

ISRI Unlocking Technological Devices Policy

Approved by ISRI's Board of Directors on October 23, 2013.

Overview:

Electronics manufacturers and telecommunication carriers are wielding the power of copyright to control access to information necessary to use, maintain, and reuse technological devices. As a result, electronics recyclers and refurbishers are unfairly limited in their ability to return reusable cell phones, tablets and other electronics back to the global marketplace. Copyright law should not stand in the way of advances in the reuse of technological devices or prevent new innovations and competitive uses for such devices.

ISRI supports policy that:

Notwithstanding existing service agreements that consumers may have with their technological device provider, supports legislation that, without violating copyright laws, allows recyclers and refurbishers to permanently unlock technological devices to maximize the use, maintenance and reuse of technological devices.

Makes clear that neither criminal law pertaining to unlocking technological devices or technology locks shall prevent recyclers and refurbishers from reselling used technological devices back into the marketplace.

Encourages technological device providers to ensure that recyclers and refurbishers can return circumvented "unlocked" media devices into the reuse marketplace.

Allows consumers, including, but not limited, to recyclers and refurbishers, the right to develop tools to circumvent, "unlock", technological devices.