Abstract

The Categorization of OSP Liabilities on Copyright Protection; Subdivision of Online Services Considering Their Purposes.

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The regulations on liabilities of online service providers appear in chapter 6 of Korean Copyright Act, but it doesn't provide clear guidelines about whether to burden liabilities on OSPs or exempt them. In this article, we made an attempt to categorize OSPs by considering recent controversies and litigations, and finally categorized OSPs into 4 types. By our typology, the whole space of online service is divided into information retrieval service(IRS), bulletin board service(BBS), social network service(SNS), file sharing service(FSS). In this categorization and each description, not only the substantial factors like technologies making it able to operate each online service, but also the values of publicness and freedom of speech are considered as one of the most important potential factors.

Keywords: Online Service Provider, liability of OSP, categorization, subdivision, publicness, freedom of speech, Notice and Takedown, Information Retrieval Service, Bulletin Board Service, Social Network Service, File Sharing Service.