



British Hospitality Association and PRS for Music reach agreement over music played in hotel bedrooms

20 November 2009: The British Hospitality Association (BHA) and PRS for Music have announced that they have reached an agreement over music played in hotel bedrooms, ending a long running dispute.

The BHA, the national trade association for hotels, restaurants and caterers, has agreed to advise their members to pay licence fees going forward for music played in hotel bedrooms, via TV, radio or any other device. A settlement has also been reached with respect to licence fees disputed in previous years.

PRS for Music, the organisation representing songwriters, composers and music publishers, had been in discussion with the BHA for many years about whether music played in a hotel bedroom is a public performance requiring a licence from the copyright owners (represented by PRS for Music).

The agreement follows several months of discussions and a European Court of Justice opinion confirming that certain uses of music in hotel bedrooms do require a licence from the copyright holders of that music.

Debbie Mulloy, Commercial Director for PRS for Music's public performance team, said: 'We are delighted that we have been able to work with the BHA to reach a settlement. The provision of TVs and radios in hotel bedrooms is a clear benefit to hotels and their guests, and it's good news that our members will now receive royalties for the use of their work.'

Bob Cotton, Chief Executive of the British Hospitality Association, said: "It is good news that the hospitality industry will now have certainty about licences from PRS for Music for music in hotel bedrooms. This has been a very long standing dispute, but I am pleased it has been settled at last."

Licences for music in hotel bedrooms start from just £44 plus VAT per year, for 15 bedrooms.

Note to editors:

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PRS for Music:

PRS for Music is the leading copyright and royalty collection society representing 60,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers. A not-for-profit organisation it ensures music creators are paid whenever their music is played.

PRS for Music provides business and community groups easy access to 10m songs through its music licences. In an industry worth £3.18bn PRS for Music is uniquely placed to be a voice for music and can provide data for all aspects of the business: live, broadcast, sales, online, touring and music creation and up to date analysis, research and trends about the industry.

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