

[Date]

Dear [],

I am writing on behalf of the Libraries and Archives Copyright Alliance (LACA), which is a UK umbrella group convened by CILIP (Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals). LACA brings together the UK's major professional organisations and experts representing librarians and archivists to lobby in the UK and Europe about copyright issues which impact delivery of access to knowledge and information by libraries, archives and information services in the digital age.

An issue has recently been brought to LACA's attention regarding printed publications that additionally provide access to web-based / electronic content. This occurs in various forms, including:

- Books including "once-only" access codes which require the user to then set up a unique username/password in order to access the web-based content
- Books or music scores including a code or download card which enable (often audio) files to be downloaded a single time

A survey was circulated to libraries to ascertain how wide-spread this practice is, and some publications produced by your company were identified as falling into one of these categories.

The London Manifesto for fair copyright reform for libraries and archives in Europe<sup>1</sup>, advocates for the right to acquire and the right to lend.

In previous incarnations, this type of material would often have taken the form of a CD/ CD-ROM in the back of a publication, which would be lent out with the printed item. The current publishing model, which essentially boils down to "one purchaser, one user" is clearly incompatible with library lending. A borrower who can only access the printed portion, and not the electronic content, is thus denied access to the entirety of the publication, which in some instances will render the work completely unusable.

---

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.cilip.org.uk/advocacy-campaigns-awards/advocacy-campaigns/copyright/london-manifesto>

LACA of course appreciate that technological advancement necessitates the development of new ways of both accessing and protecting content, but would urge you to consider alternative methods such as an unrestricted URL<sup>2</sup> or a form of authentication which doesn't restrict access to a unique user (in the case of web-based content) or a single download (in the case of individual files).

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you the issues raised in this letter. Please do not hesitate to get in touch, either via email [naomi@naomikorn.com](mailto:naomi@naomikorn.com) or on 079 57761032. Alternatively you can write to me c/o CILIP, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



Naomi Korn  
Chair, Libraries and Archives Copyright Alliance

---

<sup>2</sup> See as an example Cook, Nicholas. *Beyond the score : music as performance* (Oxford: OUP, 2013) where the introductory pages of the book refer to the URL of the companion website: [www.oup.com/us/beyondthescore](http://www.oup.com/us/beyondthescore) which includes media examples. No access code or other form of authentication is required.