



PRESS RELEASE

CEES VAN RIJ AND SABAM JOIN FORCES

Brussels, November 10, 2011

With effect from November 7, 2011, Cees van Rij (54) has joined forces with SABAM to head up their newly reorganized Media & Online Licensing Department. Cees and his team will be responsible for licensing radio, television, cable and online operators, wherever located, offering their services in Belgium. By creating a separate department for these services under Cees' management, SABAM emphasizes its commitment to strengthen its position in these business sectors for the benefit of its members.

Cees van Rij stated on his first day at SABAM: "I am very pleased to join SABAM at such a critical moment in the development of the media and online service markets. Throughout my career I have always been committed to making sure that creators receive a fair share from the exploitation of their work. Being able to pursue this goal at SABAM is a great honour."

Christophe Depreter, CEO of SABAM, commented: "We are very pleased to have Cees on board and to be able to tap into his 25+ years of experience in the collective management of rights. The appointment of Cees is the last step in the reorganization and improvement of our structure"

About Cees van Rij

Cees van Rij started his career as outside counsel for BUMA/Stemra of The Netherlands in 1984. In 1997, he became in house counsel. In 2005 he was appointed Director of Legal Affairs, and in 2010 he became Deputy CEO with responsibility for Legal Affairs, Radio, Television, Cable and International Relations at Buma/Stemra.

About SABAM

SABAM was founded in 1922 by authors and for authors. As a private company, SABAM manages and distributes the royalties that come to the authors. It is the intermediary between the creative artist and the user of the works. SABAM guarantees a fair remuneration of the authors for the use of their works outside the family circle.

Being the largest cultural company in Belgium, it represents 36,000 authors and more than 4 million creations. SABAM is playing an active role in the distribution of cultural products in Belgium and abroad by way of the support it grants to authors and of the network that it puts at disposal. SABAM represents as well the Belgian as the international musical repertoire.

SABAM is a multidisciplinary society and is made up of composers, lyricists, publishers, playwrights, choreographers, directors, scriptwriters, writers of dialogues, radio makers, authors of subtitles, translators, novelists, poets, comic strip authors, illustrators, journalists, sculptors, painters, video makers, drawers, photographers, graphic artists...

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