

Even after Boxee and Comcast struck their strategic partnership to allow encrypted digital cable TV signals to work with Boxee (enabling Boxee Live TV to continue to function) its worth raising the issue of how this will affect other third party set top box manufacturers like Roku which has its own partnership with News Corp., its also worth noting that Comcast is anti Netflix in they want to make it hard for users of Comcast's broadband service to watch Netflix vis-à-vis their data caps.

Furthermore, despite Boxee providing Netflix functionality Comcast as noted is anti Netflix. However, News Corp., is willing to indirectly support Netflix vis-à-vis Roku whose Roku boxes enable Netflix Watch Now access, The FCC should also consider what if other pay TV providers like Time Warner set up roadblocks to Boxee accessing digitally encrypted TV signals.

Boxee, which initially opposed basic tier encryption, has struck a sweetheart deal with Comcast allowing its service to still be able to function alongside Comcast services. However, what about rival services could Time Warner deprive Boxee of access to these signals Comcast is allowing Boxee to have? I really hope Boxee has thought this through. Even if they have how is this fair to other competing services like Roku. Does every startup strike sweetheart deals with other providers? Roku works with Time Warner but not Comcast and Boxee works via Comcast but not Time Warner.