



*representing the  
recording industry  
worldwide*

## **International Standard Recording Code (ISRC) International Agency Activities Report**

Since the last Plenary of ISO TC46, the International ISRC Agency (IFPI Secretariat) has continued to meet its obligations under ISO 3901:2001.

### **AGENCIES**

Having established a formal process for the appointment of National Agencies, which is documented in the ISRC Handbook, the International Agency has appointed five new Agencies in:

- Chile
- Estonia
- Iceland
- Romania
- Slovakia

New applicants seeking appointment are received on a regular basis. The International Agency works closely with all the National Agencies to ensure that they are able to meet their obligations.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

In August 2001 the International Agency created two email reflector lists; ISRC Announce – for the National Agencies only, and ISRC Discuss where all those involved in the use of the ISRC including the Agencies are members. The reflectors have proved to be a very useful and popular tool to increase communication between Agencies and users.

The International Agency has also held two ISRC Summits. The objective of the Summits was to bring together National ISRC Agencies and record company representatives to discuss issues related to and agree future strategies for the International Standard Recording Code (ISRC) system.

The International Agency has re-released the ISRC Handbook, which replaced the Practical Guide and continues to issue recommendations relating to the implementation of the standard as the need arises. Once issued the recommendations are authoritative although they are only documented in the yearly re-release of the ISRC Handbook.

In June 2002, the International Agency produced the ISRC Review. The purpose of this document was to:

- Highlight the activities of the International ISRC Agency and its National Agencies in furthering the knowledge, understanding and implementation of the ISRC system.
- Foster greater interest and positive participation in the use of the ISRC and to illustrate best practice, and
- Highlight initiatives being undertaken to further the implementation of the ISRC system worldwide.

The Review was aimed at members of ISO TC 46 SC9 – Information and Documentation, the National ISRC Agencies, the record industry and other interested representatives from the wider music industry.

#### PROMOTION AND SUPPLIER LIAISON

At the last ISRC Summit held in October 2002, a 'Suppliers Round Table' was also held where some representatives of equipment suppliers across the value chain were brought together in order to learn more about the ISRC system and its importance.

This work has continued with IFPI Secretariat sharing a stand with the APRS (Association of Professional Recording Services) to promote ISRC at the Audio Engineering Society Convention in March 2003.