Licensing Intellectual Property, 1995

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Licensing of Intellectual Property - Google Books Result - U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission announced on April 6, 1995, the release of the 1995 Antitrust Guidelines for the Licensing of Intellectual Property. These guidelines were developed to provide guidance to companies on the application of antitrust laws to the licensing of intellectual property. The guidelines were revised in 2004 and 2010.

The Guidelines aim to strike a balance between protecting the interests of intellectual property owners and promoting competition. They address issues such as the use of blanket licenses, exclusivity clauses, and royalty rates. The Guidelines also provide a framework for resolving disputes related to licensing agreements.

The 1995 Guidelines have been widely regarded as a significant step forward in the application of antitrust law to the licensing of intellectual property. They have been praised for their clarity and for providing a common understanding of the law among companies and regulators.

Despite their importance, the Guidelines are not without criticism. Some argue that they are too prescriptive and may stifle innovation. Others point out that they may be difficult to apply in practice, especially in highly specialized fields. Nevertheless, the 1995 Guidelines remain a key reference for companies and regulators alike.