



## **AWEA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS Policies and Guidelines**

In the interests of helping your company have a successful show, the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) has set forth increased measures to assist exhibitors with the protection of their rights at the show and to ensure proper protection of Intellectual Property Rights of its members and show exhibitors. This includes the protection of trademarks, service-marks, copyrights and patents. If an exhibitor anticipates that others might infringe on their rights, they should consider taking action now, including obtaining restraining orders from a court with jurisdiction over the show.

AWEA's objective is to ensure proper protection of the intellectual property rights of its member companies and show exhibitors. This includes the protection of trademarks, service marks, copyrights and patents. Every effort will be made to eliminate product conflicts and protect those that have legal rights to the products involved.

### **What You Can Do**

If an exhibitor suspects another company has copied its product or has infringed on its legal rights—i.e., copyright, trademark, patent—it must report the suspicion to AWEA staff and a representative will visit your booth.

### **What Will AWEA Attempt to Do?**

- Upon receipt of a complaint from an exhibitor, AWEA staff will attempt to make a determination if the complaint is valid:
  - If that exhibitor has a legal instrument (e.g., a temporary restraining order, Injunction or other legal document from a court with jurisdiction over the show) substantiating the claim, AWEA staff will attempt to enforce it:
    - If the alleged violating exhibitor will not remove the product, then the complainant is advised to take legal recourse to enforce it.
  - If there is no legal instrument AWEA staff will confer with legal counsel to determine what action may be taken, and then meet with the company that is accused of infringing and consider the following actions, among others:
    - Recommendation to remove the items in question from the exhibit;
    - Bring the complainant and the accused violating party together in an attempt to resolve the matter; or
    - Take no action if it is determined there is no action necessary.
- Once served, AWEA staff will attempt to assist with the enforcement of the order to ensure that it is adhered to in a timely manner. Any costs associated with the enforcement of the service will be the responsibility of the exhibitor obtaining the order.



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### **Show Rules for All Parties**

AWEA Show Exhibitor Rules and Regulations must be observed at all times. Violation could result in any or all of the following actions at the discretion of AWEA:

- Closure of your company's booth.
- Exclusion from future AWEA-sponsored shows.
- Loss of show seniority.

If it is determined at a show that a company may be in violation and is requested to remove the product from display, but refuses to do so, then (in the event that following the show it is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that a company was in violation) that company may be prohibited from participating in any AWEA-sponsored shows for up to two years.

Specific rules that apply to this situation are:

- Do not harass or antagonize another party.
- Do not remove anything from another exhibitor's booth without permission.
- Do not register or give a badge to anyone not qualified to be in the show.
- Do not photograph or video another party's booth or products without permission.