

October 5, 2015

Mr. Probir Mehta
Acting Assistant
United States Trade Representative (AUSTR) for Intellectual Property and Innovation
Office of the United States Trade Representative

FR Doc. 2015-22761

Dear Mr. Mehta:

Attached please find RIAA's submission on Notorious Markets related to Docket Number USTR-2015-0016. In this submission, we have identified some of the major actors that have inhibited the growth of legitimate online music markets to the detriment of American creators, businesses and the American economy as a whole. RIAA's members license their music globally, and more than 450 licensed platforms operate around the world, with new services added constantly. But the potential of the Internet and other communications technologies to drive economic growth, prosperity and cultural production has been greatly undermined by distortions in the marketplace caused by the lack of enforcement that allow companies to illegally traffic in what are essentially stolen goods. Apologists for the status quo argue that intellectual property can't be "stolen"—but what is stolen by piracy is investment in, and thus the future of, professionally produced music. The fact that this is intangible in some sense doesn't make it any less real. Many of those who profit from the status quo like to disguise their self-interest in rhetoric about free expression. It is long past time to end this dangerous charade. Defending the piracy of creative works in the name of freedom of expression is tantamount to foxes campaigning for open-range chickens. Pirate sites are not serving free speech by making it harder for creators to earn a living from their original expression. Free societies can no longer tolerate the continued indifference to the rights of creators, and this process of identifying key actors engaged in open and notorious theft is greatly welcomed—and has in the past led to some major changes in key markets identified as problematic. RIAA expresses its appreciation to USTR and the US government for their dedication to calling out these rogue actors, and for highlighting the need for greater accountability in the Internet ecosystem so that technological progress can go hand in hand with the creation of new opportunities for American creators and the US economy.

This submission identifies a range of services that contribute to the loss of economic opportunities by building businesses that rely on providing access to infringing materials, from social networks like Russia's vKontakte and Ukraine's ex.ua that maintain infringing music services, to BT indexing and tracker sites like ThePirateBay, kat.cr (formerly known as KickAssTorrents), and isoHunt.to (risen

from the ashes of the shuttered isoHunt.com), to cyberlockers like 4shared, uploaded.net and rapidgator.net, to linking, download and forum sites like warez-bb, Newalbumreleases.net and goear.com. Many of these services claim to be shielded from liability since they take down content when notified by copyright owners, completely ignoring the fact that safe harbors are intended to shield companies from liability for inadvertent infringement, and not to serve as legal cover for the operation of enterprises based on the distribution of infringing materials. Indeed, even MegaUpload's Kim Dotcom is presently mounting a defense against extradition in New Zealand based on this erroneous interpretation of safe harbors. Safe harbors in the US, EU and globally are not alternatives to licensing for content distribution platforms, and we urge USTR to find ways to reinforce this critical point.

We also highlight that rogue sites do not operate in a vacuum, and are enabled by a variety of other actors—from domain registrars, privacy/proxy service providers, to advertisers and ad networks, search engines, content delivery networks and hosting services. For example, we note that several of the online markets in our submission are starting to share the following attributes:

- To the extent the original domain used for the site had been demoted in search, the site simply engaged in domain hopping to a new top level domain to reappear at the top of search results and/or get around certain court ordered blocks;
- Several use services like CloudFlare to obfuscate their IP address, creating obstacles to enforcement against such sites;
- Several either hide their identity behind privacy/proxy services or appear to submit false or incomplete registrant information, further creating obstacles to enforcement against these sites; and
- Several obtain revenue through presumably fraudulent advertising and/or per pay per install schemes.

The potential of the Internet to drive competitiveness will not be realized unless we can effectively eliminate the distortions created by unfair practices. We hope that all of the parties operating in the Internet ecosystem will take responsible and reasonable actions to avoid providing oxygen to services engaged in wilful infringement, and will pay particular attention to the sites identified herein, and in other submissions to USTR. Earlier this morning, Ambassador Froman announced that the TPP had been concluded, and touted its capacity to help to drive digital trade. As an industry dependent upon a healthy framework for digital trade that promotes the legitimate distribution of music, we hope that action against the sites identified herein, and more responsible conduct throughout the distribution chain, will form a powerful foundation for enhancing the kind of digital trade that will expand economic opportunity for US creators and thereby contribute to EU economic competiveness.

Neil Turkewitz Executive Vice President, International Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) 1025 F St. N.W., 10th Floor Washington, D.C. 20004

2015 SPECIAL 301 OUT-OF-CYCLE REVIEW OF NOTORIOUS MARKETS

The follow is a list of online markets based outside the United States that engage in the unlicensed sale, streaming and/or distribution/downloading of sound recordings that significantly damage the rights of U.S. companies that we request to be included in the 2015 Notorious Markets List.

These services harm U.S. artists, record labels, and music publishing companies by (i) disseminating music without authorization and without providing any compensation to the creators and owners of the music, and (ii) artificially distorting the market value of the music, thereby reducing the compensation to the creators and owners from licensed services.

Social Media

vKontakte

Domain: vk.com

Registration Information: Domains By Proxy (US)
Site Operator: vKontakte, Ltd, St. Petersburg, Russia
Hosting Provider: vKontakte, Ltd, St. Petersburg, Russia

Registrar: GoDaddy.com, LLC **Revenue Sources:** Advertising

vKontakte is the most popular online social network in Russia and is also available to a wider international audience in many languages including English. It has in excess of 80 million registered users. Web monitoring companies report that 35 million unique Russian users visit the site every month. Alexa ranks the site as the 20th most popular site worldwide and the 2nd most popular site in Russia. According to public reports, London-listed Russian internet company, Mail.ru is the sole owner of the company.

The site's music functionality enables users to upload and share music and video files via profile pages, which include hundreds of thousands of unlicensed copyright works. Its dedicated music service enables all other members of VK to search for and instantly stream infringing content uploaded by any other user, giving VK an unfair competitive edge over other social networks that do not offer free access to unlicensed material, as well as over licensed music platforms. vKontakte's ongoing facilitation of piracy causes very substantial damage. First, artists and record companies are seeing virtually their entire repertoire made available to the public without permission or payment. Second, the infringements give vKontakte an unfair advantage over the 14 licensed music services in Russia, such as iTunes, Google Music, Deezer Trava.ru (Megafon) and Yandex. Music, which pay for the music they use, greatly undermining the market penetration of licensed services in the woefully underperforming Russian market. Third, it also causes unfair competition to legitimate services outside of Russia to the extent users outside of Russia turn to the mobile apps connected to the service rather than legitimate sources to stream or download our members' music.

At least two courts in Russia have found vKontakte Ltd. responsible for copyright infringement of sound recordings. First, in a copyright infringement litigation brought by Russian record label Gala Records against vKontakte Ltd, the courts found that the site's operators had failed to take reasonable measures in response to notices from copyright owners, and ordered some limited compensation for infringements of specific repertoire. Second, in an infringement proceeding brought by Sony Music Russia, Universal Music Russia and Warner Music UK Limited, the court of first instance handed down decisions in the Universal and Warner cases on 28 September 2015,

requiring vKontakte to implement effective technical measures to prevent Warner and Universal's sound recordings from being uploaded to vKontakte. At the time of writing the court had only given a brief oral judgment, with written judgment to follow. Despite these decisions, our members' music continues to be readily available without authorization on and via VK.com.

Streaming and Download Sites

This class of sites directly or indirectly offers unauthorized on-demand streaming and/or downloading of our members' music, including their most popular and valuable content. Several of these sites go further, providing unauthorized downloading of pre-release music, i.e. albums slated for commercial release that have not yet been commercially released to the public. As noted above, such infringing activity clearly harms U.S. artists, songwriters, record labels and music publishers by disseminating their work without authorization and severely diminishing the commercial value of those works.

Mp3skull

Domain: mp3skull.ninja (formerly mp3skull.com, mp3skull.to, mp3skull.cr, mp3skull.is)

Registration: Monica Vasilenko, MP3Skull, Inc., Petrozavodsk, Russia

Hosting Provider: M247 (Romania) – through Cloudflare (US) **Registrars:** EasyDNS Technologies, Inc.; Tucows Domains, Inc.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, revenue sharing with redirects to

third party sites.

Mp3skull is an unlicensed service that provides unlimited free downloads and on-demand streaming of the most popular copyrighted sound recordings in the world. Its sole purpose is to generate profit from the theft of music, and it makes no pretence about what it does or why it does it. Virtually any commercial recording is available for free download or streaming through the site and its most popular offerings ("Top Downloads") virtually mirror the Billboard Top 100 list.

Mp3skull is the most highly trafficked mp3 site of its kind in the world and the huge user base allows its operators to profit from advertisements on the site and from the distribution of adware and malware to its users. The site purports to be simply an index site for mp3s found elsewhere on the internet, but the site operates within a close web of loosely affiliated sites that provide the content for mp3skull.

For years the site operated from the domain name mp3skull.com, but has since jumped to mp3skull.to, mp3skull.cr and mp3skull.is. All of these domains now resolve to mp3kull.ninja.

Since 2011, various copyright owners have sent notices on more than 3.3 million mp3skull webpages offering access to infringing files. RIAA alone has sent the site takedown notices on 1.7 million URLs to no avail.

We suspect the reason mp3skull has been repeatedly jumping to new top level domains is to work around search engine demotion signals. Major search engines now demote sites from search results based on the volume of infringement notices they receive for the site. Changing the top level domain name allows the site to bypass the demotion signal and reappear in the top search results. Mp3 sites like mp3skull have relied heavily on search to drive traffic to their site. The rapid movement between domain names makes it difficult to get a fix on Alexa rankings and traffic measures, but the mp3skull.is just a month ago had a global Alexa ranking of 7392, and SimilarWeb traffic data has the site averaging over 40 million visits a month.

In April of this year, several US record labels sued mp3skull in U.S. District Court in Miami seeking monetary damages and other relief. The operators of mp3skull failed to answer the complaint and the plaintiffs are seeking a default judgement against the site.

Mp3skull has been blocked in the U.K. by court order.

Itemvn

Domain: Itemvn.com

Registration: Domains By Proxy (US)

Operator: Nguyen Bui, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Hosting Provider: M247 Ltd, (Romania)

Registrar: GoDaddy.com, LLC

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, and revenue sharing with

popunder redirects to third party sites.

Itemvn is an unlicensed music service that makes an enormous catalogue of popular music available for free streaming and download. The site is entirely in English and there are thousands of albums and tens of thousands of individual tracks available to users. In addition to a general search capability, the site neatly organizes albums under categories like "Most Popular," "Hot Artists," "Billboard Hot 100." The albums and singles are presented along with other materials like the official album art and song lyrics. Unlike many other download sites of this nature, itemvn hosts the content itself. While the site purports to allow users to upload content, the most popular files are tagged as uploaded by itemvn itself. Itemvn has a global Alexa ranking of 30,057. SimilarWeb traffic data show the sites averages 5.4 million visits a month with 40% of that traffic coming from the United States. The site does not provide any data on how many downloads are taking place, but it does provide streaming counts. One popular track is shown as having been streamed more than 700.000 times.

Stafaband

Domain: stafaband.info

Registration: Fatra Dhinata, Exez Entertainment, Bandung, Jawa Barat, Indonesia

Operator: Fatra Dhinata, Exez Entertainment (Indonesia)

Hosting Provider: LeaseWeb USA (US)

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs

Stafaband is an unlicensed service providing free on-demand streaming and downloads of a vast catalogue of popular music. On its home page it welcomes users and boasts "On this website you can **download free music, play and listen audio songs** for free and no Registration!" The site's home page offers all of the latest albums under a section entitled "new albums 2015" using the official album art, and provides preset playlists under such categories as "Best Rock" organized by decade going back to the 50's, and "Best Country." The site purports to respect copyright laws, and offers an email address for reporting infringing links. However, active links are always available to the vast array of offerings, despite the fact that the RIAA alone has notified the site of nearly 200,000 infringing URLs and the Google Transparency Report shows that copyright owners have sought the removal of just over 3.7 million infringing URLs. After touting itself as a source for free music in its banner headline, the site disingenuously advises users behind an inconspicuous "disclaimer" tab that users should delete files from their computer after listening, warning that if they don't delete them "you'll break copyright protection laws." Despite this, it knowingly offers not only currently released, popular music but also albums that have not yet been commercially released (i.e. pre-release music).

Stafaband has a global Alexa ranking of 10,311. According to SimilarWeb traffic data, the site is averaging 7.4 million visits a month with the majority of traffic coming from Indonesia and the United States. Stafaband has been blocked in the U.K. by court order.

<u>Audiocastle</u>

Domain: audiocastle.me (formerly audiocastle.net, audiocastle.co) **Registration:** Whois Privacy Protection Service, Inc., Kirkland, WA (US)

Hosting Provider: Delta Softmedia Ltd (Bulgaria)

Registrar: eNom, Inc.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, revenue sharing with redirects to

third party sites.

Audiocastle characterizes itself as an urban music site that is updated daily with the hottest urban music, videos, and albums. The home page also provides a telling disclaimer that states "We do not claim any of the materials that we upload and any copyright infringement complaints will be executed immediately! It is our policy to honor all take-down requests!" The operators acknowledge that they upload the content and thus are direct infringers of copyrighted works. Honoring takedown requests does not absolve them of liability. Moreover, it is clear they simply don't "honor" takedown notices as anything that is removed is simply reuploaded to ensure the files remain available through the site. Until recently the operators of the site uploaded the infringing files to a hosting site Sharebeast.com. When that site was seized by the Justice Department last month, and all of their files became unavailable, the site simply moved their files to a new service, dopefile.com to ensure that downloads would remain available to users.

The RIAA has sent the site over 50,000 infringing URLs for removal but files remain available. The Google Transparency Report reveals that Google has removed just over 146,000 infringing audiocastle URLs from its search index. The jumping from audiocastle.net to audiocastle.co and now audiocastle.me domain names is likely in response to Google's demotion of the domain in search results. Each time one of their domains is demoted from the top search results, the site is able to quickly reappear in the top search results simply by registering audiocastle with a new top level domain.

Audiocastle has a global Alexa ranking of 23,449. According to SimilarWeb traffic data, the site is averaging 7 million visits a month with 55% of that traffic coming from the United States.

Viperial

Domain: viperial.me (formerly viperial.com, viperial.co)

Registration: Ivan Ivanov, Moscow, Russia

Hosting Provider: Delta Softmedia Ltd (Bulgaria)

Registrar: eNom, Inc.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, revenue sharing with redirects to

third party sites.

Viperial operates from the same IP address as audiocastle (above) and a new service im1music.co that came on line in April of 2015. All three sites operate in much the same manner. Their lists of albums and tracks available for streaming and download are almost identical and they all store the files on dopefile.com---frequently linking to the exact same URLs. The music it offers includes not only recently released and popular music but also albums not yet commercially released. As in the case of Audiocastle, viperial professes to honor copyright owners' requests to remove material, but these requests have no practical effect as the content is constantly reposted. The RIAA has sent nearly 160,000 URLs for removal to viperial, and the Google Transparency Report documents the removal of over 270,000 viperial search results from their index. The movement from a .com to a

.co to the current .me domains appear calculated to frustrate the demotion effect resulting from the reporting of URLs on viperial to Google. Finally, like audiocastle, files available through viperial were made available through sharebeast.com until that site was seized by the Justice Department, and all file were moved to dopefile.com

Viperial has a global Alexa ranking of 27,685. SimilarWeb traffic data show that the site is averaging 4.7 million visits a month with 60% of that traffic coming from the United States.

im1music

Domain: im1music.co

Registration: Whois Privacy Protection Service, Inc., Kirkland, WA (US)

Hosting Provider: Delta Softmedia Ltd (Bulgaria)

Registrar: eNom, Inc.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, revenue sharing with redirects to

third party sites.

This is a new service in the audiocastle, viperial family of infringing sites. It offers the same services and same content from the same sources as its sister sites. The new im1music site already has a global Alexa ranking of 51,735 and SimilarWeb is reporting the site is averaging 1.1 million site visits a month.

Albumkings

Domain: Albumkings.co (formerly albumkings.net)

Registration: Ivan Ivanov, Moscow, Russia

Hosting Provider: THORDC-AS THOR Data Center, Iceland

Registrar: eNom, Inc.; TLD Registrar Solutions Ltd.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, revenue sharing with popunder redirects to third party sites, and likely revenue sharing with cyberlocker sites where files are

hosted.

Albumkings is a site that provides unauthorized access to thousands of full albums and tens of thousands of individual tracks for free streaming and downloading. The site does not host the content, rather the operators upload content to various cyberlockers around the world. When particular files are removed from the locker services pursuant to DMCA notices, popular files are immediately re-uploaded to ensure they remain available through the Albumkings website. The site ensures that every popular new release is available. The site neatly organizes albums by genre offering access to large libraries of R&B, Rap, Country, Rock, Pop music. The site also offers a section on upcoming releases and advising users of the official release date along with a prediction of when the new album will be available on the site.

The site has huge user base with a global Alexa ranking of 33,159. SimilarWeb data shows that the site is attracting in excess of 3 million visits a month, with 52% of that traffic coming from the U.S.

<u>Newalbumreleases</u>

Domain: newalbumreleases.net

Registration: Sergey Kobilin, Svetogorsk, Russia

Hosting Provider: Hostlife (Ukraine) - through Cloudflare (US)

Registrar: DomainSite.com

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, revenue sharing with redirects to

third party sites.

Newalbumreleases makes available a substantial library of newly-released popular music content, as well as albums not yet commercially released. The site features the most recently uploaded albums on the home page using album artwork. In addition it organizes earlier posts by genre under menu tabs for Rock, Pop, Metal, etc. The home page also offers a search capability for content by artist or title. The site hosts its content on cyberlockers and provides users with links to services like Rapidgator.net and Hitfile.net from where the files are available for download. All of the files appear to have been uploaded to the cyberlocker sites by Newalbumreleases as the download files usually include "newalbumreleases" in the file name. As the uploaders they are direct infringers and takedown notices to the site are ineffective.

The site has a global Alexa ranking of 7,517. SimilarWeb traffic data shows the site averages 5.6 million visits a month.

This site has been blocked in the U.K. by court order.

Warez-bb

Domain: warez-bb.org

Registration: Mitchell Roberts, Stockholm, Sweden

Hosting Provider: Network Infinity Technologies Limited (Hong Kong)

Registrar: Key-Systems GmbH **Revenue Sources**: Unknown

Warez-bb is a forum site were user must register to gain access. Once registered, users can access all sections of the site. The site has been running for over 10 years and has a current global Alexa ranking of 5,850 and is ranked 5,100 in the US. The site has a search facility allowing users to search for content across forums including music, music videos, apps, TV shows and movies. Registered users of the site are able to post content to the site including album track lists and links to content hosted on cyberlockers such as Uploaded, Nitroflare and Uploadable. The site has removed only a small number of the links reported for removal on behalf of recording industry copyright owners.

This site has been blocked in South Korea by court order.

<u>Israbox</u>

Domain: israbox.info, (formerly israbox.com, israbox.org, israbox.net)

Registration: Robert Cheshir, IsraBox LTD, Stockholm, Sweden

Hosting Provider: Portlane Ab (Sweden)

Registrars: PublicDomainRegistry.com; Regtime Itd; Go Canada Domains LLC

Revenue Sources: Advertising, malware install programs, revenue sharing with redirects to

third party sites.

Israbox provides users with download access to a broad range of commercially available music. The homepage lists the Top Albums and also notes "you can download free music albums. We present new items of music and the hot hits for information." On the homepage, the user is presented with details regarding various albums including artist name, album title, year of release, record label, genre, and quality of the download, total time and total size of the file. The site organizes content behind menu tabs for Rock, Pop, Folk, Country, Soul and other genres making it easy for users to browse through offerings. The site also provides search capability to to take users to specific artists or titles. The files themselves are stored on various cyberlocker sites and upon chosing material to download, the user is redirected to the download page of a locker site.

Israbox has a current global Alexa ranking of 7,825. SimilarWeb traffic data shows the site averaging 5.6 million visits a month.

Bajui

Domain: bajui.com

Registration: Whois Privacy Protection Service, Inc., Kirkland, WA (US)

Hosting Provider: ITL Company (Ukraine)

Registrar: eNom, Inc.

Revenue Sources: Advertising

Bajui is part of grupoet.com, which operates unlicensed services including music, movies, series and pornography. The site has been popular for the last 6 years and pre-release music can be downloaded directly from the site. There are currently over 37,745 music titles on the site. The site is supported by revenue generated by advertising on the site. According to Alexa, this website has a global ranking of 22,626 and ranks 550 in Spain (65.7% of the visitors to the site are from Spain). The site receives in excess of 54,000 unique users per day (over 120,000 page views).

There are typically many links to cyberlockers from where the most popular albums and tracks can be downloaded. It is also appears that 6 to 7 users are uploading most of the links. The site appears to monitor the status of links, as once links are removed from cyberlockers they are replaced with new ones, ensuring the material is always available to download.

The album art is also available on the site. This site is clearly designed and operated to maximize its role as a distributor of infringing content, and is actively engaged in ensuring that content remains available. While there are mechanisms for securing takedowns of specific links, that is an inadequate and ineffective "remedy" for a site that is engaged in wilful distribution of known infringing materials.

The Law on Sustainable Economy ("Sinde Law") came into effect in Spain on 1 March 2012. The Sinde law provides for an expedited procedure for the removal of illegal content from websites or for blocking access to illegal services. The Spanish music industry (Promusicae) submitted a complaint to the Intellectual Property Commission ("IPC") regarding this site but the case was closed last year as the specific links included in the complaint had been removed from the site.

Goear

Domain: goear.com

Registration: Goear BV, Amsterdam, NL

Hosting Provider: Serverius Holding B.V. (Netherlands)

Registrar: Hosting Concepts B.V. **Revenue Sources**: Advertising

Goear is an unlicensed streaming website hosted from Holland by Serverious Holding. The site offers hundreds of thousands of music files for users to stream and download. Currently the site has more than 450,000 files available (approx. 50,000 more than last year). The site is very important for both Spanish and Latin American users, but even more so for Latin America in 2015 following the closure of Grooveshark in May 2015. According to Alexa, the site has a global ranking of 33,852 and ranks 3,744 in Spain, (16.9% of the visitors to the site are in Spain). The site receives in excess of 50,000 unique users per day.

Many of the pages on the site display advertising banners which generate revenue for the site. Goear also uses social networks such as Twitter and Facebook. Previously an Android app for the site was available on the Google Play store but this was removed on referral to Google. However, the iOS app remains available on the Apple store.

To use the website, a user simply needs to type in the artist or album name they want to listen to in the search box following which they are redirected to a page from where they can stream the track. Rights holders have submitted take down requests but any action taken is ineffective and slow. As with Bajui, in 2012 the Spanish music industry submitted a complaint to the IPC regarding this site. In 2013, the IPC held that the site had infringed the intellectual property in 10 albums. Goear's lawyer filed an appeal at the National High Court regarding the IPC's decision to end the administrative procedure. The National High Court dismissed the appeal and the Supreme Court has recently disqualified this case. In parallel, in March 2014, the Central Administrative Court issued a decision refusing to allow the ISP for the website Goear.com to suspend its service to the site. The judge held that such disruption to the site was not proportionate as the IPC had only demonstrated that 34 out of the 6,833 files were still on the site following the previous administrative decision. AGEDI subsequently appealed the decision before the Appeal Central Court of Administrative Litigation and the appeal was upheld. In January 2015, the Madrid High court found that the site was liable for direct copyright infringements and that it could not benefit from safe harbour protection under the E-Commerce law.

On 7 September 2015, the IPC requested that the site remove approximately 100,000 URLs. The site has posted the letter they received to their site. In the event of non-compliance with the removal order, the relevant internet service providers will be required to suspend access to the site.

Exvagos

Domain: exvagos.com

Registration: Privacy Protection Service, Inc. (Australia)

Hosting Provider: Mir Telematiki Ltd. (Russia)

Registrar: publicdomainregistry.com

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install of potential malware.

This site has been in operation for over 7 years and continues to remain popular as pre-release music can be directly downloaded from the site. There are currently over 88,475 music titles on the site, in comparison to 52,000 last year. The site used to be hosted from France by OVH Sarl, but in 2015 the site moved to a new hosting provider located in Russia, MIR TELEMATIKI. The site has a global Alexa ranking of 20,541 and a ranking of 498 in Spain (81.8% of the visitors to the site are from Spain). The site receives in excess of around 45,000 unique users per day.

The site has over a dozen music sections where users can upload and download infringing files. There are normally many links to cyberlockers from where the most popular albums and tracks can be downloaded. By providing multiple links the site ensures this material is always available for download. This site is clearly designed and operated to maximize its role as a distributor of infringing content, and is actively engaged in ensuring that content remains available.

In 2012, the Spanish music industry submitted a complaint to the IPC regarding this site. The case was closed in January 2014 as the site had removed the infringing links detailed in the complaint.

Degraca

Domain: degraca.org (formerly degraçaémaisgostoso.org)

Registration: Dynadot Privacy (US) **Hosting Provider:** OVH SAS (Canada)

Registrar: Dynadot, LLC

Revenue Sources: Advertising; premium accounts

This Brazilian blog site has been in operation since October 2007 and is dedicated to distributing infringing music content. It is only available in Portuguese and is very popular in Brazil where it has an Alexa ranking of 2,754. Over 90% of the site's visitors are from Brazil. The site has approximately 1.2 million monthly users according to SimilarWeb.

The English translation of site's previous name was "for free is much better" but following the site's change of name, it is now simply means "for free." This slogan reflects the site's determination to promote the distribution of infringing music and other content. The site remains dedicated to international and local music repertoire, including popular American music, as well as books, games, movies and music concerts and is updated daily with new links. It contains approximately 9,000 posts for full music albums.

The site generates revenue from advertisements and the sale of premium accounts. The site is currently being hosted from France and fails to respond to take down notices. The site provides links to multiple cyberlockers including Uploaded and Oboom from where the infringing files can be downloaded.

Sobaixar

Domain: sobaixar.com (formerly baixturbo.org) **Registration:** Super Privacy Service c/o Dynadot (US) **Hosting Provider:** THOR Data Center (Iceland)

Registrar: Dynadot, LLC

Revenue Sources: Advertising; premium accounts

This Brazilian blog site in operation since July 2008 is dedicated to distributing infringing music content. It is only available in Portuguese and is very popular in Brazil where it has an Alexa ranking of 2,102. The site has approximately 2.4 million monthly users according to SimilarWeb.

The site is dedicated to international and local music repertoire, including popular American music, as well as books, games, movies and music concerts, and is updated daily with new links. The site has more than 11,500 posts for infringing music content available, organized by music genres, compilations and full discographies.

The site generates its revenue from advertisements and through the sale of premium accounts. The site has more than 53k "likes" on its Facebook page and 5,000 followers on Twitter. The site provides links to multiple cyberlockers including Uploaded from where the infringing files can be downloaded.

EX.UA

Domain: Ex.ua

Registration Information: Unavailable

Hosting Provider: Kyivski Telekomunikatsiyni Merezhi Llc, (Ukraine)

Registrar: ua.imena

Revenue Sources: Advertising

Ex.ua allows users to download and/or stream a full range of content including music and videos, movies, TV series and programs, e-books, audiobooks and software. All of the most popular US produced music is available on the site. The site is accessible from Ukraine, Russia and several CIS countries. The site has a current global Alexa ranking of 2,211 with a rank of 18 in Ukraine. The

SimilarWeb data shows nearly 10 million visits to the site each week with 90% of the traffic coming from the Ukraine.

It is possible to search for infringing material both via the "search" function and via directories according to the type of content, for example video and audio. The site appeals to a wide audience due to its "one-click" streaming function. The website is also easy to navigate, which increases the range of age groups who access the service.

Sending take down notices to the site has been ineffective as once an infringing link is removed, the same infringing content re-appears within days, if not hours. It is believed that administrators themselves are uploading most of the content under the login details of "regular users." The owners of the site have on many occasions pledged their willingness to change Ex.ua into a legitimate service. However, in reality they are using the "perpetual negotiations" with content owners as a strategy while the service continues generating revenue from advertising on a service predicated upon knowingly providing access to infringing materials. The dismissal of the criminal case against it, and the return of the seized servers to ex.ua back in 2012, have served to increase the site's sense of invulnerability and its defiance of its legal obligations to secure licensing to operate as a content distribution platform.

In May 2015, the Russian copyright law was amended to provide for a procedure whereby copyright owners can apply for orders requiring websites to take down infringing music content. If the website does not comply, these orders can potentially lead to Russian ISPs being required to block their customers' access to the site. TNT (a TV channel) filed a claim against EX.UA under this law and as a result the site is now being blocked by a number of ISPs in Russia.

BitTorrent Indexing and Tracker Sites

BitTorrent services are typically referred to as indexing sites or tracker sites. Indexing sites provide a searchable index of links to content which can be downloaded from subscribers running the appropriate client software. Trackers help facilitate the download of content from the subscribers' computers but do not have any form of graphical user interface or other user-focused interface. Indexing services can, and usually do, generate revenue from advertising and/or user donations. The particular financial model, structure and approach varies from site to site.

The following popular sites are the most egregious, based on: (i) the extent of the infringement i.e. the number of users visiting the site to infringe copyright; (ii) the amount of unlicensed content on the site; and (iii) the site's failure to take steps to address the massive piracy problem across its network.

Some of these BitTorrent indexing services, although not all, respond to notices from copyright owners requesting infringing material be taken down from the site. However, in practice, these take down requests are of little use in addressing the problem of piracy, and many site operators rely on the take down process to create an appearance of legitimacy while operating services that are designed and overwhelmingly used for the distribution of infringing materials.

One of the principal problems with the use of take down notices for BitTorrent indexing sites is that the same infringing material can easily be, and usually is, very quickly reposted to the site. As a result, copyright owners are forced into an endless "cat and mouse" game, which requires considerable resources to be devoted to chasing infringing content, only for that same infringing content to continually reappear. Moreover most BitTorrent index sites demonstrate they are dedicated to infringement by the way they organize and display files they index. Files are typically

organized into categories of movie, music, software and games with files names clearly and unmistakably describing content in a way that the operators know full well they are distributing torrents for copyright protected content.

Increasingly BitTorrent sites are registering multiple domains in order to mitigate the problem of their sites going off line if one of their domains are seized, and to work around search engine demotion algorithms. A simple change in the county code or other top level domain allows the site to reappear in top search results. In addition, more sites are now employing services of CloudFlare, a content delivery network and distributed domain name server service. BitTorrent sites, like many other pirate sites, are increasing turning to CloudFlare because routing their site through CloudFlare obfuscates the IP address of the actual hosting provider, masking the location of the site. The use of CloudFlare's services can also act to frustrate site-blocking orders because multiple non-infringing sites may share a CloudFlare IP address with the infringing site.

ThePirateBay

Domain: thepiratebay.gd (formerly thepiratebay.se)

Registration: Neij holdings LTD, Fredrik Neij, Stockholm, Sweden

Hosting Provider: Unknown, - through Cloudflare (US)

Registrar: 1api GmpH; www.binero.se

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install of potential malware.

Following raids by Swedish police in Stockholm in early December 2014, The Pirate Bay, one of the most well-known and notorious BitTorrent indexing sites, went offline for two months. The site came back online on 31st January 2015 but has suffered down time on and off during the course of this year as it moves from one hosting provider to another. Nevertheless, the site remains one of the world's most popular BitTorrent sites with its registered users uploading and making content available to the public. The world's most popular and newly released films and music can be downloaded via the site. The site claims to be run by an organization registered in the Seychelles. The site fails to respond to any take down notices and has previously ridiculed those who have sent them such notices.

Having exhausted criminal and civil remedies in Sweden, rights holders have been forced to take action against ISPs in many countries and have so far obtained blocking orders to have ISPs block their subscribers' access to the site through the courts in 10 countries including: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain and the UK. In response, the site launched the PirateBrowser which allows users to circumvent country specific blocking actions.

On 19 May 2015, the Stockholm District Court ordered two of the site's key domains — ThePirateBay.se and PirateBay.se - to be seized following an action brought by the Swedish Prosecutor Fredrik Ingblad in 2013. The decision has been appealed. As a result, the site registered 6 new domains, of which 2 were subsequently suspended by the domain registries in Armenia and South Georgia. Currently, in addition to thepiratebay.gb the site is also using .la, .mn, and .vg country level top level domains.

KickassTorrents

Domain: Kat.cr (formerly kickass.to, kickass.so, kickass.im kat.tw, katproxy.is, kickass.cr,

kickassto.is, kickass.unblocked.la, and kat.ph)

Registration Information: Unavailable

Hosting Provider: Netelligent Hosting Services Inc., (Canada)

Registrar: unavailable

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install of potential malware, donations via bitcoin.

KickassTorrents is a BitTorrent indexing site which launched in 2008. The site is one of the most popular BitTorrent sites, benefitting from an increasing number of visitors when ThePirateBay was offline for 2 months. The site currently has a global Alexa ranking of 75, and is ranked 29 in India and 98 in the US. SimilarWeb data shows nearly 400 million sites visits a month with 27% of that traffic coming from the US.

In July 2015, it was reported that Google Chrome had started blocking access to the site due to the site containing "harmful programs."

During the course of 2014 and 2015, the site has moved domain names a number of times. In November 2014, the site moved to Kickass.so. However, the domain was seized by the Somalian registry and the site subsequently hopped to Kickass.im for a 24 hour period. Following action taken by the Isle of Man domain registry to withdraw the domain name, the site moved to its current domain of Kat.cr.

The site derives revenue from advertising and affiliate agreements, some with companies that produce software designed to hide users of BitTorrent from detection by ISPs and monitoring companies.

As with the other sites, no details are provided on the site as to the identity of those controlling the service or where it is physically located, so rights holders have had to seek alternative remedies. In 2012, right holders in Italy, through cooperation with the fiscal police (GDF), were successful in getting the site blocked by all local ISPs. In March 2013, major ISPs in the UK were ordered to block the site. In August 2013, Belgian ISPs started blocking the site and in January 2014, Irish ISPs similarly commenced blocking access to the site. Most recently, in March 2015 Danish ISPs were required to start blocking access to the site.

Kat.cr is currently operating on multiple different IP addresses indicating that is using a form of content delivery network.

Torrentz.eu

Domain: Torrentz.eu

Registration Information: Unavailable

Hosting Provider: Inventoris Sp. z o. o. (Poland)

Registrar: Inventoris Sp. z o. o.

Revenue Sources: Likely revenue sharing with other sites based on referral traffic

Torrentz.eu is one of the most popular BitTorrent indexing sites globally and has been operating for over ten years. Rather than a conventional BitTorrent indexing site, Torrentz.eu is a "meta search engine" (i.e. an aggregator) of 28 third party sites, including ThePirateBay, KickassTorrents, ExtraTorrent, Bitsnoop and Torrentdownloads. The site boasts that it indexes over 32 million active torrents from more than 126,000,000 pages on 26 domains. The site currently has a global Alexa ranking of 477 and is ranked 803 in the US. SimilarWeb traffic data show an average of 146 million site visits a month.

As with The Pirate Bay and KickassTorrents, rights holders have resorted to taking legal action to have ISPs block the site. The site is now blocked by ISPs in the UK, Belgium and Denmark. In July 2015, it was reported that Google Chrome had started blocking access to the site due to the

site containing "harmful programs."

ExtraTorrent

Domain: extratorrent.cc (formerly extratorrent.com); also displays from through several mirror sites etmirror.com, etproxy.com, extratorrentonline.com and extratorrentlive.com

Registration Information: Whois Privacy Corp. Nassau, Bahamas

Registrars: Internet.BS Corp.; EasyDNS Technologies, Inc.

Hosting Provider: Omnilance, Ltd. (Ukraine) - through Cloudflare (US) **Revenue Sources:** Advertising, pay-per-install of potential malware

ExtraTorrent is a BitTorrent indexing site for music, films, television programs, software, games, books and pornography. The site states that it has over 1 million torrents and is indexing content from over 45,000 trackers. In July 2015, it was reported that Google Chrome had started blocking access to the site due to the site containing "harmful programs." In May 2015, Facebook removed ExtraTorrent's profile following a complaint from copyright holders. However, the site has launched a new Facebook profile.

There are no details on the site regarding the operator or where the site is physically located. The site is using CloudFlare services. The site derives revenue from advertising placed on the site. The site currently has a global Alexa ranking of 313 and is ranked 70 in India.

The site is blocked by ISPs in a number of countries including the UK, Belgium, Italy and Denmark.

Other popular BitTorrent indexing sites (and host countries)

Bitsnoop.com (Switzerland)
Isohunt.to (unknown - through Cloudflare)
Cpasbien.pw (unknown - through Cloudflare)
Torrenthound.com (Sweden)
Torrentdownloads.me (Poland - through Cloudflare)
Torrentreactor.com (Ukraine)
LimeTorrents.cc (unknown - through Cloudflare)
Torrents.net (Sweden)
T411.in (Lithuania - through Cloudflare)
Sumotorrent.sx (Canada)
Seedpeer.eu (Canada)

Cyberlockers

A "cyberlocker", also known as a one click file-host, typically refers to a type of website which enables users to upload, store and distribute digital files on a dedicated storage infrastructure on the internet that is controlled, managed and maintained by the website's operator. The term "locker" is used because the operators of these websites often hide behind a veneer of legitimacy claiming to provide a private storage service for individual users. The websites typically operate by offering accounts to individual users, allowing users to upload files to their accounts, and providing a unique URL for each file to the user. In most cases, an internet user visiting the front page of such a cyberlocker is unable to search for directly or see any files; rather they would need to know the unique URL in order to access the specific file. However, if there are no restrictions applied by the cyberlocker (and most often there are none), the URL can be used by anyone who has access to it in order to download the file and many users add links to indexing sites, forums, and blogs for others to find. In addition, search engines often index these links, making them easy to find and access.

Although on first glance there appears to be some similarity between cyberlockers and legitimate cloud storage services (as they both allow users to upload files to servers which can then be shared), their business models are strikingly different. The business model for legitimate storage services is principally based around personal file storage whereas the business model for cyberlockers is based on the distribution of unlicensed content.

Cyberlockers that allow for public sharing of files are of particular concern for the music industry. Download links are widely disseminated, including on third party websites such as social networks and blogs. They also appear in search engine results and there are websites dedicated to providing indexes of URLs to enable the download of files from cyberlockers. In this way, these cyberlockers are not lockers at all since they lack the essential component of being "locked," and instead merely serve as file sharing services, or as hubs for the distribution of infringing content.

Cyberlockers typically earn revenue from one or more of the following means: advertising such as banner and "pop-up" ads which typically appear on the pages from where the files to be downloaded are accessed; and the sale of "premium accounts" which offer users benefits such as greatly increased download speeds, no-wait downloads, and simultaneous downloads — all features which are of particular interest to users who want to download large files such as films and albums. Some cyberlockers provide financial rewards to an uploader when a downloader purchases a premium account after accessing an uploader's content. Other cyberlockers offer rewards to users based on the number of times their files are downloaded. Further, some sites also have a policy of deleting content uploaded by non-paying users that is not regularly downloaded by others — in other words, content which is not popular.

The cyberlocker websites listed below are directly engaged in the storage and distribution of infringing material. For many of these services, there would be no economic viability in the absence of engaging in piracy.

To a limited extent, rights holders can attempt to tackle these infringements by sending take down notices to the locker. However, this entails monitoring of thousands of third party link resources – blogs, forum sites and search engines – to locate the information that is needed to notify the locker of infringements occurring on their own services. The locker service itself would clearly be better placed to identify infringing content being uploaded to or distributed from its own servers. There are efficient and reasonable technological solutions available that would assist in this. Some cyberlocker services, for example Mediafire and Depositfiles, have employed such technology.

4shared

Domain: 4shared.com

Registration: New IT Solutions Ltd., British Virgin Islands

Hosting Provider: WZ Communications Inc. US (wholly owned subsidiary of XBT Holding S.A,

Cyprus)

Registrar: GoDaddy.com, LLC

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install programs, paid premium accounts

4shared remains a very popular cyberlocker with a global Alexa ranking of 419 and a ranking of 75 in Brazil. In September 2015, it was reported that 4shared was the second biggest copyright infringer based on the number of URLs sent to Google for removal. The site's blog notes that 4shared has 10,500,000 users, 11,000,222 daily visits, 940 terabytes of hosted files and has daily file transfers of 317 terabytes (the equivalent of 3.3 million music albums of 100MB each in size each day). Because infringing links drive traffic to the site, users are allowed to store up to 15GB of files for free with paying users given an even larger storage capacity.

In July 2015, the site's blog promoted their new online music player. This allowed users to stream content from the site, regardless of who uploaded the content, and boasted a unique "playnext" feature as well as a special "explore" section that allowed users to search for and stream similar and suggested tracks and playlists. 4shared also has a general search feature that provides unauthorized streaming of music.

4shared derives revenue from advertising placed on the site and through the offering of "premium accounts" which enable users to download files without having to wait or view advertising, as well as being able to download multiple files at once and have increased upload storage space. Major US payment providers, Visa, MasterCard and PayPal no longer service the site, but 4shared uses a combination of resellers and off-shore payment processors to sell premium accounts. 4shared claims to have implemented an open source audio fingerprinting solution to prevent infringement, however, the music industry has found no change in the levels of infringing files on 4shared. In fact, the new music player and playnext features suggest music infringement is as important as ever to 4shared.

The site has been blocked by ISPs in South Korea since October 2014.

Uploaded

Domain: uploaded.net (redirects to the .net domain from ul.to and uploaded.to)

Registration: Daniel Hrnjak, WOLLERAU, Switzerland **Hosting Provider:** Eweka Internet Services B.V. (NL)

Registrar: eNom, Inc.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install of potential malware, paid premium accounts

Uploaded continues to be a very popular cyberlocker with a current global Alexa ranking of 443, ranking 202 in Japan and 131 in Germany. SimilarWeb traffic data estimates just over 100 million site visits each month, with 16% of that traffic coming from the US. In September 2015, it was reported that Uploaded was the third biggest copyright infringer based on the number of URLs sent to Google for removal. The site is hosted from the Netherlands by Eweka Internet Services B.V. and is operated from Switzerland by Cyando AG. The site generates revenue by offering "premium accounts" and by advertising on the site. Users are encouraged to purchase "premium accounts" in order to benefit from ad-free, fast and parallel downloads. By paying for a premium account the bandwidth for each download is "unlimited". Premium account users can download files immediately without waiting and also receive unlimited storage. Bitcoin and Paysafe are used to pay for premium accounts.

The site also offers a reward scheme through which it provides financial incentives to users when downloaders purchase a premium account after clicking on a link provided by the user.

The site is frequently found to be hosting and distributing pre-release music i.e. music that has not yet been commercially released. This can substantially undermine the promotion and marketing directed to the release of a sound recording which may be fundamental to the commercial success of the product. During the first six months of 2015, more pre-release music was located first on Uploaded than on any other site on the internet.

In October 2014, Uploaded.net was found liable for copyright infringement by The Regional Court of Hamburg.

Rapidgator

Domain: Rapidgator.net

Registration: Whois Privacy Corp., Nassau, Bahamas

Hosting Provider: Netvillage Ltd (Russia)

Registrar: Internet.BS Corp.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install of potential malware, revenue sharing for

popunders and redirects to third party sites, and premium accounts.

This cyberlocker launched in October 2011 and has a global Alexa ranking of 749, is ranked 221 in Japan and 1,622 in the US. SimilarWeb estimates average monthly traffic to the site at approximately 52 million with 26% of that traffic coming from the US.

In September 2015, it was reported that Rapidgator was the biggest copyright infringer based on the number of URLs sent to Google for removal. The site is frequently found hosting pre-release content. A user can upload files up to 500MB and download files up to 500MB for free. Premium account users can download files up to 5GB and also benefit from unlimited download speed, simultaneous downloads and no advertisements.

As with 4shared and Uploaded, Rapidgator generates revenue by offering "premium accounts." Rapidgator also offers a reward scheme allowing users to earn money on a pay per download or pay per sale basis. The site also has a referral program where users who introduce an affiliate to the site, (i.e. someone who registers as a premium account user and signs up to an affiliate program) will earn 10% of the affiliate's profits. Rapidgator also operates a scheme whereby the operators of third party websites ("webmasters") can earn a commission on the sale of Rapidgator premium accounts which occur through the webmaster's site. The rates offered by Rapidgator under the webmasters scheme vary from 5% for 1 to 500 sales, 10% for 501 to 10,000 and 15% for over 10,001 sales. Like others on this list, they do not employ any of the reasonable technical measures used by a small number of other locker services that would prevent or limit the extent of infringement on their service.

In November 2013, the Court of Rome ordered Italian ISPs to block this site.

Zippyshare

Domain: zippyshare.com

Registration: Privacy Inc., Toronto, Canada

Hosting Provider: OVH SAS (France) **Registrar**: Tucows Domains Inc.

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install of third party applications.

Zippyshare is a very popular cyberlocker, particularly for infringing music, that allows users to upload files, share links to these files online, and also to stream music via an embedded music player. The site has been operating since 2006 and in 2014 was responsible for hosting more pre-release content than any other cyberlocker. The site has a current global Alexa ranking of 499, is ranked 260 in India, 400 in Brazil and 1,354 in the US. The site is attracting nearly 100 million site visits a month according to SimilarWeb traffic data. The site responds to take down notifications, usually within 24 hours, but the same content that is taken down is regularly re-uploaded to the site. With the action in the United States against the cyberlocker Sharebeast.com, many uploading sites have switched to hosting their infringing files on Zippyshare.

The site's sole source of revenue appears to be from advertising.

<u>Dopefile</u>

Domain: dopefile.com

Registration: Privacy Protection Service Inc., (Australia)

Hosting Provider: ONLINE S.A.S. (France) **Registrar**: SHINJIRU MSC SDN BHD

Revenue Sources: Advertising, pay-per-install of third party applications.

With the takedown of Sharebeast.com by the US Justice Department, uploaders running infringing websites have turned increasingly to dopefile as the cyberlocker of choice. Like sharebeast, dopefile appears to specialize in music files and provides and embedded music player for streaming music as well as fast and easy down loads. According to SimilarWeb, the site saw its traffic double in the month after sharebeast went off line with traffic increasing to 800,000 visits a month ago.

Chomikuj

Domain: chomikuj.pl **Registration:** Unavailable

Hosting Provider: Fs File Solutions, Ltd (Cyprus)

Registrar: Instra Corporation Pty Ltd

Revenue Sources: Advertising

The site is the most popular cyberlocker in Poland, with a global Alexa ranking of 2,467 and a ranking of 32 in Poland. Over 80% of the visitors to the site are in Poland. The site enables users to upload files e.g. music, films, images, software, books to the site and then share links to the content. Users can choose to have a free account or pay for an account via subscription or paid text messages. The site offers rewards to users who upload popular content downloaded by other users. The site is owned by a company called FS File Solutions Limited, registered in Nicosia, Cyprus and located at 4 Georgios Seferis Street, 1076 Nicosia, Cyprus.

The site reacts to take down notices by removing individual URLs. From January 2015 to the end of August 2015, the Polish music industry, ZPAV, requested the removal of 1,222,634 infringing music files from the site. In May 2015, the Circuit Court in Krakow, following an action filed by the filmmakers association, found that Chomikuj was not a neutral hosting provider as it charges for downloads and therefore the site could not benefit from safe harbour protection under the E-Commerce law. The operator of the site was also found liable for assisting copyright infringement. This judgment is subject to appeal.

Other notorious cyberlockers (and host countries)

Turbobit.net (Netherlands)
Hitfile.net (Netherlands)
Letitbit.net Netherlands)
1fichier.com (France)
Uploadable.ch (Netherlands)
Share-online.biz (Netherlands – through Cloudflare)
Ulozto.cz (Czech Republic)

Unlicensed pay for download sites

There are a dozen or so websites based in Russia and the Ukraine that engage in the unlicensed sale of singles and albums at a fraction of the cost found on licensed services. The fact that they pay no royalties to copyright owners allows them to completely undercut legitimate licensed services. The

sites are professional looking utilizing official album art and selling all of the latest releases, and popular older catalogue works.

Mp3va

Domain: mp3va.com

Registration: MyPrivacy.net Ltd. (Canada) **Hosting Provider:** Filanco LTD (Russia) **Registrar:** EasyDNS Technologies, Inc.

Revenue Sources: Sale of singles and full albums

Mp3va engages in the unlicensed sale of music. The sites have the look and feel of legal music sites like Amazon or iTunes, however they sell single tracks for an average of 15 cents and full albums for about \$1.50. Music is sold by the file size so the cost of singles and albums varies slightly. Users must set up an account and add money to the account using credit cards or payment intermediaries. Major US credit card and payment processors have terminated support for the site, but off shore intermediaries can still be used. Mp3va has a global Alexa ranking of 31,416. SimilarWeb traffic data measures the site averaging just over 1 million site visits a month.

Other unlicensed pay for download sites (and host countries)

Soundsbox.com (Croatia – through Cloudflare)
Iomoio.com (Russia)
Soundike.com (Russia)
Payplay.fm (Russia)
Mp3million.com (Russia)

Megaboon.com (Germany)

Melodishop.com (Germany - through Cloudflare)

Melodysale.com (Germany – through Cloudflare)

Mp3caprice.com (Ukraine)
Ivave.com (Netherland)

Mediasack.com (Germany - through Cloudflare)

Goldenmp3.ru (Russia)