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Chorus of Music Users, Tech Innovators and Distributor Groups Join Forces to Protect the Music Economy

Growing policy debates must include voices of all music lovers and creators in order to ensure a thriving future for music

Washington, D.C., April 29, 2015 - A diverse group of music lovers and users – retailers, restaurants and hotels; consumer electronics manufacturers and providers; technology innovators; digital media services; and public and commercial local broadcasters - today announced the launch of the MIC Coalition (which stands for Music. Innovation. Consumers.) calling on policymakers to ensure that upcoming decisions on copyright are grounded in rationality, affordability and predictability so that the music economy can continue to thrive and grow. The next 24 months are pivotal for music, with big decisions coming from the Department of Justice, the Copyright Royalty Board and Congress that will have the potential to determine how and where music is played and what costs consumers and users will bear.

Representing stakeholders across the music industry, MIC Coalition members share a clear mission: the broadest possible distribution of music for the benefit of artists and consumers. To achieve this goal, it is imperative that music policies are balanced among all participants rather than just those of the major record labels and publishers.

The coalition's members include Amazon, American Hotel & Lodging Association, Consumer Electronics Association (CEA), Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA), Cox Media Group, Digital Media Association (DiMA), Google, iHeartMedia, KLOVE, National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), the National Council of Chain Restaurants, National Public Radio (NPR), the National Restaurant Association (NRA), the National Retail Federation (NRF), Pandora Radio and Salem Media Group.

The MIC Coalition supports four fundamental principles:

- Music must be affordable and accessible so that consumers can continue to enjoy it, artists can be compensated for it, and the marketplace can continue to grow to its fullest potential;
- Audiences must be able to connect with artists and their songs for the betterment of the entire music industry;

- Consumers benefit when they can legally access music in a variety of venues, on a diversity of devices and in new and innovative ways; and
- The need for transparent and direct ways to access music and compensate artists.

About MIC Coalition

MIC (pronounced “Mike”, as in “Microphone”) Coalition is a group of companies, associations, consumer groups, venue owners and artist advocates who are committed to a rational, sustainable and transparent system that will drive the future of music and ensure that consumers have continued access to that music at affordable prices. For more information and a list of members, visit <http://www.mic-coalition.org>

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