

I am concerned about the use of switched digital video ("SDV") by some cable companies and its impact on unidirectional cable ready products ("UDCPs"). I am particularly troubled by Time Warner's comments filed on May 11th. It is my understanding that Time Warner has been placing some High Definition channels on SDV. While their statement that nearly all the channels they are placing on SDV would still be available to UDCP users may be technically correct I believe it to be highly misleading. By placing a High Definition channels on SDV and leaving the standard Definition version of that channel available to UDCPs they are leaving the UDCPs at a significant disadvantage. I am especially troubled by this practice because I believe that the consumers most likely to be purchasing UDCPs are the same ones who are most likely to be interested in High Definition channels. I am very concerned that the placing of High Definition channels on SDV will have a chilling effect on the design and manufacture of high end UDCPs, because of the disadvantage these devices will face when compared to a cable box provided by the cable company.