

TriCoLink, Inc.

# OPERATING PROCEDURES COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

# I. Objective:

TriCoLink, Inc. complies with the Online Copyright Infringement Liability Act of 1998 (17 U.S.C. § 512). As required by that Act, this policy reserves the right for TriCoLink, Inc. to terminate the internet service of members who repeatedly infringe copyrights.

### II. Policy:

Pursuant the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA"), copyright owners may notify a service provider such as TriCoLink, Inc. of alleged copyright infringement carried out on the provider's network.

When TriCoLink, Inc. receives a notification of copyright infringement, it will take the following steps:

- First warning Letter is sent to member notifying them of their copyright infringement and violation of TriCoLink, Inc.'s Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and Terms & Conditions of Service (T&C). This letter will also inform them that TriCoLink, Inc. may suspend or terminate service if violation continues. (Attachment A)
- 2. Second warning If there is a second offense in 12-month period, a second warning will be sent. This letter will notify the member of their copyright infringement and violation of TriCoLink, Inc. 's AUP and T&C. The letter will also inform the member that TriCoLink, Inc. may suspend or terminate service if violation continues. (Attachment B)

- 3. Final warning If there is a third offense in a 12-month period, TriCoLink, Inc. will issue a final warning letter to the member. This letter will be sent via certified mail. This letter will notify the member of their copyright infringement and violation of TriCoLink, Inc. 's AUP and T&C. The letter will also inform the member that TriCoLink, Inc. may suspend or terminate service if violation continues. (Attachment C)
- 4. Notice of termination If there is a fourth offense in a 12-month period, TriCoLink, Inc. will terminate the service and send a letter to the member via certified mail. This letter will notify the member that their account has been terminated effective immediately and that equipment should be returned to TriCoLink, Inc. (Attachment D)

TriCoLink, Inc. reserves the right act immediately and without notice to suspend or terminate services in response to a court order or other legal requirement that certain conduct be stopped, or when TriCoLink, Inc. determines that the conduct may:

- Expose TriCoLink, Inc. to sanctions, prosecution or civil action;
- Cause harm to or interfere with the integrity or normal operations of TriCoLink, Inc. 's network or facilities;
- Interfere with another person's use of TriCoLink, Inc. Services or the Internet:
- Damage or disparage the reputation of TriCoLink, Inc. or its services; or
- Otherwise present a risk of harm to TriCoLink, Inc. or TriCoLink, Inc. 's customers or their employees, officers, directors, agents, or other representatives.

## **III.** Record Retention:

All Copyright Infringement Notifications and supporting documentation shall be kept in a vault at TriCoLink, Inc. headquarters for five years.

All correspondence with the member shall be retained in TriCoLink, Inc. 's imaging system for a minimum of five years.

A database that includes, account number, date of notification, etc. will also be kept of all Copyright Infringement Notifications.

### IV. Responsibility:

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is listed as the FCC and ISP Designated Agent and will be the primary point of contact for all Copyright Infringement Notifications. This position, with the help of IT and customer support, are responsible for carrying out the steps of this policy.

### Attachment A (DMCA 1st Warning)

(Date)

(Account Holder Name) (Street Address) (City

State, Zip)

Dear (Name),

Re: (Account Number Here)

The purpose of this warning is to inform you that TriCoLink, Inc. has received a notice of copyright infringement sent pursuant to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA") in connection with your account. The DMCA, passed by Congress in 1998, allows copyright owners to notify a service provider such as TriCoLink, Inc. of alleged copyright infringement carried out on the provider's network.

Unauthorized posting, copying/or distribution of copyrighted material is a violation of TriCoLink, Inc. 's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and Terms and Conditions of Service Agreement which prohibits use of the TriCoLink, Inc. Network and Services in any manner that would infringe or otherwise violate the intellectual property rights of others. The TriCoLink, Inc. Acceptable Use Policy and Terms and Conditions of Service Agreement states, that TriCoLink, Inc. may suspend or terminate your service for violation of the AUP and/or Subscriber Agreement.

We encourage enabling secured passwords on your home Wi-Fi network if you have one to avoid unauthorized use of your Internet connection.

Please be advised that if this violation continues, or if additional violations occur, TriCoLink, Inc. may take further action, including the suspension or termination of your Service. Please contact our office with any questions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

TriCoLink, Inc. PO Box 217 St Matthews, SC 29135

(Attach copy of email/document from infringement notice and any screen shot of IP assignment you may have)

### Attachment B (DMCA 2nd Warning)

(Date)

(Account Holder Name) (Street Address) (City

State, Zip)

Dear (Name),

Re: (Account Number Here)

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that TriCoLink, Inc. has received an <u>additional notice</u> <u>of copyright infringement</u> sent pursuant to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA") in connection with your account. The DMCA, passed by Congress in 1998, allows copyright owners to notify a service provider such as TriCoLink, Inc. of alleged copyright infringement carried out on the provider's network.

Unauthorized posting, copying/or distribution of copyrighted material is a violation of TriCoLink, Inc. 's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and Terms and Conditions of Service Agreement which prohibits use of the TriCoLink, Inc. Network and Services in any manner that would infringe or otherwise violate the intellectual property rights of others. The TriCoLink, Inc. Acceptable Use Policy and Terms and Conditions of Service Agreement states, that TriCoLink, Inc. may suspend or terminate your service for violation of the AUP and/or Subscriber Agreement.

Your service has been temporarily suspended. Please be advised that previous notifications explained that if additional violations occurred, TriCoLink, Inc. could take further action, including the suspension or termination of your Service.

Please contact our office with any questions.

Sincerely,

TriCoLink, Inc. PO Box 217 St Matthews. SC 29135

(Attach copy of email/document from infringement notice)

# FINAL WARNING

(Date)

(Account Holder Name) (Street Address) (City State,

Zip)

Dear (Name),

Re: (Account Number Here)

The purpose of this warning is to inform you that TriCoLink, Inc. has received another notice of copyright infringement sent pursuant to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DCMA") in connection with your account. The DMCA passed by Congress in 1998, allows copyright owners to notify a service provider such as TriCoLink, Inc. of alleged copyright infringement carried out on the provider's network.

Unauthorized posting, copying/or distribution of copyrighted materials is a violation of TriCoLink, Inc.'s Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and Terms and Conditions of Service Agreement which prohibits use of the TriCoLink, Inc. Network and Services in any manner which would infringe or otherwise violate the intellectual property rights of others. The TriCoLink, Inc. 's Acceptable Use Policy and Terms and Conditions of Service states that TriCoLink, Inc. may suspend or terminate your service for violation of the AUP and/or Subscriber Agreement.

Please be advised that if this violation continues, or if additional violations occur, TriCoLink, Inc. may take further action, including the suspension or termination of your Service. Please contact our office with any questions.

Sincerely,

TriCoLink, Inc. PO Box 217 St Matthews, SC 29135

(Attach copy of email/document from infringement notice and any screen shot of IP assignment you may have)

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Approved:

(Date)

(Account Holder Name) (Street Address) (City State,

Zip)

Dear (Name),

Re: (Account Number Here)

This notice is to inform you that TriCoLink, Inc. will be suspending/disconnecting your account as of INSERT DATE. TriCoLink, Inc. has received another notice of copyright infringement sent pursuant to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DCMA") in connection with your account. The DMCA passed by Congress in 1998, allows copyright owners to notify a service provider such as TriCoLink, Inc. of alleged copyright infringement carried out on the provider's network.

Unauthorized posting, copying/or distribution of copyrighted materials is a violation of TriCoLink, Inc.'s Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and Terms and Conditions of Service Agreement which prohibits use of the TriCoLink, Inc. Network and Services in any manner which would infringe or otherwise violate the intellectual property rights of others. The TriCoLink, Inc. 's Acceptable Use Policy and Terms and Conditions of Service states that TriCoLink, Inc. may suspend or terminate your service for violation of the AUP and/or Subscriber Agreement.

Please be advised that we have received previous violations and have accordingly sent notification to you of this issue. Based on the additional notification of copyright violation we have no choice but to suspend/terminate your Service. Please contact our office with any questions.

Sincerely,

TriCoLink, Inc. PO Box 217 St Matthews, SC 29135

(Attach copy of email/document from infringement notice and any screen shot of IP assignment you may have)