Assessment of Copyright Policies, Procedures and Methods

Federal regulations permit us to choose either a process-based assessment or an outcomes-based assessment of our plan to effectively combat unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material. Because Blue Ridge CTC used bandwidth shaping and traffic monitoring for a period of time prior to the new Federal regulations in 2009, an outcomes-based assessment (measuring the reduction in copyright infringement notices, for example) would not be as reliable. Our annual assessment is process-based. We compare ourselves to our peer institutions to determine if our plans are similar in scope. When available, industry best practices will also be used.

Our current assessment concludes that our plans are effective. Of the four suggested technical means to combat illegal downloading, Blue Ridge CTC uses two (bandwidth shaping and traffic monitoring). No Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) notices have been received within the past year. A review of our peer institutions' published copyright policies show that our plans are similar to others.