The Analog Reconversion Discussion Group (ARDG), a sub-group of the Copy Protection Technical Working Group (CPTWG), hereby issues this Call for Information ("CFI") with respect to potential solutions addressing security issues arising from the conversion of commercial audiovisual content, as to which protection has been asserted, from digital to analog format and reversion to digital format. Information regarding the conversion of native analog material to digital format will also be considered.

The group has collectively agreed that the scope of work will be as follows: The ARDG shall identify, examine and evaluate technologies that carry rights signaling information from protected digital sources across analog interfaces and back into a digital sink. The work shall be limited to technical issues, provided, however, that the Group may seek information as to availability of any technology for general use.

### **1.1 Attributes of importance for Solutions**

The attributes described in the attached "attribute matrix" will be used as a framework for describing the attributes of proposed Solutions.

It is strongly recommended that submitters read the previous discussion available on the CPTWG web site at [www.cptwg.org](http://www.cptwg.org) (use the link to the ARDG).

## **1.2 Responses**

All expressions of interest consisting of a 500-word summary, as specified in section 1.2.1, shall be received by 5:00 p.m. (PDT) September 22, 2003. Full submissions, section 1.2.2, will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. (PDT) October 8, 2003. No submission will be accepted without a prior on-time expression of interest. All submitters providing an expression of interest will have the contact person, as described in section 1.2.1, added to the ARDG reflector.

Expressions of interest and full submissions should be emailed to ARDG-CFI@list.lmicp.com in either Microsoft Word or PDF format. Appendixes in PowerPoint or Excel may be added to the response. All text shall be in the English language. Late responses will not be considered.

### **1.2.1 Expressions of interest**

Each expression of interest shall include a short narrative description (no more than 500 words) summarizing the nature and operation of the submitted technology, and a single contact person including an email address. All questions regarding the submission will be addressed to the specified contact person.

### **1.2.2 Full submissions**

Each submission shall include at minimum a short narrative description (no more than 500 words) summarizing the nature and operation of the submitted technology, an assessment in the Excel format, of the technology against the ARDG attribute list, and a single contact person as described in section 1.2.1 above. All questions regarding the submission will be addressed to the specified contact person.

## **2 ARDG Attributes**

The ARDG, through its co-chairs, requests that each submitter evaluate the Solution against the attributes described in the attached "attribute matrix". THIS SELF-EVALUATION MAY NOT BE THE ONLY DESCRIPTION OR DISCUSSION OF THE TECHNOLOGY OCCURRING AT ARDG OR APPEARING IN THE ARDG REPORT. The attributes described in the "attribute matrix" are not ranked in order of priority. Neither the ARDG nor its co-chairs will endeavor to evaluate the relative merit of the Solutions received. Rather, compilation and comparison of solutions will occur to enable others to make any such evaluation for their own purposes. However, in the context of such compilation the ARDG may, at its discretion, in making a compilation and comparison, choose to accord more relative weight to one or more of the generic attributes to the extent such weighting is suggested by the scope and tasks set forth in the ARDG Charter. After compiling the Solutions submitted, the ARDG will ask the submitters to explain their Solutions and invite comment from ARDG participants on the accuracy of any description, compilation, or comparison.

## **3 Conditions Relating to the Submissions**

### **3.1 General Conditions**

Given the possibility that a Solution may be comprised of one or more elements, submitters should understand that the ARDG might review and discuss possible combinations of solutions. THIS CFI DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER BY THE ARDG OR BY THE CPTWG AS TO WHETHER ANY SUBMISSIONS WOULD OR MAY BE REGARDED AS A SUITABLE SOLUTION. THE ARDG AND THE CPTWG DO NOT INVITE OR ACCEPT ANY OBLIGATION TO ANY THIRD PARTY BASED ON THIS CFI, OR BASED ON ANY SUBMISSION IN RESPONSE THERETO. ALTHOUGH THE ARDG DOES NOT INTEND TO MAKE ANY EVALUATIVE RECOMMENDATION TO THE CPTWG, ALL PERSONS MAKING SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE ARDG PARTICIPANTS MAY DISCUSS USEFUL COMBINATIONS OF SUBMITTED TECHNOLOGIES.

### **3.2 Confidentiality of Submissions**

It is understood that in some circumstances submitters may consider that valuable and proprietary confidential information is critical to application of a proposed Solution. NONETHELESS, SUBMISSIONS SHOULD NOT CONTAIN INFORMATION, WHICH IS COMPANY PROPRIETARY OR CONFIDENTIAL. THOSE SUBMITTING ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MEMBERSHIP OF THE ARDG IS NOT RESTRICTED, AND THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM DIRECT COMPETITORS AND THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE ACCESS TO ALL SUBMISSIONS. PERSONS SUBMITTING SOLUTIONS EXPRESSLY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ANY AND ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THAT SUBMISSION WILL NOT BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL AND SHOULD NOT BE MARKED AS SUCH. Accordingly, persons submitting information should use their own judgment to describe generally, but sufficient to permit evaluation by the ARDG and the CPTWG, the technologies they are proposing.

Material marked confidential or proprietary will not be considered.