



NEWS RELEASE

COMPREHENSIVE RESOLUTION OF PATENT ISSUE RELATING TO  
DIGITAL CABLE BROADCASTER

ULDAGE and JCOM Co., Ltd. Agree on Execution of License Agreements

May 1, 2024

ULDAGE Inc.

ULDAGE Inc., the patent pool license administrator, is pleased to announce that, up to today, JCOM Co., Ltd. and ULDAGE, after long-held negotiations, have executed license agreements for patents relating to digital cable television broadcasting.

2K digital cable television broadcasting began at the same time as BS digital television broadcasting in December 2000 and ultra-high definition (4K) digital cable television broadcasting began in December 2015 (hereinafter collectively referred to as Digital Cable Television Broadcasting) are operated in accordance with the JCTEA Standards developed by Japan CATV Technology Association and JLABS Regulations in Practice developed by Japan Cable Laboratories as well as ARIB Standards developed by Association of Radio Industries and Businesses (hereinafter collectively referred to as CATV Standards). These standards reflect the technologies, proposals, and opinions of many people involved, including broadcasters and equipment manufacturers, and naturally there are a number of essential patented technologies and variety of patent holders thereof to implement Digital Cable Television Broadcasting so that complicated individual license arrangements with each of the patent holders are required which results in higher aggregate royalties due to stacking thereof.

ULDAGE was established in July 2006 in order to resolve such patent issue under the simple arrangement with reasonable royalties and promote the growth of the digital television broadcasting services and the Digital Cable Television Broadcasting services by gathering various patents relating to the digital television broadcasting and the Digital Cable Television Broadcasting in one place and then licensing them as a package through the so-called patent pooling scheme.

Digital Cable Television Broadcasting cannot be realized unless both ends exist: the broadcasters which send signals that comply with the CATV Standards and the receivers (STB, etc.) which receive such signals. Consequently, ULDAGE has long pursued negotiations with JCOM for license program of Digital Cable Television Broadcasting.

At present, ULDAGE has pooled approximately 500 (2K) digital cable television essential patents owned by 15 companies and approximately 50 ultra-highdefinition digital cable television essential patents owned by 9 companies. Under the licensing program for receivers (STBs) of (2K) digital cable television broadcasting, which has already started in 2008, 8 companies are manufacturing and selling the receivers (STBs) under the license agreement, and the program has contributed greatly to the establishment of the environment for the expansion of access to (2K) digital cable television broadcasting in relation to the complete transition from analog broadcasting to digital broadcasting.

The recent execution of the license agreement with JCOM is groundbreaking in that a digital cable television broadcaster now rewards the patent holders, namely, the developers of the relevant technologies, by directly bearing an appropriate proportion of royalties for the use of such technologies. As the result, digital cable television broadcasters who enter into the license agreement are entitled to use the essential patents for Digital Cable Television Broadcasting pooled in Uldage's license program and can operate broadcasting business in a legitimate manner.

In the license agreement with JCOM, it's agreed that royalties are paid based upon the number of subscribers of multi-channel services. Uldage will proceed license arrangements with other digital cable television broadcasters having more than 30,000 subscribers of multi-channel services to obtain a pool license of essential patents for CATV Standards owned by a number of patent holders under reasonable conditions based upon the number of subscribers of multi-channel services.

For the digital cable television broadcasters having more than 30,000 subscribers of muti-channel services, please contact following mailing address.

Mailing address: u l d a g e \_ \_ c a t v @ u l d a g e . c o m

Uldage already entered into the license agreements with Terrestrial digital broadcasting concluded with 129 stations in March 2013, BS digital broadcasting with 20 stations concluded in September 2015, 110degree CS digital broadcasting with 24 stations concluded in April 2018, ultra-high definition (4K) BS digital broadcasting with 9 BS4K digital broadcasting stations concluded in August 2022 and ultra-high definition (4K) CS digital broadcasting with SKY Perfect Entertainment Corporation concluded in January 2024,

ULDAGE will continue to contribute to maintaining the environment for broadcasting business in a stable manner and to the fair sharing of patent royalties.

\* \* \* \* \*

## About ULDAGE Inc.

ULDAGE Inc. was established in July 2006 for the purpose of providing tools for revitalizing business by creating a competitive environment through collaboration and resolution of patent issues in this complex digital age. ULDAGE Inc. undertakes its business by granting licenses for essential patents held by multiple parties in a single package (by the patent pooling method) which offers convenience to both patent holders and business operators.

Location:	Yusen Bldg., 2-3-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo		
Phone:	+81-(0)3-6256-0150	FAX:	+81-(0)3-6256-0151
President & CEO:	Shuichi Endo		
Stated Capital:	60,000,000 yen		
Shareholders:	JVC KENWOOD Corporation		14.29%
	Sharp Corporation		14.29%
	Sony Group Corporation		14.29%
	Toshiba Corporation		14.29%
	Panasonic Holdings Corporation		14.29%
	Maxell Co., Ltd.		14.29%
	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation		14.29%