How does it work in practice?

BPI / MU forms should be filled in during the session and submitted to PPL by the record company. This will tell PPL who performed on the track. Although PPL have collected licence fees from users for 70 years, the performers have only had a right to equitable remuneration since 1998. The session musician or their representative performer organisation should regularly check their listings at PPL to make sure that the forms have been correctly submitted. Because these payments to recording musicians are a relatively recent development, the value and understanding of them is evolving. In Germany the performance right is paid to musicians unions, and recording artists who have a share in the royalty of CD sales. In America the right only exists on some digital delivery systems.

At present PPL collect the licensee fee and deduct costs. PPL then divide then money between labels and performers on a track by track basis. Of the performers share PPL's current distribution policy runs 65% to the featured musicians, 35% to the session musicians. Any individual session musician receives a maximum of 7% at this first pass. On the second pass any monies left over are divided pro-rata amongst ALL performers.

You can actually register with three different organisations for the collection of the performer right – AURA, PAMRA and PPL.

PAMRA and PPL accept as members all musicians, both "featured" (for example, members of a band) and "non-featured" (for example, session musicians, orchestral players). AURA concentrates only on "featured" performers, not session musicians.

UK Performer Services is a centralised department housed at PPL that provides customer service to members of all three societies. They deal with new members.

For more information on registering, call UK Performer Services on 020 7534 1234 or visit www.royaltiesreunited.co.uk

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

LINKS

New Deal for Musicians has no responsibility for or control of the following sites. The inclusion of any site does not necessarily imply New Deal for Musicians approval of the site. To access any of the sites please type in the address into a browser or search using keywords from the name of the link. www.dfes.gov.uk/ukonlinecentres Find Internet access that's close to you.

www.mcps-prs-alliance.co.uk Website for the UK Collection societies whose members are songwriters, composers and music publishers.
www.ppluk.com PPL Collection society for record companies and performers
www.pamra.org.uk PAMRA Collection society for Performers
www.aura.org.uk Collection society for performers and producers
www.mpa.org.uk Music Publishers Association
www.musictank.co.uk Online music business network and information site
www.royaltiesreunited.co.uk UK Performer Services on 020 7534 1234
www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/onemusic Loads of relevant information about moving forward in the music business, tips on careers, getting advice from managers, agents and lawyers.

Sold on Song's guide to songwriting and the music business

www.getsigned.com
Tips and advice on the music industry – US based site.

www.bemuso.com
A comprehensive resource site for independent artists, DIY record labels and self-publishers. Information and opinions about the music industry. Lots of stuff on doing it yourself.

www.bbc.co.uk/radio2/soldonsong/quide/

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BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

Guide to Survival & Success in the Music Business

The Association of Independent Music's guide to the business in an interactive CD-Rom format. Available from www.musicindie.org - free to members

The Guerilla Guide to the Music Business

Sarah Davis, David Laing
An introduction guide for artists and managers, covering most aspects of the music business, such as a 'Contracts & Agreements' section, which reproduces standard contracts.
Continuum International

Publisher: Academi ISBN: 0826447007

Music: The Business - The Essential Guide to the Law and the Deals

Ann Harrison

Publisher: Virgin Books ISBN: 1852270136

The Music Management Bible

Music Managers Forum

Publisher: Sanctuary Publishing

ISBN: 1844920259

I.M.F. (International Managers Forum) Handbook: A Guide to Professional Music Management

Andy Allen, Andrew Forbes, Jef Hanlon, et al

Publisher: Sanctuary Publishing

ISBN: 1860742572

MORE TASKS

- 1 Find out how you become a member of the PRS
- 2 How many published works do you need to have written in order to become a composer member?
- 3 Find out what the meaning of 'copyright control' is.
- 4 How can a performer make a claim from PPL for their performance on a recording?
- 5 Find out more about AURA, PAMRA and PPL.

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