

contained in the copyrighted work. Thus it is permissible to create a different software package which achieves the same end as an existing package just as it is permissible to write a new book on a subject despite the existence of other books on the same subject.

Some discussion of computer programs and semiconductor chips is, however, illustrative of the strength of American interest in this area and the new approaches which the U.S. is using to influence foreign legislative development. American competition in both of these fields is strongest from Japan. In the recent past, MITI of Japan announced that they favoured protection of computer for 10 years with the express possibility of compulsory licensing. As a result of substantial American and domestic pressure, software in Japan will now be protected for the full copyright term of life of the author plus 50 years as is the case in the United States.

The new approach for the Americans in terms of semiconductor chips was to forge ahead with domestic legislation which included a provision for essentially reciprocal rights for foreigners whose governments had enacted similar legislation. The American Act was devised in close consultation with the Japanese who were sufficiently prepared to show up