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February 3, 1998

Harold Fujii  
Sony US Research Labs  
IP Department, M/S SJ 2B4  
3300 Zanker Road  
San Jose, CA 95134

Dear Mr. Fujii,

The IEEE High Performance Serial Bus working group is in the process of developing a standard, IEEE P1394a, that may utilize technology developed, in part, by Sony Electronics, Inc. As such, there is the possibility that this standard may be covered by patents that Sony Electronics, Inc. holds or patent applications submitted by Sony Electronics, Inc. A copy of the draft standard is included; if you find it more convenient, you may also download an electronic copy, P1394a14.pdf, from the FTP site used by the working group, <ftp://ftp.symbios.com/pub/standards/io/1394/P1394a/Drafts>.

Please review and advise as to whether or not any Sony Electronics, Inc. patents or patent applications apply to information in the document.

The IEEE patent policy requires a release letter on company letterhead (see the enclosed sample language) if your technology applies. I would appreciate it very much if your patent department would provide such a letter. I hope to hear from you by February 17, 1998. If I receive no response by that date, I will presume that your company has no patent issues with regard to this draft standard.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter G. Johansson  
Chair, IEEE P1394a Working Group

Enclosures: IEEE P1394a Draft 1.4  
Patent permission letter

### **Example patent response text**

This letter is written in response to your letter of February 3, 1998, which requested that Sony Electronics, Inc. confirm to the IEEE that we will provide licenses under our United States Patents #nnnnnn, # nnnnnn and # nnnnnn and foreign Patents #nnnnnn, # nnnnnn and # nnnnn with respect to the proposed IEEE P1394a standard. In that regard:

In the event the proposed standard is adopted and the standard cannot be practiced without the use of the cited patent(s), Sony Electronics, Inc. agrees upon written request to grant a nonexclusive license under such patent on a nondiscriminatory basis and on reasonable terms and conditions.

This letter does not grant any right to the IEEE with respect to Sony Electronics, Inc. copyrights or other intellectual property rights that relate to the proposed standard. Any party interested in the license described above may write to Harold Fujii at the address on the letterhead.