

## **More revenue for music creators despite difficult economic times: APRA|AMCOS announces 2012 financial results**

Music copyright organisation APRA|AMCOS has distributed 14% more in royalties to its members in the 2011/12 financial year. The increase has resulted from record revenue growth in the recording rights arm of its business, AMCOS, and from a program of accelerated distributions across all areas of its operations.

Revenue for the group, which represents songwriters, composers and music publishers, grew by 7.2% overall, to \$257.4 million. APRA revenue – representing music royalties for public performances, broadcasts and online communications – grew by 1.5% to \$185.7 million, while AMCOS revenue – representing royalties from physical sales, digital downloads and other reproductions of music – grew by more than 25% to \$71.7 million.

APRA|AMCOS Chief Executive, Brett Cottle, said: “In a year in which APRA’s revenue grew marginally and AMCOS’s grew exceptionally, the real story has been the significant increase in distributions paid to members and to affiliated societies”.

“Total royalty distributions grew by \$28.9 million across the two societies, to \$236.9 million – an increase of 13.9% on the preceding year.”

All in all, over 244,623 writers and publishers received an APRA distribution payment this past financial year - representing nearly a quarter of a million unique musical works.

Other highlights included a 9.1% increase in international revenue for Australasian music creators – a new record of \$22.1 million, confirming the growing international interest in the work of Australian songwriters, with Australia now being the sixth largest recording market in the world<sup>1</sup>. In addition, revenue from digital downloads and online sources grew by 17.9% to 35.6 million.

In terms of our outreach and community engagement work, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Music Office and Sounds Australia initiatives have extended our community and industry reach both at home and overseas. Both initiatives were co-founded by APRA|AMCOS and the Australia Council.

This year Sounds Australia took 145 Australian acts to 10 international music markets including SXSW, Canadian Music Week, The Great Escape, Music Matters and CMJ. In May 2012, the program’s success led to the Federal Government’s allocation of an additional \$1.75 million in funding for Sounds Australia initiatives over a four year period. The ATSI Music Office has also successfully delivered a number of programs and internships to provide opportunities for our ATSI members.

In addition, APRA|AMCOS held nearly 200 career-development, networking and community events and awarded \$700,000 worth of grants to the music industry through the Music Grants Fund.

The 2011-2012 *Year in Review* is available for download from the APRA|AMCOS website [here](#).

**/ends/**

---

<sup>1</sup> See 2012 IFPI Digital Media Report/Australia Council’s Artfacts



## Notes for Editors

For more information:

**APRA|AMCOS Communications**

**Kirti Jacobs** (02) 9935 7941 or 0411 639 494 | [comms@apra.com.au](mailto:comms@apra.com.au) | [www.apra-amcos.com.au](http://www.apra-amcos.com.au)

**APRA|AMCOS** work to ensure that composers, songwriters and publishers are rewarded whenever, and wherever, their musical works are played, performed or reproduced and we help Australian & New Zealand music consumers get access to the world's musical repertoire.

**Australasian Performing Right Association Limited (APRA)** was established in 1926 and now administers the performing and communication rights of 73,000+ composer, songwriter and music publisher members in Australia and New Zealand. Public performances of music include music used in pubs, clubs, fitness centres, shops, cinemas, festivals, whether performed live, on CDs or played on the radio or television. Communication of music covers music used for music on hold, music accessed over the internet or used by television or radio broadcasters.

**Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society Limited (AMCOS)** collects and distributes mechanical royalties for the reproduction of its 10,000+ members' musical works for many different purposes. These include the manufacture of CDs, music videos and DVDs, digital downloads and the sale of mobile phone ringtones, the use of production music and the making of radio and television programmes. Since 1997, APRA has managed the day-to-day operations of the AMCOS business.