Registries

Recording, Enumerating Creative Claims

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Spirit of discussion

- Lincoln: If two people think the same about this, we don't need one of you.
- Dialogue: Not rules, absolutes or definitive findings.
- Offered in the spirit of discussion, to provoke, prod results in an area that is proving a predicate for digital commerce.
- Too much copyright theology, not enough practice.
- Practice must include recording, enumerating creators, ensuring payment reaches owners, creative crew.



Need

- Required: Registries essential for commerce
- Fundamental: History, culture, academic inquiry
- Land: Registries are the reason we learned to write
- Berne: Discourages registries, dooms them to remain incomplete, inadequate, outdated.
- Axel Dauchez: Fragmentation is Cancer for Media
- Notice: Rights Unenumerated, Rights Disrespected
- Goals: No unattributed income, no orphaned works

Not

- Not compulsory Berne ensures it.
- Not confiscatory No one loses rights.
- Registry data not owned, consists of facts
- Encourage registration, not required
- Alternative: Unenumerated, unpaid, unlicensed
- New registry approaches do not require owners to register but nonetheless achieve registration purposes.
- Making registration profitable is more likely to grow registries than would requiring registration.



1. Profit

- Money often drives registry efforts by registrars and registrants.
- Recordation represents value: Deed, lottery ticket, invitation to license.
- Registration is predicate to payment from licensing, especially from pools.
- Registries benefit from markets in both registry services and registration.
- Profit motivates global outreach, marketing.

2. Attribution is moral right, history needs cultural record



- Profit is prime driver, allied with the moral right of attribution. Many are motivated by cash, many by credit, most seek both.
- Compensating, crediting creators requires recordation, enumeration.
- Creativity is the essence of culture, shared history. Failure to record creative claims condemns artist effort, erases origins, lets fade that which ought be held dear and made clear.

3. Sovereign and Global

- Benefits from global authority ala WIPO, ISO.
- Not regional, not consolidated copyright is sovereign.
- Sovereign registry efforts needed to respect copyright country by country.
- Sovereign registries must synchronize globally.
- Alternate language, character set compatibility.
- Unique identifiers (ISRC, ISWC, ISNI) promote global commerce.



4. Public use open, API / Commercial Paid

- Public use via app, web is global public good.
- Commercial use via API is profitable, compensable, controllable, monitored and paid.
- Registrants bear costs, control system.
- Open for academic use, analysis.
- Public transparency essential.
- Can also render some data private.

5. Registry Should Register All Claims

- Any claim: Performer, engineer, songwriter, agent, manager, attorney, translator, editor, etc.
- Subject to law, fraud, perjury, financial crimes, misrepresentation.
- Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- Sovereign, International courts.
- Registering all claims insures all claims are registered – owner is not only possible registrant.



6. Registry Can Learn From The Network

- Networks require registries, run on them
- Domain Naming System = DNS
- Wholesale core (ICANN), retail/distributed Edge
- Sovereign, global
- Alternate languages, character sets
- Single-digit millisecond response time
- Redundancy, distribution
- Extremely profitable: New Hollywood



Conclusion

- Registering, enumerating claims can be profitable, is a moral right, essential for cultural record.
- Making a market in registries incentivizes work.
- Data recordation, enumeration amongst hottest topics facing society, industry, history, art and culture worldwide.
- Sustainable economy of ideas requires registries.
- Registering any claim ensures broad registries, full record.
- Registries enable networks, set example for cultural registries.
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