

Clarification of the 3rd Party Disclosure procedure in [RFC 3979](#)

<[draft-narten-ipr-3979-3rd-party-fix-00.txt](#)>

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Abstract

This document clarifies and updates a single sentence in [RFC 3979](#). Specifically, when 3rd party IPR disclosures are made, the intention is that the IETF Executive Director notify the IPR holder that a 3rd party disclosure has been filed, and to ask the IPR holder whether they have any disclosure that needs to be made, per applicable [RFC3979](#) rules.

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October 13, 2006

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[1.](#) Introduction

This document clarifies and updates a single sentence in [RFC 3979](#) [[RFC3979](#)]. Specifically, when 3rd party IPR disclosures are made, the intention is that the IETF Executive Director notify the IPR holder that a 3rd party disclosure has been filed, and to ask the IPR holder whether they have any disclosure that needs to be made, per applicable [RFC3979](#) rules.

This document updates [RFC 3979](#).

[2.](#) The Fix

[RFC3979, Section 4](#) (C), states:

- (C) Where Intellectual Property Rights have been disclosed for IETF Documents as provided in [Section 6](#) of this document, the IETF Executive Director shall request from the discloser of such IPR, a written assurance that upon approval by the IESG for publication as RFCs of the relevant IETF specification(s), all persons will be able to obtain the right to implement, use,

distribute and exercise other rights with respect to Implementing Technology under one of the licensing options specified in [Section 6.5](#) below unless such a statement has already been submitted.

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In the case of third party disclosures, it makes no sense to ask the discloser about potential licensing terms, since they do not own the IPR. Instead, it only makes sense to ask the IPR holder.

This document updates [RFC3979](#) by changing the word "discloser" to "IPR holder" in the above text.

[3.](#) Security Considerations

This document has no known security implications.

[4.](#) IANA Considerations

This document makes no requests to IANA.

[5.](#) Acknowledgments

[6.](#) Notes (To be removed upon RFC Publication)

This topic was discussed during the March, 2006 IPR WG meeting in Dallas. See the minutes under the section "3rd Party Disclosure Verification" at

<http://www3.ietf.org/proceedings/06mar/minutes/ipr.txt>.

The topic was also discussed on the mailing list after the Dallas meeting.

[7.](#) Normative References

[RFC3979] "Intellectual Property Rights in IETF Technology," S. Bradner, Ed.,

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