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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### **Leading Companies and University Sue DVD Disc Manufacturer ODS for Patent Infringement**

(Denver, Colorado, US – 02 August 2005) – MPEG LA today announced that several leading electronics companies and a university have filed suit in Germany against Optical Disc Service (“ODS”) for infringing patents used in DVD disc manufacturing. Plaintiffs include France Télécom, S.A.; Fujitsu Ltd., GE Technology Development, Inc.; Koninklijke Philips Electronics NV; Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.; Mitsubishi Electric Corporation; Robert Bosch GmbH; Sony Corporation; Thomson Licensing S.A., The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York, and Victor Company of Japan, Ltd.

“We regret that ODS’s refusal to take a license with individual patent holders or with MPEG LA has made it necessary for these companies to decide to take legal action,” said MPEG LA CEO Baryn S. Futa. “ODS’s continued use of MPEG-2 essential patents without a license is unfair to both patent holders and DVD manufacturers who are meeting their MPEG-2 intellectual property obligations. It also leaves their customers exposed to patent infringement liability. DVD manufacturers need a license under MPEG-2 essential patents, and MPEG LA hopes ODS will rectify this unfairness immediately.”

The MPEG-2 Video and Systems digital compression standard (“MPEG-2 Standard”) refers to the core technology underlying the efficient creation, transmission, storage and display of digitized moving images and sound tracks on which DVD and other digital technologies are based. The DVD-Video Standard (DVD Specifications for Read-Only Disc, Part 3: VIDEO SPECIFICATIONS) requires DVD Video discs to contain information formatted in accordance with the MPEG-2 Standard.

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## **MPEG LA, LLC**

MPEG LA is the world leader in one-stop technology platform patent licenses, enabling users to acquire worldwide patent rights necessary for a particular technology standard or platform from multiple patent holders in a single transaction as an alternative to negotiating separate licenses. Wherever an independently administered one-stop patent license would provide a convenient marketplace alternative to assist users with implementation of their technology choices, the licensing model pioneered and employed by MPEG LA may provide a solution. Among MPEG LA’s licenses is one for MPEG-digital video compression that has helped produce the most widely employed standard in consumer electronics history. The MPEG-2 Patent Portfolio License, which includes more than 700 MPEG-2 essential patents (134 patent families plus their worldwide counterparts) owned by 24 licensors in 57 countries, has approximately 850 licensees accounting for most MPEG-2 products, including an estimated 90% of all DVD discs, in the current world market. MPEG LA is not related to any standards agency and is not an affiliate of any patent holder. For more information, please refer to <http://www.mpegla.com>.