

Federal Communications Commission

§ 76.1203

common carrier or its affiliate shall be generally restricted from entering into an exclusive arrangement for satellite cable programming or satellite broadcast programming with a satellite cable programming vendor in which a common carrier or its affiliate has an attributable interest or a satellite broadcast programming vendor in which a common carrier or its affiliate has an attributable interest, unless the arrangement pertains to an area served by a cable system as of October 5, 1992, and the Commission determines in accordance with Section § 76.1002(c)(4) that such arrangement is in the public interest.

[61 FR 18980, Apr. 30, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 28708, June 5, 1996]

§§ 76.1005–76.1010 [Reserved]

Subpart P—Competitive Availability of Navigation Devices

SOURCE: 63 FR 38094, July 15, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

§ 76.1200 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) *Multichannel video programming system.* A distribution system that makes available for purchase, by customers or subscribers, multiple channels of video programming other than an open video system as defined by § 76.1500(a). Such systems include, but are not limited to, cable television systems, BRS/EBS systems, direct broadcast satellite systems, other systems for providing direct-to-home multichannel video programming via satellite, and satellite master antenna systems.

(b) *Multichannel video programming distributor.* A person such as, but not limited to, a cable operator, a BRS/EBS provider, a direct broadcast satellite service, or a television receive-only satellite program distributor, who owns or operates a multichannel video programming system.

(c) *Navigation devices.* Devices such as converter boxes, interactive communications equipment, and other equipment used by consumers to access multichannel video programming and other services offered over multichannel video programming systems.

(d) *Affiliate.* A person or entity that (directly or indirectly) owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another person, as defined in the notes accompanying § 76.501.

(e) *Conditional access.* The mechanisms that provide for selective access and denial of specific services and make use of signal security that can prevent a signal from being received except by authorized users.

[63 FR 38094, July 15, 1998, as amended at 69 FR 72046, Dec. 10, 2004]

§ 76.1201 Rights of subscribers to use or attach navigation devices.

No multichannel video programming distributor shall prevent the connection or use of navigation devices to or with its multichannel video programming system, except in those circumstances where electronic or physical harm would be caused by the attachment or operation of such devices or such devices may be used to assist or are intended or designed to assist in the unauthorized receipt of service.

§ 76.1202 Availability of navigation devices.

No multichannel video programming distributor shall by contract, agreement, patent right, intellectual property right or otherwise prevent navigation devices that do not perform conditional access or security functions from being made available to subscribers from retailers, manufacturers, or other vendors that are unaffiliated with such owner or operator, subject to § 76.1209.

§ 76.1203 Incidence of harm.

A multichannel video programming distributor may restrict the attachment or use of navigation devices with its system in those circumstances where electronic or physical harm would be caused by the attachment or operation of such devices or such devices that assist or are intended or designed to assist in the unauthorized receipt of service. Such restrictions may be accomplished by publishing and providing to subscribers standards and descriptions of devices that may not be used with or attached to its system.