

## RESPONSE TO PRE CONSULTATION PAPER ON INTEROPERABILITY OF SET TOP BOX

Dear Sir

This has reference to the pre consultation paper on interoperability of set up box. This is a need of the day and should have been done long back. It seems the condition relating to inter operability of the STB has been a part of the Licence conditions from the beginning but no progress has been made on this issue because of the differences between the various operators themselves. From the customer point of view this matter should be settled without any further loss of time . TRAI has raised the following questions: 1.In your opinion, what are the concerns that should be taken care of at the time of development of framework of interoperable of STBs?

2. What are the techno commercial reasons for non interoperability of STBs other than those mentioned above? Please provide reasons with full details.

3. What are the plausible solutions for technical interoperability of STBs and their impact on the sector growth?

4. Any other issue which you feel will be relevant for development of technical interoperability of the set top boxes. While the technical feasibility and possibility based on technology solution is to be looked after by the TRAI which is an expert body, as a customer our wish list is that the STB should be capable to take care of the following requirement of customer:

1. The technology is moving fast and so is the customer requirement. As a customer, the ultimate wish list would be that the set top box should be completely DPO independent. Not only the customer should be able to move to any operators without necessitating any change of STB, the Customer should have the flexibility to see any channel through any operator without changing set top boxes. This will help the customer to choose / subscribe any channel based on the most competitive DPO so that the benefit of real competition at the retail level comes to the customers door.

2. Should the technology be capable of handling, the definition of pay per view should mean to view any channel through any operator while retaining only one set top box .

3. While framing rules on interoperability it is necessary to finalise the commercial conditions as well such as who owns the STB, who will be responsible for customer premises service for STB. In fact it may be required to put the detailed rules like number portability in place

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