



MFi Licensing Handbook – Development Licensees

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MFi Development License Overview

There are 2 types of MFi Licenses available: a Development License and a Manufacturing License.

- The MFi Development License is intended for companies that plan to develop or help MFi accessories; it does not permit the manufacture of MFi accessories.
- The MFi Manufacturing License is intended solely for companies that own a manufacturing facility and plan to manufacture MFi accessories.

In order to bring an MFi accessory to market, a Development Licensee must work with a Manufacturing Licensee who will manufacture it. Prior to manufacturing an MFi accessory, a Manufacturing Licensee must complete all program requirements for the accessory.

The following table describes the features of the MFi Development License and MFi Manufacturing License.

	MFi Development License 6.x	MFi Manufacturing License 6.x
Technical specifications	✓	✓
Source code – AirPlay Audio, Wireless Accessory Configuration (WAC)	✓	✓
Sample quantities of MFi components	✓	✓
Accessory Test System (ATS), MFi development kits	✓	✓
MFi and AirPlay logos	✓	✓
Product Plan submission	–	✓
Mass-production quantities of MFi components	–	✓
MFi self-certification	–	✓
Mass-production manufacturing	–	✓
Quarterly Report submission	–	✓
Royalty payment	–	✓
Developer Technical Support (DTS) incidents	✓	✓

How to Work with an MFi Manufacturing Licensee

The MFi Manufacturing Licensee(s) you select will be solely responsible for all program requirements associated with your MFi accessories. On your company's behalf, they will submit Product Plans, procure components in mass-production quantities, complete MFi accessory and packaging self-certification, submit Quarterly Reports and remit royalties. For more information about these program requirements for Manufacturing Licensees, see [MFi Accessory Lifecycle](#).

For a list of authorized MFi Manufacturing Licensees, see the “MFi Manufacturing Licensees” document in the “Program Materials” section of MFi Portal Document Center. This document includes the following information:

- Company name and location (country)
- Area(s) of expertise
- Contact name, email address and telephone number

If You Will Develop the Accessory Yourself

Once you develop an MFi accessory, you must work with an MFi Manufacturing Licensee who will complete MFi self-certification for your accessory and then manufacture it. If you work with more than one Manufacturing Licensee, each Manufacturing Licensee must complete MFi self-certification before manufacturing the accessory.

If You Will Not Develop the Accessory Yourself

You may also source MFi accessories as finished goods from an MFi Manufacturing Licensee. In this model, you may purchase finished goods directly from a Manufacturing Licensee without developing the accessory yourself. The Manufacturing Licensee will still need to complete MFi self-certification for the accessory on your behalf.

Development Licensees may operate under both models described above.

If Your Manufacturer is not an MFi Manufacturing Licensee

If you would like to work with a manufacturing partner who is not already an MFi Manufacturing Licensee, ask your manufacturer to submit an online application to join the MFi Program at <https://developer.apple.com/programs/mfi/>. Information about the program and the enrollment process is available on the MFi Program FAQ page: <http://mfi.apple.com/faqs>.

MFi Accessory Lifecycle

To manufacture any MFi accessory, **Manufacturing Licensees** must complete the following requirements for each accessory in the order shown below.

1. Submit a [Product Plan](#) to Apple.
2. Receive Product Plan approval from Apple.
3. Procure MFi Licensed Component(s) in mass-production quantities.
4. Complete accessory self-certification.
5. Complete packaging self-certification.
6. Begin manufacture and distribution/sale.
7. Report units distributed/sold to Apple through the Quarterly Report.
8. Remit royalties to Apple, if royalties were not already paid through purchase of MFi components.
9. Notify their MFi representative by email when an accessory is EOL (End-of-Life) or EOS (End-of-Sales).

What is a Product Plan?

A Product Plan is an online form in the MFi Portal through which a Manufacturing Licensee requests approval for a Proposed Product. The Product Plan form covers information such as the following:

- Accessory name, description, model/SKU number(s), and diagram illustrating how the accessory will connect to an Apple device
- iAP protocol/transport/features
- (App-enabled accessories only) iOS app name, version, Bundle Identifier, device protocol name(s), description
- Expected manufacturing completion date and forecasts
- Contact information of third-party manufacturing resources
- Licensed Components intended to be used in the accessory

MFi Link

For accessories that are manufactured on your behalf by an MFi Manufacturing Licensee, you will be able to track completion of major milestones through MFi Link, which is accessible on the top menu bar of the MFi Portal. To utilize this tool, ensure that each of your MFi Manufacturing Licensees enters your company's MFi account number in the appropriate field of their Product Plan for your accessory. Step-by-step instructions for using MFi Link are available in the "MFi Link" section in the Portal Help document.

Managing Your Company's MFi Portal Account

Step-by-step instructions for viewing your company's information in the MFi Portal are available in the "Company Info" section of the Portal Help document.

MFi Program Confidentiality

MFi Licensees must ensure that they fulfill their contractual obligations with respect to Apple Confidential Information and abide by the program policies regarding access to the MFi Portal.

Who May Access the MFi Portal

Only those employees of your company who have a need to know and are bound by the appropriate NDA may access the MFi Portal. For security purposes, each authorized Portal user must be first added as a Contact in the MFi Portal by your company's Primary Contact. Once a user has been added as a Contact, he/she will receive a system-generated email containing instructions for creating/registering a business Apple ID in order to log in to the MFi Portal and other MFi Program systems. **Users may not share their Apple ID credentials with any other individuals.**

The maximum number of MFi Portal Contacts for each company is 10. The email address associated with each Contact must use your company's domain name and be for the sole use of only 1 individual at your company Department and "generic" email addresses, such as "accounting@acme.com" or "info@acme.com," are not permitted.

Multiple Corporate Domain Names

The email address associated with each Contact must use the same corporate domain name provided during the MFi Program enrollment process. If an individual who is authorized to access the Portal has an email address which uses a different corporate domain name, contact your MFi representative. To view the name and email address of your company's MFi representative, click the "Your MFi Representative" link on the top menu bar.

Who May Not Access the MFi Portal

- Employees of your company's subsidiaries or affiliates, unless the subsidiary/affiliate is 100% owned by your company and specifically named on the contract
- Employees of your company's parent company or holding company, unless the parent/holding company is the entity that executed the contract
- Employees of your contractors, suppliers or customers

Contact Types

Each of your company's Contacts must be designated with one or more functional roles in the MFi Portal. Each functional role is a "Contact type."

- **Primary:** Manages your company's overall participation in the MFi Program. Licensees may designate only one Primary Contact at any given time; a Primary Contact must be designated at all times.
- **Technical:** Has access to the MFi technical specifications available in the "Technical Specifications" section of the Document Center.
- **Procurement:** Procures MFi Licensed Components from Avnet. Only Procurement Contacts will be able to log in to the Avnet MFi Procurement Web site.

Adding/Deleting Contacts

See the "Contacts" section of the Portal Help document to learn how to add new Contacts, select Contact types, delete Contacts, and change your company's Primary Contact.

Keeping Your Contacts Current

You must review and update your company's Portal Contacts on a consistent basis. All Contacts must be employees of your company and have a need to know. Should an individual change roles or leave the company, you must delete him/her as a Portal Contact immediately.

Managing Your MFi License

Changes Which May Impact Your Company's Agreement

Promptly inform Apple of any change to your company's legal name, address, legal status or ownership. Changes to any of the above may require execution of a new agreement by the appropriate entity and termination of the old agreement.

Legal Documents

From time to time, Apple may require the execution of an updated or new legal document. This document will be sent via email to your company's Primary Contact. It must be signed by the appropriate signatory (must be director level or above) and remitted to Apple in a timely manner.

Procuring Licensed Components

Avnet is the sole distributor of MFi Licensed Components and development tools. All components/tools must be ordered through the Avnet MFi Procurement Web site. Only designated [Procurement Contact\(s\)](#) will be able to log in to the Avnet site using their business Apple ID.

Step-by-step instructions for logging in to the Avnet MFi Procurement Web site, setting up your Avnet account, and placing orders are available in the “Avnet MFi Procurement Web site” section of the Portal Help document.

What Components Are Available

The MFi License enables you to procure following components:

- Authentication coprocessors
- Lightning connectors
- 30-pin connectors
- Remote and mic transmitter chips
- MEMS mics

For information about available components, please see the Component Guide in the “Technical Reference” section of the MFi Portal Document Center.

In addition, you may procure reasonable quantities of development/testing tools, including:

- [ATS \(Accessory Test System\)](#) units
- Third-party MFi development kits

When Components Can Be Purchased

Sample quantities

You may purchase components in sample quantities (up to 100 pieces of each component) for development purposes any time after you set up your Avnet account. Instructions for accessing the Avnet MFi Procurement Web site and setting up your Avnet account are available in the “Avnet MFi Procurement Web Site” section of the Portal Help document.

Note: Only Manufacturing Licensees may purchase components **after** they have received Product Plan approval from Apple.

ATS, Development Kits

You may purchase reasonable quantities of [ATS](#) units and third-party development kits any time after you set up your Avnet account.

Who Can Purchase Components

Only Licensees are permitted to order MFi Licensed Components. Licensees' Authorized Sub-Contractors are **not** permitted to order components. Only your [Procurement Contact\(s\)](#) will be able to log in to the Avnet MFi Procurement Web site.

Lead Times and Pricing

Current lead times and pricing are available on the Avnet MFi Procurement Web site and are subject to change. Apple is not a party to the purchase transaction between Avnet and Licensees.

Handling Licensed Components

You must handle and store MFi Licensed Components in a secure manner. Licensed Components may not be transferred or sold to a third party. Any excess/unused/scrapped components must be securely destroyed. Retain all certification of destruction documentation.

Accessory Test System (ATS)

Accessory Test System (ATS) is a set of hardware and software tools for testing most MFi accessories, including the following (subject to change):

- Lightning power and sync, Lightning power only
- 30-pin power and sync, 30-pin power only
- Lightning + iAP2 over USB, Lightning + iAP1 and iAP2 over USB
- 30-pin + iAP1 over USB
- iAP2 over USB only, iAP1 and iAP2 over USB only
- iAP1 over USB only
- Lightning + iAP2 over UART, Lightning + iAP1 and iAP2 over UART
- 30-pin + iAP1 over UART

Your Manufacturing Licensee will be required to submit a passing ATS report for any accessory which requires this as part of the MFi self-certification process.

For the ATS equipment list, please see the “ATS Installation Guide and User Manual” in the “Technical Reference” section of the MFi Portal Document Center. The latest ATS software is available in the same location.

Developer Technical Support

Participation in the MFi Program includes access to Apple's Developer Technical Support (DTS) team. The DTS team is made up of highly-qualified engineers with development expertise in key iOS and iPod/iPhone/iPad device technologies. They can assist with code-level and circuit-level questions or provide guidance to the right documentation, schematics and code. All DTS communication is conducted via email. To participate in this program benefit, see the "Obtaining Developer Technical Support" document in the MFi Portal Document Center.

Change History

Version	Description	Date
R1.2	Removed content in multiple sections related to using the MFi Portal; this content is now incorporated in the Portal Help document	10/07/13
	Revised content in multiple sections to reflect procedures associated with the new MFi Portal	
R1.1	Added additional content to the “How to Work with an MFi Manufacturing Licensee” section; added “MFi Accessory Lifecycle” and “MFi Link” content (pp. 5-7)	7/17/13
	Changed “Setting up Your MFi Development Portal Account” section to “Getting Started” (pp. 8-9)	
	Added “MFi Development Portal Overview” section (pp. 10-12)	
	Added “AirPlay Product Compliance Test,” “AirPlay Product Compliance Questionnaire” and “iAP2 Sample Source” to list of files available in the “Technical Specifications” folder (p. 20)	
	Updated “Handling Licensed Components” section and added “Accessory Test System (ATS)” content (p. 23)	
R1	Initial release	1/15/13