



American Association  
of Independent Music

March 6, 2013

VIA EMAIL ([steve.crocker@icann.org](mailto:steve.crocker@icann.org); [fadi.chehade@icann.org](mailto:fadi.chehade@icann.org); [cherine.chalaby@icann.org](mailto:cherine.chalaby@icann.org); [heather.dryden@ic.gc.ca](mailto:heather.dryden@ic.gc.ca); [ocl@qih.com](mailto:ocl@qih.com); [john.jeffrey@icann.org](mailto:john.jeffrey@icann.org); [ssene@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:ssene@ntia.doc.gov); [erik.wilbers@wipo.int](mailto:erik.wilbers@wipo.int); [arb@iccwbo.org](mailto:arb@iccwbo.org))

Dr. Steve Crocker, Chairman of the ICANN Board  
Fadi Chehadé, ICANN President & CEO  
Cherine Chalaby, Chair of the New gTLD Committee  
Heather Dryden, Chair of Government Advisory Committee  
Dr. Olivier M.J. Crépin-Leblond, Chair, ICANN At Large Advisory Committee  
John Jeffrey, ICANN General Counsel  
Suzanne Sene, U.S. Representative to ICANN Government Advisory Committee  
Secretariat of the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce  
Erik Wilbers, Director, WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center

Re: gTLD Applications for music-themed TLDs

Dear Dr. Crocker, et al.

I am writing on behalf of the American Association of Independent Music ("A2IM") and the Worldwide Independent Network ("WIN").

By separate e-mail I will be sending letters from all 14 A2IM board representatives (<http://a2im.org>), whose labels were elected by our membership to represent the U.S. Independent label community as well as additional letters from former A2IM board members and other A2IM members. Attached to this letter please find my letter and letters from the chair of WIN which represents label creators in over 20 countries (<http://www.winformusic.org>) and chair of AIM in the U.K. (<http://musicindie.com>), Alison Wenham, The Secretary General of Impala, which represents the European music label community (<http://impalamusic.org>), Helen Smith, and the President of Merlin, the rights licensing organization (<http://www.merlinnetwork.org>), Charles Caldas. Collectively we represent the worldwide independent music label community which constitutes "a significant portion of the music community to which music-themed TLD strings may be explicitly or implicitly targeted." By my separate e-mail we are also forwarding additional international member letters along with the additional U.S. member letters referenced above.

We thank ICANN for this opportunity to send this objection letter on the selection process related to music-themed TLDs. We are writing as we hope that only a legitimate music community-based applicant, with knowledge and understanding of the music community, is selected. Additionally, as outlined in the attached letters, we enumerate numerous concerns about the applicant bids that do not meet certain enhanced safeguards and other essential operating criteria. Entities that do not meet these criteria should not be eligible to make applications. We will also be formally sending community objections outlining these concerns to

the International Chamber of Commerce, the independent body that ICANN has chosen to administer formal community objections.

As background about our independent music label community, the American Association of Independent Music (“A2IM”) is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit trade organization representing a broad coalition of over 300 independently owned U.S. music labels ([http://a2im.org/contents/?taxonomy=c\\_sitewide\\_group&term=label](http://a2im.org/contents/?taxonomy=c_sitewide_group&term=label)). A2IM members also include non-music label associate member service providers that represent the music community ([http://a2im.org/contents/?taxonomy=c\\_sitewide\\_group&term=associate](http://a2im.org/contents/?taxonomy=c_sitewide_group&term=associate)).

Billboard Magazine, using Nielsen SoundScan data, identified the Independent music label sector as comprising 32.6% percent of the music industry’s U.S. recorded music sales market in 2012 (and by our computation over 39 percent of digital album sales) and well over 90 percent of all music released by music labels in the U.S. A2IM’s music label community includes small and medium-Sized Music Enterprises (SMEs) of all sizes across the United States, from Hawaii to Florida, representing musical genres as diverse as our membership. Our community meets the standards for a formal objection as our community meets all 4 criteria tests for objection. We (i) are a clearly defined community; (ii) represent a significant portion of the music community; (iii) have a strong association between the community invoked and music-themed strings; and (iv) have strong concerns for the likelihood of material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of a significant portion of the community to which the string may be explicitly or implicitly targeted. (See attached letters). A2IM and our WIN colleague organizations from around the world, Impala and Merlin, and their members, all meet the ICANN objector criteria as publicly and internationally recognized, established institutions with ongoing relationships with a clearly delineated music community (3.5.4 - <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/agb/objection-procedures-04jun12-en.pdf>).

All of our label members have one thing in common; they are smaller business people with a love for music who are trying to make a living. A2IM members also share the core conviction that the independent music community plays a vital role in the continued advancement of cultural diversity and innovation in music both at home and abroad. But we need your help to remain economically viable as musical Intellectual Property, one of the core pillars of US economic competitiveness as music creates an economic multiplier effect as it is used in film, games, ads, television, etc. and is a vital export, has become difficult to protect in the digital age.

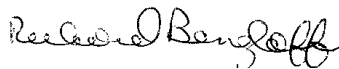
Independent music labels are not luddites and the Internet has been the great equalizer for us and our ability to create, market, promote, monetize and introduce new music. The Internet has opened up countless opportunities for us and we would not do anything to jeopardize this improved access to music consumers. Additionally, our members have embraced new business models that allow for efficient distribution of music, such as the licensing of free-to-the user streaming services and webcasting, one-price-per-month subscription services, bundled mobile services, etc. We honestly feel there is no other industry that has embraced new forms of economic and delivery models as completely as the music industry. Many of our members also, on their own terms, give away free content to reward existing fans and cultivate new fans of their label’s artists.

Unfortunately due to the ever-shrinking overall music market revenue base, A2IM member music labels as SME’s and the thousands of smaller U.S. labels simply do not have the financial means or resources to engage in widespread copyright monitoring on the Internet. The time and capital investment required for our community of like-minded, but proudly independent small

business people to monitor the web for usage and take subsequent legal action simply does not exist. A2IM member music labels do not have the financial means or resources to house a stable of systems people and lawyers to monitor the Internet and bombard users with DMCA takedown notices for seemingly endless illegal links to our musical copyrights. Our members have limited budgets and whatever revenues and profits they can eke out are directed toward their primary goals, music creation by their music label's artists and then the marketing and promotion of this music to the American public so they are able to continue this creation process. For our members whose livelihoods depend on the ability to license copyrights in a free market, it is essential to have partners like ICANN to support and help advance a worldwide enforceable regime for the protection of intellectual property online that enhances accountability at all levels of the online distribution chain and that deals effectively with unauthorized usages.

In closing, A2IM, AIM, WIN, Impala and Merlin collectively represent a significant portion of the music community around the world. We hope that ICANN will take into consideration our concerns relating to bad actors and applications that do not serve the best interests of the music community if and not allow them to participate in any bidding process, as they will not institute effective enhanced security protections to safeguard the music community as outlined in our attached letters, and decide to designate the music community to operate the new music-themed TLD. We thank you again for your time and consideration.

Truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rich Bengloff".

Rich Bengloff  
President, A2IM

Attachments: Letters as referenced above



American Association  
of Independent Music

February 6, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Signature Richard Bengloff

Print Name RICHARD BENGLOFF

Title PRESIDENT

Company Name AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT MUSIC ("A2IM")

Date February 6, 2013





**ASSOCIATION OF  
INDEPENDENT MUSIC**

Lamb House,  
Church Street  
London W4 2PD

25<sup>th</sup> February 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process.

Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detrimental to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

☒ Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant

portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.

☐ The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.

☐ The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.

☐ The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.

☐ Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.

☐ History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Wenham', with a long, sweeping underline.

Alison Wenham  
Chairman, Association of independent Music

# alligator

**records & artist management, inc.**



p.o. box 60234  
chicago, illinois 60660  
phone (773) 973-7736  
fax (773) 973-2088

February 19, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

# alligator



**records & artist management, inc.**

p.o. box 60234  
chicago, illinois 60660  
phone (773) 973-7736  
fax (773) 973-2088

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Bruce Iglauer  
President  
Alligator Records & Artist Management, Inc.  
February 19, 2013

2/21/2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

**304**  
**HUDSON ST**  
**7TH FL**  
**NEW YORK**  
**NY 10013**  
**TELEPHONE**  
**(212) 995**  
**5882**  
**FACSIMILE**  
**(212) 995**  
**5883**  
**EMAIL**  
**banquet@**  
**beggars.com**

In advance we thank you for your consideration.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Matthew Harmon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

President

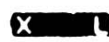
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

Beggars Group (US)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name

2/21/2013

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



[www.beggarsgroupusa.com](http://www.beggarsgroupusa.com)



February 8, 2013

International Chamber of Commerce  
&  
World Intellectual Property Organization

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

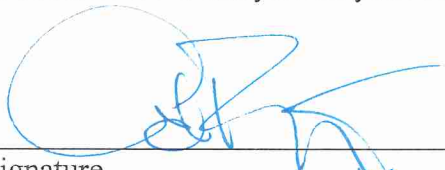
Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cyber-squatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.



- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ANDREW HANTZ  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COO  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BMLG  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
2/8/13  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





February 19, 2013

To: The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN")

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

As a member of the legitimate music community and, more specifically, of both the American Association of Independent Music ("A2IM") and the Recording Industry Association of America ("RIAA"), it is very important to us and to the entire legitimate music community that the music-themed TLD be operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community. Given the devastating effects of music piracy on the legitimate music industry and the continuing difficulty and expense of creating legitimate platforms for digital music and getting consumers to adopt them, it is only fair and appropriate that this TLD be reserved for the benefit of the legitimate music community and consumers who wish to respect intellectual property rights and to encourage and support the creation of music.

We have 2 primary concerns in this regard.

First, the music-themed TLD should not be auctioned off in a bidding process for obvious reasons.

Second, ICANN should take the necessary time and attention to select an applicant whose constituents represent a broad spectrum of the legitimate music community, whose representatives have a depth of experience, knowledge and understanding of the music business, who have a track record of operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property, and who are committed to ensuring that only legitimate purveyors of music will be authorized to use a music-themed TLD.

We urge ICANN to select the music community applicant that best fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

We thank you in advance for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Glen Barrus", is written over a horizontal line.

Print Name

Glen Barrus

Title

CEO

Date

Feb. 19, 2013



Daptone Records  
115 Troutman Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11206  
P: 718.366.3849

To Whom It May Concern

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

CATHY BAUER  
GENERAL MANAGER  
DAPTONE RECORDS

FEB 20, 2013

DATE: 2/20/13

To Whom It May Concern:  
Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.



Signature

Dave Hansen

Print Name

General Manager

Title

Epitaph Records

Company Name

2/20/13

Date



DATE: 2/20/13

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Signature

Print Name L. Christopher Scully

Title General Manager/Chief Financial Officer

Company Name Glassnote Entertainment Group LLC

Mr. Steve Crocker  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536  
USA

Dear Mr. Steve Crocker,

February 14, 2013

**Applications for the Music Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD)**

The purpose of this letter is to draw attention to two concerns that IMPALA members have regarding the selection of an operator of music-themed Top-Level Domains.

On behalf of over 4,000 independent music companies and national associations across Europe<sup>1</sup>, representing 99% of music actors in Europe which are micro, small and medium sized enterprises, IMPALA welcomes the opportunity provided by this consultation to share our views on the application process for the music themed TLD.

Firstly, we would like to ensure that the music-themed TLD preserves the interests of the legitimate music community. To achieve this, it is vital that the successful applicant has widespread support from stakeholders within the music business and possesses an acute awareness of the issues the industry faces. Rather than making the selection through an auction, we would insist that ICANN picks a music community applicant that would protect the legitimate distribution of music and defend intellectual property rights.

Secondly, we seek guarantees from ICANN that inclusion in the bidding process for a music-themed TLD is dependent on applicants subscribing to a number of best practices. We believe that the operator should:

- Strive to foster participation from all parties within the music community and permit registration of all legitimate names under the music-themed TLD.
- Guarantee safeguards protecting intellectual property and deterring piracy by promoting the lawful use of music-themed TLDs; by providing balanced copyright protections measures; and by ensuring that such domains are not used to damage the rights of right holders (more information about these safeguards is available at [www.onlineaccountability.net](http://www.onlineaccountability.net)).
- Enact a strict and thorough vetting policy that certifies the legality of domain applicants and protects brand names.
- Ensure that the use of the music-themed TLD is limited to music organisations, thereby cultivating an association between content quality and the TLD.
- Serve the interests of all music constituents equally and impartially under a multi-stakeholder governance structure that insures neutrality.
- Have a proven track record of actively promoting and aiding the rights and interests of the music community.

With thanks in advance for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Smith  
Executive Chair  
IMPALA

<sup>1</sup> IMPALA has 4,000 members including the top independents: IK7 (Germany), Anaconda Productions (Poland), Beggars Group (UK), Cosmos Music Group (Sweden), CLS Music (Hungary), CNR (NL), Cooking Vinyl (UK), Edel (Germany), Epitaph (US/NL), Everlasting (Spain), Gazell (Sweden), Kobalt (Sweden), Menart (Croatia), Musicvertrieb (Switzerland), Naïve (France), [PIAS] Entertainment Group (Benelux, UK and France), Playground (Sweden), Red Bullet (NL), Wagram (France), as well as national trade associations from the UK (AIM), France (UPFI), Germany (VUT), Spain (UFI), Italy (PMI), Belgium (BIMA), Denmark (DUP), Netherlands (STOMP), Norway (FONO), Israel (PIL), Finland (Indieco), Portugal (AMAEI) and Sweden (SOM).

# JAGJAGUWAR

DATE: February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

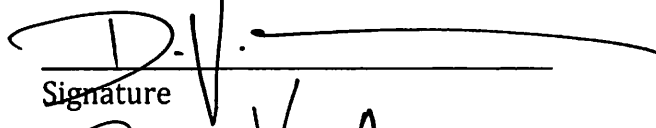
- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.



# JAGJAGUWAR

- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

  
Signature

Darius Van Arman  
Print Name

CO-OWNER  
Title

JAGJAGUWAR, INC.  
Company Name

02-20-2013  
Date







February 19, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:  
Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Signature Portia Sabin  
Print Name PORTIA SABIN  
Title PRESIDENT  
Company Name KILL ROCK STARS

107 SE WASHINGTON STREET SUITE 155 \* PORTLAND OREGON 97214



# MACK AVENUE

the road to great music

4565 Sherman Oaks Avenue • Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 • T: 818-986-5200 • F: 818-986-5210 • [mackavenue.com](http://mackavenue.com)

DATE: February 20, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

  
Signature

Denny Stowell  
Print Name

Resident  
Title

Mack Avenue Records  
Company Name

Feb. 20, 2013  
Date



Merlin BV  
Damrak 277, Kamer 38  
1012 ZJ Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
P: + 44 (0) 7857 904 433  
E: [charles.caldas@merlinnetwork.org](mailto:charles.caldas@merlinnetwork.org)

Monday, 25 February 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

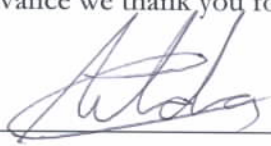
First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process.

Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

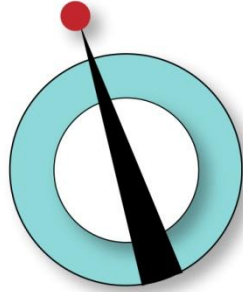
  
\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

Charles Caldas  
\_\_\_\_\_ Print Name

CEO  
\_\_\_\_\_ Title

MERLIN B.V.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Company Name

25/02/2013  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date



## **NAVIGATION PARTNERS LLC**

*Business & Marketing Strategy for Global Entertainment*

19 February 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.

**[www.navigationpartnersllc.com](http://www.navigationpartnersllc.com)**

- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

***Peggy Dold***

Peggy Dold  
CEO/Founder  
Navigation Partners LLC

19 Feb 2013

[www.navigationpartnersllc.com](http://www.navigationpartnersllc.com)





To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

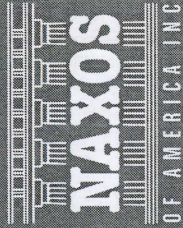
First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

Page 1 of 2





In advance we thank you for your consideration.

J. Selby Signature  
James D. Selby Print Name  
CEO Title  
Naxos of America, Inc. Company Name  
2/19/2013 Date



**RAZOR & TIE**

214 SULLIVAN STREET, SUITE 4A, NEW YORK, NY 10012-1354  
TEL 212.473.9173 FAX 212.473.9174  
www.razorandtie.com  
www.musicSPACE.com

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

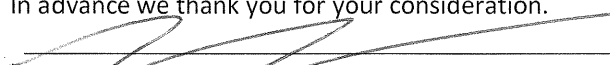
We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- ▮ Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- ▮ The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- ▮ The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- ▮ The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- ▮ Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- ▮ History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Signature 

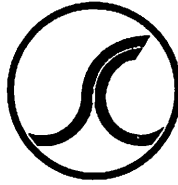
Print Name VICTOR ZARAYA

Title EVP

Company Name RAZOR+TIE DIRECT

Date 2/16/13

Date



**SECRETLY CANADIAN**

**DATE: February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter**

**To Whom It May Concern:**

**We write this letter for two purposes.**

**First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.**

**Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:**

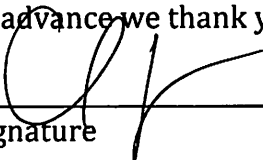
- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.**
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.**
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.**
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.**



**SECRETLY CANADIAN**

- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

CHRIS SWANSON  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

CO-OWNER  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

SECRETLY CANADIAN, INC.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name

02-20-2013  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



February 21, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

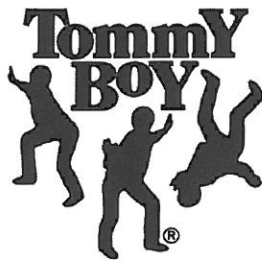
- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Eric E. Brown  
Vice President Business Affairs  
Sub Pop Records



To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- \_Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- \_The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- \_The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- \_The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- \_Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- \_History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Thomas Silverman  
CEO  
Tommy BoY Entertainment  
2/19/2013



February 19, 2013

To: Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

  
Alan Galbraith  
General Manager





449-A TROLLINGWOOD RD. HAW RIVER, NC 27258 • YEPROC.COM • INFO@YEPROC.COM • 336.578.7300 • FAX 336.395.1136

February 19, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Signature

Print Name

Title

Company Name

Date

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
*TJR Hamble*  
 Co-owner  
 Yep Roc Records  
 2-19-2013



JAGJAGUWAR



SECRETLY CANADIAN

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Hannah Overton  
General Manager for Europe  
Dead Oceans/Jagjaguwar/Secretly Canadian  
12<sup>th</sup> February 2013



To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Signature

NICHOLAS O'BYRNE

Print Name

GENERAL MANAGER

Title

AUSTRALIAN INDEPENDENT RECORD LABELS  
ASSOCIATION

Company Name

13-2-2013

Date





To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

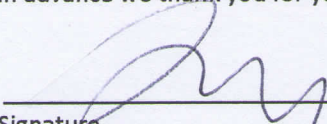
We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
TROY BARROTI

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title  
HUB ARTIST SERVICES

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name  
A.02-13

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



We Are Unified Pty Ltd  
[www.weareunified.com.au](http://www.weareunified.com.au)  
ABN: 11 147 772 629  
17-19 Wangaratta Street  
Richmond, VIC Australia 3121  
Ph: (03) 8420 0000  
Fax: (03) 8420 0099

15 March, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

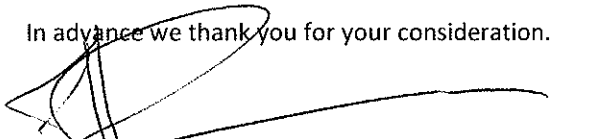
We write this letter for two purposes.

First, as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. We believe that only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community. Such an application will operate in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second, we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids for management of music-themed TLD's from applicants who have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- o Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- o The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- o The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- o The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- o Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- o History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.



Signature

MATTHEW ROGERS  
Print Name

GENERAL MANAGER  
Title

WE ARE UNIFIED  
Company Name

Brussels, february 14th 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

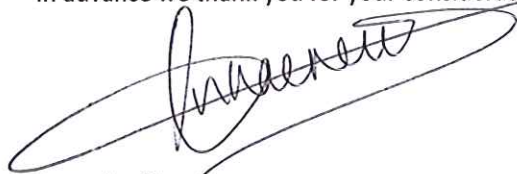
We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.



Anne-lize Vancaenem  
President  
Belgian Independent Music Association





S.P.R.L Euro Lowie B.V.B.A  
179 Av E.Plaskyiaan  
1030 Brussels – Belgium  
Tel. 0032 2 524 69 21

To Whom It May Concern:  
Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Lowie", written over a horizontal line.

Eric Lowie

Manager  
Green l.f.ant Music Company  
15/02/2013





To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter


We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

io  


Jeanot Ampen  
Export Manager  
LC MUSIC  
15/02/2013



To Whom It May Concern:  
Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.

Bodo Jacoby, CEO  
CONSUL BODO

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013



BAUER STUDIOS GmbH Markgröninger Str.46 71634 Ludwigsburg

To Whom It May Concern:

**Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter**

We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfills these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names, mitigate reputational damage to community members, serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance we thank you for your consideration.



Bauer Studios GmbH  
Markgröninger Str. 46  
D-71634 Ludwigsburg  
Tel.: 07141/22 68-0  
Fax: 07141/22 68 99

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name Reiner Oppelland

Title Managing Director

Company Name Bauer Studios GmbH

Date 15. Feb 2013





62 GOUD STREET  
DOWNTOWN STUDIOS, SECOND FLOOR  
JOHANNESBURG  
2000  
SOUTH AFRICA

TEL : +27 11 334 6166  
FAX : +27 11 334 6166  
EMAIL: [INFO@AIRCO.ORG.ZA](mailto:INFO@AIRCO.ORG.ZA)

Section 21 Company Reg: 2006/007204/08

To Whom It May Concern:  
Subject: Music-Themed Top-Level Domain (TLD) Objection Letter

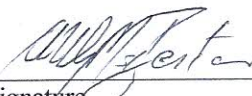
We write this letter for two purposes.

First as members of the music community we want to ensure that the music-themed TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not auctioned off in a bidding process. Only an all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder community-based application should be selected to operate a music-themed TLD representing the music community with the knowledge and understanding of the music business and music community operating in a manner that respects and protects musical Intellectual Property and ensuring that there is only legitimate distribution of music. We urge ICANN to select a music community applicant that fulfils these criteria to administer any music-themed TLD.

Second we write to request that ICANN does not accept any bids from TLD applicants who have music-themed TLD applications that have a likelihood of creating material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of the music community. Concerns include:

- Monopoly issues and registration policies that exclude significant portions of the music community from participating or registering their name(s) under the music-themed TLD.
- The absence of enhanced safeguards to protect intellectual property to help reduce piracy.
- The absence of an enhanced name selection policy or appropriate verification methods that would decrease cybersquatting and music community costs to protect their brand names.
- The absence of a music-only use policy that would positively affect TLD content quality and mitigate reputational damage to community members.
- Lack of a neutral TLD operator and multi-stakeholder governance structure representing and serving all music constituents without conflicts of interest or serving publicly-traded companies.
- History of activities that negatively affect the rights or interests of the music community, such as benefiting from piracy or malware distribution or any other malicious activity.

In advance, we thank you for your consideration.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Grace A U Berton Msimang  
Board Member: International Relations  
Association of Independent Record Companies  
20 February 2013

---

**Directors :**

D Monamodi. K Haycock. G Lusenga. M Maseko. T Nzimande. M Khumalo. A Msimang. J Lindeman. S Zako