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USPTO SEP Policy Statements

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WITHDRAWAL OF 2019 POLICY STATEMENT ON REMEDIES FOR STANDARDS-ESSENTIAL PATENTS SUBJECT TO VOLUNTARY F/RAND COMMITMENTS

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The U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division (DOJ) hereby withdraw the December 19, 2019 Policy Statement on Remedies for Standards-Essential Patents Subject to Voluntary F/RAND Commitments (2019 Policy Statement). After considering potential revisions to that statement, the Agencies have concluded that withdrawal best serves the interests of innovation and competition.¹

The USPTO is the executive-branch agency charged with examining patent and trademark applications, issuing patents and registering trademarks, and—through the Secretary of Commerce—advising the President on domestic and certain international issues of intellectual property policy. NIST is the executive-branch agency charged with facilitating standards-related information sharing and cooperation among federal agencies and with coordinating federal agency participation in, and use of, private sector standards, emphasizing where possible the use of standards developed by private, consensus organizations, and—through the Secretary of Commerce—advising the President on standards policy pertaining to the nation’s

¹ In withdrawing the 2019 Policy Statement, the agencies do not reinstate the January 8, 2013, [Policy Statement on Remedies for Standards-Essential Patents Subject to Voluntary F/RAND Commitments](#) issued by the DOJ and the USPTO.

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