



representing the
recording industry
worldwide

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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Messrs. Crocker and Chehadé

.MUSIC Community Application

Further to our letter of support in relation to DotMusic Limited's .MUSIC community-based application (ID: 1-1115-14110), we are writing to express our concern about statements in recently-filed opposition letters against that application. In particular, we note that the letters question the existence of the music community.

IFPI, founded in 1933, is a music organisation that represents the recording industry worldwide. We understand that IFPI meets the criteria for being defined as an organisation "mainly dedicated to the Music Community" for the purposes of the Community Priority Process, as illustrated by the nature of our activities. For example, IFPI administers the International Standard Recording Code (ISRC), the international identification system and global industry standard for sound recordings and music video recordings. Furthermore, IFPI is an international organisation, with affiliated organisations in 57 countries, including national groups and music licensing companies. IFPI's membership includes the major international record companies (Universal, Sony and Warner Music Groups) and independent music companies of all sizes throughout the world, which collectively represent a majority of music sales globally.

We reject the notion that there is no music community. We are part of the music community and we work closely with other music industry groups, including many of those organisations supporting the DotMusic application. As much is demonstrated by the joint letter sent to ICANN on 5 March 2015 by a coalition of national and international trade

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associations representing songwriters, recording artists, music publishers, record labels, studio professionals, and performing rights societies around the world¹. In that letter, the music community raised concerns about the Community Priority Process, and similar concerns were expressed by the Governmental Advisory Committee in its recent communiqué (21 October 2015).

Given the Public Interest Commitments submitted by DotMusic Limited for their community application, a positive Community Priority Evaluation for .MUSIC would ensure that the multi-stakeholder music community governs .MUSIC in a responsible, trusted and safe manner.

Yours sincerely



Patrick Charnley
Senior Legal Policy Adviser

¹ <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/riaa-to-icann-05mar15-en.pdf>