Application for Permission to Reproduce Recorded Music

According to Section 15 of the copyright law of 9 September 1965, the permission of GEMA – Gesellschaft für musikalische Aufführungs- und mechanische Vervielfältigungsrechte (Performing Rights Society) – must be obtained if music is to be reproduced on an exhibition stand.

1. Details of usage of music (during the trade fair/exhibition as well as for any stand parties)
   1.1. Sound system on stand
       • Radio
       • Recorded sound media (CD player/MP3/Sound cards, etc.)

   1.2. Audio-visual reproductions
       • Television broadcasts
       • Television broadcasts with large-screen projectors
       • Television broadcasts with monitor wall
       • Video reproduction
       • Video reproduction with large-screen projectors
       • Video reproduction with monitor wall
       • Computer
       • Computer with large-screen projectors
       • Computer with monitor wall

          Number of screens:
          Number of projection screens:
          Number of monitor walls:
          Number of screens:
          Number of projection screens:
          Number of monitor walls:
          Number of screens:
          Number of projection screens:
          Number of monitor walls:

2. Licensing of commercial films and sound/picture shows (see 1.2.)

   Has a licence for public reproduction already been obtained?  yes  no

   If so, which GEMA regional office issued it?

   For which film?

The rates of charges for the usage of copyrights and performing rights are calculated according to the form of reproduction. The GEMA bill for royalties will be delivered to the exhibitor.

Further information: see page 2
What is GEMA?
GEMA is a performing rights society for music copyrights. According to Section 15 of the copyright law of 9 September 1965, only the author has the right of copying, distributing and publicly reproducing his work. Consequently, nobody is allowed to copy, distribute or publicly reproduce the work without the author’s permission. Since it is impossible in practice for authors to enter into the necessary negotiations with all interested parties and since, on the other hand, the organizers of musical events would also meet with great difficulties when seeking permission for the performance of every single piece of music from the author directly, composers, librettists and music publishers jointly founded GEMA to safeguard the rights guaranteed to them under copyright law. GEMA is a non-profit-making organization. After deduction of the necessary expenses, all takings are returned to the composers, librettists and music publishers whose works have been performed.

What repertoire is represented by GEMA?
In Germany, GEMA represents the rights of composers, librettists and music publishers whose rights have been transferred to it. Similar societies also exist in other countries. Based on the international copyright law (Berne Convention), the societies have made contracts with each other, which guarantee the authors’ mutual protection in the countries of contract. Accordingly, GEMA represents not only the rights of German music authors, but also those of foreign ones, therefore representing a world repertoire.

What should exhibitors know?
According to the provisions of the law (Section 13a of the law on the safeguarding of copyright), a GEMA permit must be acquired before the reproduction of music begins. You can use this form to do this, to ensure registration in due time. Exhibitors who reproduce music without the permission of GEMA are obliged to pay damages (Section 97 of the copyright law); according to established practice of the courts, this amounts to twice the normal fee. Here, too, the legal maxim applies that ignorance of the law is no defence against liability.

What is the legal situation regarding the use of music in films?
In the event of the screening of films, GEMA grants film exhibition rights, i.e. the right to reproduce music during screening of the film, and if appropriate the right of reproduction, in other words the right to make copies from the master tape. We may point out that when a film is made using music there is what is known as a right of use regarding the music that is included; the acquisition of this right is therefore essential before the film can be put to legally correct use. The right of use is normally granted directly by the music publishers, although in the case of commissioned works it may also be granted by the author.

If the music is transferred to the film from sound media, the permission of the manufacturer of the sound media is additionally required.

GEMA
Musical performance and mechanical reproduction copyright watchdog

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