ASCAP
DART (Digital Audio Recording Technology) Fact Sheet

The Audio Home Recording Act of 1992 created new royalty funds to be shared by writers, publishers, recording artists and record companies. Royalties are paid by manufacturers and importers of digital audio recording equipment and recording media (e.g., blank tapes or discs).

The royalties are then divided into two funds. One-third of the total paid is allocated to the Musical Works Fund. (The other two-thirds is allocated to the Sound Recordings Fund, to be shared by recording artists and record companies.) The Musical Works Fund is then subdivided 50-50 into a Writers Subfund and a Publishers Subfund. Royalties are allocated to claimants within each subfund based on broadcast performances or phonorecord sales.

Royalties are allocated among the interested parties in each subfund as they agree or, in the absence of agreement, as a Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panel and the Copyright Office decide.

ASCAP will act on behalf of those members who specifically designate ASCAP to represent them in digital audio royalty matters under the Act. ASCAP’s services on behalf of those members include negotiations with other individual and joint claimants to Musical Works Fund royalties to reach voluntary agreement for the fair and equitable distribution of royalty payments. In the absence of such voluntary agreements, ASCAP will represent those members in distribution proceedings before the Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panel, and seek the maximum award of royalties to which those members are entitled. ASCAP will then distribute to those members the digital audio royalty payments collected.

ASCAP has a long and very successful track record in representing our members before the Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panel and its predecessor entity, the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, in the collection and distribution of royalties paid by users pursuant to the cable, satellite home carrier, jukebox and noncommercial broadcast compulsory licenses. ASCAP is positioned, by virtue of our experience and the records we maintain in the ordinary course of business, to provide these valuable additional services with respect to digital audio royalty payments to our membership.

ASCAP is able to render these services at minimal cost, primarily by using data we process in our routine survey of radio feature performances. We also rely on retail sales data electronically gathered by a computerized information management network. We will also include in the amount to be distributed all interest earned while sums are in the process of distribution, in keeping with ASCAP’s normal practice.

Claims to each year’s royalties must be filed in January or February of the next year. Thus, for example, claims to this year’s royalties must be filed between January 1 and February 28 of next year.

You need not have ASCAP represent you in digital audio royalty distribution proceedings—you may appear individually, or have another entity represent you. HOWEVER, IF YOU WANT ASCAP TO REPRESENT YOU, YOU MUST CHECK “YES” ON THE ASCAP WRITER APPLICATION FORM. IF YOU CHECK “YES,” YOU MAY TERMINATE THIS RIGHT GRANTED TO ASCAP AS OF JANUARY 1 OF ANY YEAR GIVING NOTICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL TO ASCAP TO BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30 OF THE PRECEDING YEAR.

IF YOU DO NOT DESIGNATE ASCAP TO REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER AND YOU DO NOT FILE A TIMELY CLAIM ON YOUR OWN BEHALF OR MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO BE REPRESENTED BY SOME OTHER ORGANIZATION, THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE ANY PAYMENT OF DIGITAL AUDIO WRITER OR PUBLISHER ROYALTIES. DO NOT MISS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL ROYALTIES BECAUSE YOU FAILED TO TAKE ACTION WHEN IT MATTERED.

If you have any questions, please contact our Member Services Department at 1-800-952-7227.
Agreement made between the undersigned (for brevity called "Owner") and the AMERICAN SOCIETY OF COMPOSERS, AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS (for brevity called "Society"), in consideration of the premises and of the mutual covenants hereinafter contained, as follows:

1. The Owner grants to the Society for the term hereof, the right to license non-dramatic public performances (as hereinafter defined), of each musical work:

   Of which the Owner is a copyright proprietor; or

   Which the Owner, alone, or jointly, or in collaboration with others, wrote, composed, published, acquired or owned; or

   In which the Owner now has any right, title, interest or control whatsoever, in whole or in part; or

   Which hereafter, during the term hereof, may be written, composed, acquired, owned, published or copyrighted by the Owner, alone, jointly or in collaboration with others; or

   In which the Owner may hereafter, during the term hereof, have any right, title, interest or control, whatsoever, in whole or in part.

The right to license the public performance of every such musical work shall be deemed granted to the Society by this instrument for the term hereof, immediately upon the work being written, composed, acquired, owned, published or copyrighted.

The rights hereby granted shall include:

(a) All the rights and remedies for enforcing the copyright or copyrights of such musical works, whether such copyrights are in the name of the Owner and/or others, as well as the right to sue under such copyrights in the name of the Society and/or in the name of the Owner and/or others, to the end that the Society may effectively protect and be assured of all the rights hereby granted.

(b) The non-exclusive right of public performance of the separate numbers, songs, fragments or arrangements, melodies or selections forming part or parts of musical plays and dramatico-musical compositions, the Owner reserving and excepting from this grant the right of performance of musical plays and dramatico-musical compositions in their entirety, or any part of such plays or dramatico-musical compositions on the legitimate stage.

(c) The non-exclusive right of public performance by means of radio broadcasting, telephony, "wired wireless," all forms of synchronism with motion pictures, and/or any method of transmitting sound other than television broadcasting.

(d) The non-exclusive right of public performance by television broadcasting; provided, however, that:

(i) This grant does not extend to or include the right to license the public performance by television broadcasting or otherwise of any rendition or performance of (a) any opera, operetta, musical comedy, play or like production, as such, in whole or in part, or (b) any composition from any opera, operetta, musical comedy, play or like production (whether or not such opera, operetta, musical comedy, play or like production was presented on the stage or in motion picture form) in a manner which recreates the performance of such composition with substantially such distinctive scenery or costume as was used in the presentation of such opera, operetta, musical comedy, play or like production (whether or not such opera, operetta, musical comedy, play or like production was presented on the stage or in motion picture form); provided, however, that the rights hereby granted shall be deemed to include a grant of the right to license non-dramatic performances of compositions by television broadcasting of a motion picture containing such composition if the rights in such motion picture other than those granted hereby have been obtained from the parties in interest.

(ii) Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to grant the right to license the public performance by television broadcasting of dramatic performances. Any performance of a separation of composition which is not a dramatic performance, as defined herein, shall be deemed to be a non-dramatic performance. For the purposes of this agreement, a dramatic performance shall mean a performance of a musical composition on a television program in which there is a definite plot depicted by action and where the performance of the musical composition is woven into and carries forward the plot and its accompanying action. The use of dialogue to establish a mere program format or the use of any non-dramatic device merely to introduce a performance of a composition shall not be deemed to make such performances dramatic.

(iii) The definition of the terms "dramatic" and "non-dramatic" performances contained herein are purely for the purposes of this agreement and for the term hereof and shall not be binding upon or prejudicial to any position taken by either of us subsequent to the term hereof or for any purpose other than this agreement.

(e) The Owner may at any time and from time to time, in good faith, restrict the radio or television broadcasting of compositions from musical comedies, operas, operettas, motion pictures or other composition being excessively broadcast, only for the purpose of preventing harmful effect upon such musical comedies, operas, operettas, motion pictures or compositions, in respect of other interest under the copyrights thereof, provided, however, that the right to grant limited licenses will be given, upon application, as to restricted compositions, if and when the Owner is unable to show reasonable hazards to his or its major interests likely to result from such radio or television broadcasting; and provided further that such right to restrict any such composition shall not be exercised for the purpose of permitting the fixing or regulating of fees for the recording or transcribing of such composition, and provided further that in no case shall any charges, "free plugs," or other consideration be required in respect of any permission granted to perform a restricted composition; and provided further that in no event shall any composition, after the initial radio or television broadcast thereof, be restricted for the purpose of confining further radio or television broadcasts thereof to a particular artist, station, network or program. The Owner may at any time and from time to time, in good faith, restrict the radio or television broadcasting of any composition, as to which any suit has been brought or threatened on a claim that such composition infringes a composition not contained in the repertory of Society or on a claim by a non-member of Society that Society does not have the right to license the public performance of such composition by radio or television broadcasting.

2. The term of this Agreement shall be for a period commencing on the date hereof and continuing indefinitely thereafter unless terminated by either party in accordance with the Articles of Association.

3. The Society agrees, during the term hereof, in good faith to use its best endeavors to promote and carry out the objects for which it was organized, and to hold and apply all royalties, profits, benefits and advantages arising from the exploitation of the rights assigned to it by its several members, including the Owner, to the uses and purposes as
provided in its Articles of Association (which are hereby incorporated by reference), as now in force or as hereafter amended.

4. The Owner hereby irrevocably, during the term hereof, authorizes, empowers and vests in the Society the right to enforce and protect such rights of public performance under any and all copyrights, whether standing in the name of the Owner and/or others, in any and all works copyrighted by the Owner, and/or by others; to prevent the infringement thereof, to litigate, collect and receive for damages arising from infringement, and in its sole judgment to join the Owner and/or others in whose names the copyright may stand, as parties plaintiff or defendants in suits or proceedings; to bring suit in the name of the Owner and/or in the name of the Society, or others in whose name the copyright may stand, or otherwise, and to release, compromise, or refer to arbitration any actions, in the same manner and to the same extent and to all intents and purposes as the Owner might or could do, had this instrument not been made.

5. The Owner hereby makes, constitutes and appoints the Society, or its successor, the Owner's true and lawful attorney, irrevocably during the term hereof, and in the name of the Society or its successor, or in the name of the Owner, or otherwise, to do all acts, take all proceedings, execute, acknowledge and deliver any and all instruments, papers, documents, process and pleadings that may be necessary, proper or expedient to restrain infringements and recover damages in respect to or for the infringement or other violation of the rights of public performance in such works, and to discontinue, compromise or refer to arbitration any such proceedings or actions, or to make any other disposition of the differences in relation to the premises.

6. The Owner agrees from time to time, to execute, acknowledge and deliver to the Society, such assurances, powers of attorney or other authorizations or instruments as the Society may deem necessary or expedient to enable it to exercise, enjoy and enforce, in its own name or otherwise, all rights and remedies aforesaid.

7. It is mutually agreed that during the term hereof the Board of Directors of the Society shall be composed of an equal number of writers and publishers respectively, and that the royalties distributed by the Board of Directors shall be divided into two (2) equal sums, and one (1) each of such sums credited respectively to and for division amongst (a) the writer members, and (b) the publisher members, in accordance with the system of apportionment and distribution of royalties as determined by the Board of Directors in accordance with the Articles of Association as they may be amended from time to time.

8. The Owner agrees that the apportionment and distribution of royalties by the Society as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Society, in case of appeal by him, shall be final, conclusive and binding upon him. The Society shall have the right to transfer the right of review of any apportionment and distribution of royalties from the Board of Directors to any other agency or instrumentality that in its discretion and good judgment it deems best adapted to assuring to the Society's membership a just, fair, equitable and accurate apportionment and distribution of royalties. The Society shall have the right to adopt from time to time such systems, means, methods and formulae for the establishment of a member's apportionment and distribution of royalties as will assure a fair, just and equitable distribution of royalties among the membership.

9. "Public Performance" Defined. The term "public performance" shall be construed to mean vocal, instrumental and/or mechanical renditions and representations in any manner or by any method whatsoever, including transmissions by radio and television broadcasting stations, transmission by telephony and/or "wired wireless"; and/or reproductions of performances and renditions by means of devices for reproducing sound recorded in synchronization or timed relation with the taking of motion pictures.

10. "Musical Works" Defined. The phrase "musical works" shall be construed to mean musical compositions and dramatico-musical compositions, the words and music thereof, and the respective arrangements thereof, and the selections therefrom.

11. The powers, rights, authorities and privileges by this instrument vested in the Society, are deemed to include the World, provided, however, that such grant of rights for foreign countries shall be subject to any agreements now in effect, a list of which is attached hereto.

12. The grant made herein by the Owner is modified by and subject to the provisions of (a) the Second Amended Final Judgment in United States vs ASCAP, Civ. Action No. 41-1395 (S.D.N.Y. June 11, 2001), as the same may be amended from time to time, and (b) the provisions of the Articles of Association and resolutions of the Board of Directors.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED, on this ______ day of ________, ________.

Owner*

SIGN YOUR LEGAL NAME HERE

PRINT OR TYPE YOUR FULL LEGAL NAME HERE (MUST MATCH NAME ON APPLICATION)

* SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN, IF APPLICANT IS UNDER 18

PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Society

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF COMPOSERS, AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS

BY

PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

ASCAP • 1900 Broadway, New York, NY 10023 • (212) 621-6000

H-W-ENG-2009-10