



Microsoft On the Issues

- The Official Microsoft Blog

Microsoft commits patents to help fight COVID-19

Apr 20, 2020 | *Jennifer Yokoyama - Chief IP Counsel*

I am very pleased to announce that, today, Microsoft is committing to the [Open COVID Pledge](#) by making its patents available free of charge for use in efforts to end the COVID-19 pandemic and minimize the impact of the disease. This step joins our other efforts to use technology and innovation to help track the disease and develop solutions, such as [mobilizing AI for Health to fight COVID-19](#) and the [Bing COVID19 Tracker](#). Additional information about Microsoft's COVID-19 efforts [can be found here](#).

We are always looking for ways we can use our patents to contribute to positive outcomes, and the fight against COVID-19 is one of the most urgent issues of our time. Pledges and open licensing of this kind can help spur innovation, especially in a crisis like this one. Researchers, scientists and others working to fight the virus should be able to develop and deploy effective solutions at scale without obstacles such as being threatened with patent litigation.

The terms and conditions of Microsoft's COVID-19 patent license, which are effective immediately, [can be found here](#). We encourage other intellectual property holders, including other technology companies and universities, to also commit to the pledge and ensure that their intellectual property is working for, and not against, efforts to stop the pandemic.

Tags: [COVID-19](#), [Open Data](#)