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ASCAP, an organization owned and run by its members, is the leading U.S. Performing Rights Organization representing over 500,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers.

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Identifying Performances

ASCAP relies on a combination of sources for data to identify performances on each medium. ASCAP is committed to a high standard of accuracy in identifying performances and has developed many technological innovations that have set international standards.

TELEVISION



In order to identify what musical works are performed on both broadcast and cable television, ASCAP uses cue sheets provided to us by the program producers or broadcasters combined with computer based program schedules, network or station logs, and tapes of actual broadcasts which are then analyzed by ASCAP's music experts. Cue sheets list detailed information on all of the composers, writers and publishers who have music in a show, and the type of music usage. Types of music usage include feature performances, background, themes, etc. We must have a cue sheet on file in order to make payment. Among ASCAP's many technological innovations was the development of cue sheet software called ASCAP EZQ, which greatly facilitated the process of preparing cue sheets and identifying performances of our members' works. ASCAP EZQ evolved into the industry standard RapidCue, used by most of the major studios and program producers today.



RADIO

Our radio survey uses information provided to us by the advanced digital tracking technology of [Media Monitors and Mediabase](#), station logs (lists of works performed) provided to us by the radio stations, and by recorded tapes of actual broadcasts.

ASCAP's radio survey covers all types of music on all types and sizes of stations in every region of the country. ASCAP conducts separate surveys of country, Latin, jazz, urban contemporary, religious, classical, ethnic, and pop music stations. The total monies collected from those genre-specific stations are paid to the writers and publishers of works with performances on those stations.



LIVE CONCERTS

To compensate ASCAP writers and publishers for live performances of their music, we use set lists provided by our writer members via [OnStage](#). We also survey all songs performed in the 300 top-grossing concert tours and selected major venues. For symphony, recital and educational concerts, we rely on printed programs submitted via [Performance Notification](#).



OTHER MEDIA

For performances on the Internet, background music services and other media, ASCAP relies on electronic logs, playlists, program guides and cue sheets for the necessary performance information.

[Next Page: Turning Performances Into Dollars >>>](#)

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Upcoming Eventsmore....

- [Introduction to the Music Business with John P. Kellogg, Esq., Assistant Chair of Music Business Management at Berklee College of Music](#)
November 10 2014 - December 22 2014
- [ASCAP EXPO Early Bird Deadline](#)
November 30 2014 - Hollywood, CA
- [Title Registration Day](#)
December 5 2014 - Atlanta, New York, and Los Angeles
- [Music Tech & Futures Summit](#)
February 12 2015 - February 13 2015 - Nashville, TN
- [10th Annual ASCAP "I Create Music" EXPO](#)
April 30 2015 - May 2 2015 - Hollywood, CA

Deadlinesmore....

- [The ASCAP Foundation Christian Music Songwriters Workshop](#)
November 25 2014

Next Distributionmore....

- [Domestic Publishers](#)
December 19 2014

ASCAP is the only US performing rights organization owned and run by its songwriter, composer and music publisher members

Members

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