



International Freight Drone

Position on Intellectual Property

BACKGROUND

Intellectual property (IP) protections provide a vital framework to help enable the development of innovative and life-changing technologies for communities around the world. IP protections also help ensure innovative companies can continue to invest in cutting-edge research, especially given the high cost and time it takes to develop new products.

IP protections also encourage the disclosure of information and data that promote competition and facilitate the introduction of generic alternatives into the marketplace after a limited period of exclusivity.

RELEVANCE

IFD plays a major role in advancing freight transportation around the world. Each year, we invest millions of dollars in R&D to address the unmet needs of rural communities around the world. IP protections that promote innovation, access, and affordability that are critical to fulfilling our mission of changing the freight transportation industry.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We believe we are uniquely positioned to bring together science, technology, people and ideas to help us in this mission. Every decision we make can have an enduring impact across the world. Every decision is anchored in [Our Conduct Credo](#) and in our commitments to communities and all who use our products and services, to employees, to communities around the world, and to our investors.

OUR POSITION

At IFD, we are building on blending heart, science and ingenuity to tackle some of the world's most pressing transportation challenges. Our operational teams are set to help deliver innovative technologies to the world's most underserved populations.

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Throughout the lifecycles of our products, IFD works with governments, non-governmental organizations and other private-sector companies using tools like equity-based tiered pricing, voluntary licensing, logistics capacity-building, and small business assistance programs to facilitate access for communities in need. We are transparent about our position relative to various aspects of IP, as follows:

Patents:

We advocate for strong and effective patent systems that support, protect, and promote innovation. These systems encourage scientists, entrepreneurs, academics, and companies to develop new transportation products. They also enable economic growth and promote the disclosure of information among competitors. The protection provided by strong patent systems allows Johnson & Johnson the freedom to disclose information about its inventions openly, which speeds the development of competing technologies by other companies and organizations, creating an ongoing cycle of innovation and product improvement.

Data exclusivity:

Unlike other industries where products can be marketed soon after getting a patent, new products must first go through rigorous trials to ensure they are safe before being delivered to communities in developing countries.

Regulatory data exclusivity protects proprietary trial data for a limited time period. During this limited period, only the innovator company can use this data for product approval purposes. Afterwards, generic manufacturers may use the data in support of their own regulatory filings. In this way, data exclusivity simultaneously encourages the development of safe and effective new medicines and facilitates the introduction of generic alternatives.

IFD believes that data exclusivity periods should be provided for all new products, and the length of those periods should reflect the significant time and investment required to develop and test these products.

Trademarks:

IFD believes strong and effective trademark protection is in the best interests of customers and governments, as well as the innovative transportation industry. Trademarks function to differentiate a product or service of one party from those of another. Thus, customers rely upon trademarks to indicate a certain level of quality and effectiveness, and to avoid confusion. Accordingly, we believe a robust trademark registration and enforcement system is essential, not only to enable confident purchasing decisions and encourage fair competition, but also to protect the health and safety of customers worldwide.

Access and affordability of freight transportation in developing countries:

We believe that IP protection is not a barrier to accessible and affordable freight transportation. To the contrary, IP protections are the foundation of a system that has developed important new transportation technologies that have the greatest impact on developing countries. We

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work closely with governments, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders around the world.

Compulsory licensing:

At IFD, we have a commitment to address unmet transportation needs in developing countries around the world. We recognize and support international agreements, including the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement and the Doha Declaration, that provide for the use of compulsory licenses in certain limited circumstances. However, we are concerned about the growing use of compulsory licenses, particularly for the purpose of favoring domestic industries. Doing so threatens the overall IP system, which has enabled the development of life-saving medicines for millions of patients today and has the potential to create new therapies for millions more in the future.

Access and pricing:

IFD works closely with governments and other organizations around the world to facilitate access through equity-based tiered pricing, freight transportation system capacity building, and voluntary licensing arrangements. We believe that these mechanisms are effective in providing access while also promoting an IP framework that enables the development of new transportation technologies for communities.