

Contributor's Statement of Respect for Ownership

I, _____, certify that

- (a) I have read and understood the statement below on Ownership of Intellectual Property;
- (b) for any contribution I make to the COIN-OR Foundation repository, I will make all reasonable efforts to determine the legal owners of the contribution, and I will obtain the permission of the owners of the contribution to make the contribution available under an open source license certified by the Open Source Initiative;
- (c) if I am employed, I have discussed contributing to COIN-OR with my employer, _____, and have obtained their permission to contribute or have determined that they do not assert ownership rights to my contributions;
- (d) I will not knowingly submit any contribution of which I am not the owner or for which I do not have the owner's permission; and
- (e) for any contribution I make to an existing project, I will use the same license the project was released under.

(signature of contributor)

Ownership of Intellectual Property

The creator of a work may not be the sole owner of the intellectual property associated with the work. In general, *any* individual or organization which contributed resources to the development of a work may be a co-owner. The legal ownership depends on the particulars of the situation and the contracts involved. Some employment contracts assert that the employer has ownership rights to any work created by the employee, even if that work is created outside of regular working hours and without the use of the organization's resources. Also, an employer may be fine with contributions to one project but not to another.

Contributors should consult with their management, legal counsel, and/or technology transfer officers when determining the legal ownership of a contribution.