

## EDITOR'S NOTE

### TACKLING THE "O" WORD

Our theme this issue is "openness" -- what it means, who is entitled to define it, and how we should go about doing so.

In our editorial, we comment on the event that caused us to choose this topic: the delivery of a "Call to Action" by a large group of open source advocates to the members of OASIS and those that implement its standards, demanding direct action in response to that consortium's adoption of a new IPR policy.

Our feature article takes a broader view, analyzing what "open" is generally understood to mean, seeking to establish what can – and just as significantly cannot – be established as a fixed reference point.

With our Trends article, we address the Call to Action letter more directly, demonstrating that the areas in which the open source and open standards communities must cooperate go far beyond licensing terms, and calling for work to begin on this task.

We also include an analysis of the settlement of *Rambus v. Infineon*, the most important standards litigation of the past twenty years, which we have been reporting on in detail for over three years.

And finally, our Standards Blog entry for this month takes a more lighthearted look at the diverse ways that people look at "openness", and the emotion that they invest in maintaining their individual opinions on that topic.

As always, we hope you enjoy this issue.

Best regards,



Andrew Updegrave  
Editor and Publisher