

## Abstract

### A study on warranty liability for Open Source Software

Jeong, Min-Ho · Yoo, Ji-Hye

Open Source Software(OSS) means that the source code of software is open to the public, and that it can be used, copied, modified and distributed by anyone through licensing. It sounds beautiful, but software engineers feel risky because its warranty is denied. There are various open source licenses including GPL, MPL, and BSD, which are most popular among many licenses, and they have many commons. They use intellectual property rights for open source movement, permitting the use of OSS on some conditions and denying warranty. Warranty denial may be reasonable because OSS is offered for free and because the open source movement is, at first glance, helpful to public. On second thought, however, OSS can be offered for a fee, or some companies offer services to maintain system with OSS. And, in some cases, warranty should be applied in spite of free software. This paper tries to answer the questions on OSS in software industry: "Am I really free to use OSS?; Are you sure?"

**Keywords :** Open Source Software, Open source license, Validity and enforceability of license, Warranty liability of software, Validity of warranty denial, Restriction on warranty denial.