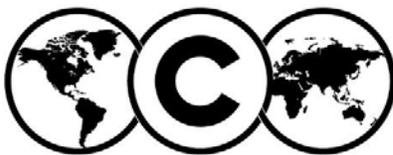


# INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ALLIANCE®



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 14, 2009

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## **IIPA Statement on the European Community and 16 Member States' Deposit of their Instruments of Ratification at WIPO in Geneva of the WIPO Copyright and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaties (WCT and WPPT)**

**Washington --** Today the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA), a coalition of seven trade associations representing over 1,900 companies comprising the U.S. copyright-based industries, issued the following statement by Eric H. Smith:

“The WIPO Copyright Treaty and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty were concluded in 1996 and establish certain critical international copyright rules for protection of copyrighted content including on the Internet. The important obligations set out in these treaties were legislatively implemented in the United States in 1998. The treaties entered into force in March and May 2002, respectively.

Today the European Community and 16 of its member states that had not yet deposited their instruments of ratification at WIPO in Geneva joined the 71 existing Contracting Parties to the WCT and 69 to the WPPT bringing the total number of treaties' adherents to 88 and 86, respectively, as of March, 2010 when the treaties enter into force for the new depositing members. With the addition of these important new members, these “Internet” treaties have unequivocally become part of the global legal framework for protecting copyrighted content online. These treaties form a critical part of the international infrastructure that has permitted legal e-commerce to grow around the world.

While these treaties establish the legal rules of the road on the Internet, they do not provide complete answers to how member countries will enforce those laws effectively to contribute to curbing illegal infringements online. Online piracy damages the overall market for legitimate rightholders and distributors and continues to hinder the development of new business models that will contribute to consumer welfare and properly reward creators in countries large and small. IIPA and its members hope that the adherence to these treaties by the European Community and these 16 member states will spur new countries to join and will contribute to a new resolve to increase effective enforcement as a necessary condition to realizing the full benefits, in global job and revenue creation, that a robust e-commerce promises.”

**About the IIPA:** The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) is a coalition of seven trade associations -- Association of American Publishers (AAP), Business Software Alliance (BSA), Entertainment Software Association (ESA), Independent Film & Television Alliance (IFTA), Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA) and the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) -- which represent the U.S. copyright-based industries in bilateral and multilateral efforts to open up foreign markets closed by piracy and other market access barriers. These member associations represent over 1,900

U.S. companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world—all types of computer software, including business applications software and entertainment software (such as videogame discs and cartridges, personal computer CD-ROMs, and multimedia products); theatrical films, television programs, DVDs and home video and digital representations of audiovisual works; music, records, CDs, and audiocassettes; and textbooks, trade books, reference and professional publications and journals (in both electronic and print media).

**The Contributions of the U.S. Copyright Industries on the U.S. Economy and Foreign Trade:** On July 20, 2009, the IIPA released an economic report entitled *Copyright Industries in the U.S. Economy: The 2003 - 2007 Report*, the twelfth study written by Stephen Siwek of Economists Inc. This report details the economic impact and contributions of U.S. copyright industries to U.S. Gross Domestic Product, employment, economic growth and trade. The latest data show that the “core” U.S. copyright industries accounted for an estimated \$889.1 billion or 6.44% of the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2007. These “core” industries were responsible for 22.74% of the real economic growth achieved by the U.S. economy in 2006-2007. In addition, the “core” copyright industries employed 5.6 million workers in 2007 (4.05% of U.S. workers) in 2007. The report also provides data on the estimated average annual compensation for a worker in the core copyright industries: \$73,554, which represents a 30% premium over the compensation paid the average U.S. worker. Finally, estimated 2007 foreign sales and exports of the core copyright industries increased to at least \$126 billion, leading other major industry sectors. Those sectors include: chemicals and related products (not including medicinal and pharmaceutical products); motor vehicles, parts and accessories; aircraft and associated equipment; food and live animals; and medicinal and pharmaceutical products. *The 2003 - 2007 Report* is posted on the IIPA website at [www.iipa.com](http://www.iipa.com).

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