

EBU – Recommendation R 125



# Digital Television broadcasting: Copy Protection management signalling

**Status: Recommendation**

Geneva  
November 2008



## Digital Television broadcasting: Copy Protection management signalling

<i>EBU Committee</i>	<i>First Issued</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>Re-issued</i>
TC	2008		

**Keywords:** Copy Protection Management Signalling, DVB-CPCM, DVB-CPDM-FTA.

This recommendation is designed to encourage interoperability and consistency in the copy management environment.

The EBU recommends the use of DVB Free-To-Air signalling and the agreed DVB-CPCM specifications in cases where content right-holders deem such technical protection measures necessary.

### **Background**

Digital television industry players have been debating issues in the broadcast and content piracy domain for some time. In 2008, the DVB Project reached consensus on a number of basic principles called DVB Content Protection and Copy Management (CPCM). Coupled with a suitable "signalling regime" for free-to-air (FTA) broadcasts, CPCM covers technical protection measures for broadcast content. This regime permits FTA broadcasters to determine (amongst other things) the extent to which their programmes can be redistributed over (the publicly accessible part of) the Internet by consumers once they have been received. Some content producers may call for such measures as a pre-condition for broadcasting a certain programme. Others will not, but it is important for EBU Members to have both options available.

With the EBU's involvement, the DVB Project developed FTA signalling which is to be delivered alongside free-to-air broadcast services. This signalling is a means of defining the content management and copy protection policy per item of programme content and has been designed to allow all local variations of its interpretation to cover the requirements of rights holders and regulatory frameworks.

The DVB CPCM specification concerns the means whereby equipment receiving digital broadcast signals carries out the instructions of the FTA signalling. The EBU is aware of the development of solutions in addition to DVB-CPCM and encourages the developers of such content protection and copy management solutions to use the FTA signalling. The EBU further undertakes to work with these developers to achieve interoperability.

The DVB-CPCM system, standardized by ETSI, is currently the only system supported by the EBU.

*Full technical details of the DVB-CPCM FTA signalling system are available in ETSI EN 300 468 V1.9.1. DVB's CPCM system is specified in ETSI TS 102 825.*