



November 15, 2007

Mr. David Sohn
Director, CDT Project on Intellectual Property and Technology
1634 I Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Sohn:

Thank you for your October 9th letter regarding scam sites offering to sell free music to consumers online. The sites you reference are not licensed by our member companies and serve merely to deceive consumers into downloading commercial music illegally over peer-to-peer (P2P) file-sharing systems.

As you know, illegal file-sharing on P2P systems remains a serious threat to our industry, resulting not only in a massive decline in sales, but also in a significant loss to the workforce and an unprecedented decrease in our ability to invest in new artists. While we have sought to enforce our rights against online infringers, we have continued to work hard to educate consumers on the illegal nature of this activity. Yet, sites such as those in your letter undermine all of our efforts by duping consumers into believing they are accessing music legally.

We will likely step up our own efforts to shut these sites down and hope the FTC will take a more proactive stance on addressing an issue that poses a serious threat to consumers. Meanwhile, we greatly appreciate CDT's efforts to shed light on these sites and its plans to create a website to inform consumers and help direct them to legitimate sources of music.

Consumers have more opportunity than ever before to benefit from the increasing availability of legitimate music online. But the continued success of the marketplace, and the growing opportunities for consumers, depends on our ability to keep illicit file-sharing in check. Shutting down these scam sites are an important step in that effort. Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitch Bainwol", is written over a light blue circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mitch Bainwol