



FAST Membership

What is the Federation Against Software Theft?

As a not for profit industry body the Federation works on behalf of its members. Its remit is to promote the legal use of software and promote the benefits of Intellectual Property (IP). Funded by our members, we have been active in this field since our inception in 1984.

Who should join?

Any organisation involved in the legitimate development, authorised distribution and supply of software; including software publishers, resellers, distributors, consultancies, asset and licence management specialists and lawyers/law firms specialising in Intellectual Property (IP) matters.

Benefits:

- FAST brand use and association
- Piracy reports and feedback
- Licensing enforcement
- Litigation pursued
- Software Stay Legal Programme
- Attendance at legal forums

What does the Federation offer?

The Federation has a range of activities which members can choose from. These include but are not limited to:

- **Anti-Piracy & Enforcement Programme** offering software publishers and IP rights holders access to our in-house and external network of investigatory services.
- **SAM Practitioners** are supported and their expertise promoted through events, webinars and press activity.
- In our **Government Affairs Programme** we work on behalf of members by reaching out to Members of Parliament and organisations which support IP and innovation and recognise their value to the economy.
- The **FAST Legal Advisory Group (FLAG)** was founded specifically for law firms and in-house counsel whose main focus is intellectual property. The Group provides a forum for this community to debate IP issues and also acts as a trusted advisor and escalation route for FAST members on legal issues.
- A **Software Developer Programme** is aimed at supporting smaller software start-ups and offers supporting materials and advice.

What are the benefits of membership?

Brand association:

- With 30 years experience FAST is a recognised authority in the field of IP protection.
- Members can influence FAST and steer it in its direction and strategic goals by highlighting their own concerns.
- Members have the right to use the FAST logo (guidelines apply).
- Members may request support in relevant public relations activities including press releases and awareness campaigns.
- Members events may be promoted on our website and to our 20,000 end-user database.

Enforcement capabilities:

- FAST actively supports the protection of Members' brands through enforcing copyright law where misuse is reported and works to achieve recoveries.

Educational activities:

- FAST runs a range of educational programmes for end-users, the industry and enforcement agencies.
- Members can contribute to a wide range of editorial outlets including social media, blogs, industry updates and events.
- Communiqués are sent to senior managers as well as those responsible for IT provisioning and management within their organisation.

Networking opportunities:

- FAST holds regular events and activities on software management and industry related topics where Members can meet potential customer and partners contacts.

Government affairs:

- FAST retains trusted advisor status to Government, MPs and officials to ensure that software IP matters are heard and acted upon.
- We lobby to ensure the legal framework for software IP remains fit for purpose.
- FAST continues to be a key contributor in relevant stakeholder consultations.

FAST Legal Advisory Group (FLAG):

- Lawyers and in-house counsel can attend FLAG meetings which provide guidance on software compliance strategies, mediation and insights into the latest legal frameworks.
- FAST also acts as a conduit for the legal fraternity to a network of investigatory, forensic and specialist legal resources when required, saving Members time and effort in resourcing such expertise in the open market.

Members only website:

- Offers a wide range of information resources.

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