RIAA Ex. N-113-DP - MCPS-PRS Alliance revenue splits for permanent downloads under Joint Online Distribution
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Licensing the Future

Joint Online Distribution - General Questions

Please click on one of the links below to locate an answer to your question:

- How is revenue split between the two Societies?
- What usage data do licensees have to supply?
- How is data used to distribute revenue?
- When do distributions take place?
- Why does iTunes appear under Joint Online Downloads Overseas on MCPS statements?
- Can members claim royalties for online uses of their works that have not being included in distribution?

- How is revenue split between the two Societies

MCPS and PRS Boards have agreed that income from Joint Online Licences should be split as follows:

- Download services - 75% to MCPS and 25% to PRS
- On demand streaming services - 50% to each society
- Internet radio and webcasts - 25% to MCPS and 75% to PRS

In the case of licensees providing more than one type of service, if the revenue cannot be separately identified, the 50/50 split applies.
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- What usage data do licensees have to supply?

Joint Online licensees are required to provide a quarterly report of all usage, in a standard electronic format, showing the number of times each track has been streamed or downloaded.
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- How is data used to distribute revenue?

Distribution is based on all tracks reported under licences worth £20,000 a year or more that can be matched to registered works on the MCPS-PRS database. Currently this includes AOL, iTunes, Napster, Real, Sony and Yahoo. All usage reported from those suppliers is run against Alliance databases using automatic matching software. Tracks that fail to match are then researched by Alliance staff, prioritised in order of value (i.e. highest number of uses first). Because of the relatively low level of revenue at stake, and the very high volumes of data involved, it is currently necessary to limit the resource spent on this 'manual' matching. This means that while the total tracks matched accounts for more than 90% of the uses reported (and hence the value), there is a tail of 'tracks' with only a few reported which cannot be matched and these are therefore not included in distribution. All tracks that are matched successfully are then used to distribute all of the respective MCPS and PRS portions of the revenue.
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- When do distributions take place?

Distributions are made in April, July, October and December. The July MCPS distribution was the Joint Online revenues up to the end of 2004, with the exception of Apple - Singles which we...