

Agreement concerning remuneration for PCs

VG WORT, VG Bild-Kunst and the collecting societies represented by the ZPÜ have achieved an agreement concerning the copyright remuneration for private copying with PCs. The agreement follows lengthy negotiations with industry.

An agreement has been concluded with the newly formed "Federal Association of Computer manufacturers e.V" (BCH) covering both the period from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2010 and the period from 2002 to 2007. The agreement for 2008-2010 covers remuneration for reprography as well as for audio-visual media. The agreement for 2002-2007, on the other hand, is restricted to remuneration under s 54 of the Copyright Law as in force up to 31/12/2007. Concerning remuneration for reprography by means of PCs, under s 54a of the Copyright Law in force to 31/12/2007, which was rejected by the Bundesgerichtshof, constitutional proceedings by VG WORT are pending.

The division of the equipment levy between the individual collecting societies should be decided during 2010. On that basis distribution to the rightsholders can be expected during 2011.

As to further details we refer to the press release of the ZPÜ of 12 January 2010.

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ZPÜ Press Release

Almost exactly two years since the entry into force of the "second basket", the collecting societies represented by the ZPÜ together with VG WORT and VG Bild-Kunst have reached an agreement with the importers and manufacturers of PCs represented by BCH concerning the amount of the private copy remuneration for PCs. On the basis of a general agreement, in the period 01/01/2008 to 31/12/2010 the remuneration for PCs with integrated burners shall be EUR 13.65, and for PCs without burners EUR 12.15, in each case plus VAT. The collecting societies will publish tariffs for companies not bound by these agreements, at 25% above these rates. At the same time the parties agreed on remuneration for PCs for the period 01/01/2002 to 31/12/2007.

The representatives of the collecting societies, Dr. Harald Heker (ZPÜ), Prof. Dr. Gerhard Pfennig (VG Bild-Kunst) and Dr. Robert Staats (VG WORT) commented as follows; „This agreement is a breakthrough on the rules for remuneration under the new law. We hope to achieve similar solutions through negotiations for other products subject to the payment of remuneration. We are in any case ready to negotiate.”

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