**RIAA Submission to Comment Request for the**
**2026 Review of Notorious Markets for Counterfeiting and Piracy**

Docket No. USTR-2026-0529

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Submitted via regulations.gov

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) welcomes the opportunity to provide this submission in response to your request for comments identifying online and physical markets to be included in the 2026 Review of Notorious Markets for Counterfeiting and Piracy.

## I. **INTRODUCTION**

The RIAA is the trade organization that supports and promotes the creative and commercial vitality of music labels in the United States, the most vibrant recorded music community in the world. Our membership – which includes several hundred companies, ranging from small-to-medium-sized enterprises to global businesses – creates, manufactures, and/or distributes sound recordings representing the majority of all legitimate recorded music consumption in the United States. In support of its mission, the RIAA works to protect the intellectual property and First Amendment rights of artists and music labels; conducts consumer, industry, and technical research; and monitors and reviews state and federal laws, regulations, and policies.

The RIAA appreciates that the "United States encourages owners and operators of markets reportedly involved in piracy or counterfeiting to adopt business models that rely on the licensed distribution of legitimate content and products and to work with right holders and enforcement officials to address infringement."[1] The U.S. recorded music industry is highly reliant on the protection of intellectual property in order to drive innovation, creativity, and growth within this sector, and to enforce against those that unfairly and illegally steal our members' music.

The music industry contributes significantly to the U.S. economy and to U.S. trade exports. Overall, the music industry contributes $212 billion to the nation's economy and supports 2.5 million jobs in the United States.[2] According to the most recent study, the U.S. has the largest recorded music economy in the world, accounting for more than one third of the world's recorded music revenues.[3]

In the context of international trade, the U.S. is the largest exporter of recorded music by far.[4]

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[1] 91 Fed. Reg. 55154 (August 26, 2026).
[2] *See* https://50statesofmusic.com/?USimpact.
[3] *The U.S. Music Industries – Jobs and Benefits: The 2024 Report*, by Robert Stoner and Jéssica Dutra of Secretariat, prepared for the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), October 2024, available at https://www.riaa.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/The-U.S.-Music-Industries-Jobs-Benefits-2024-Report.pdf.
[4] Will Page, *Global Value of Music Copyright Hits New All-Time High, Nearly Doubling in a Decade to $47.2bn in 2024,* Pivotal Economics, Dec. 17, 2025, https://pivotaleconomics.com/undercurrents/music-copyright-2025.

American artists were responsible for a third of all global streams in 2024. America exports more than the next five largest music exporters combined and is one of only three countries in the world with a trade surplus in music. Of the more than 60 markets that report music consumption, 35 report American music as the most dominant in their country. In short, America is the world leader in music, and the American economy reaps the benefits.

However, in inflation-adjusted dollars, the 2025 U.S. sound recording revenues were still far below the peak U.S. sound recording revenues that were reached in 1999.[5] This period of time coincides with the rise of broadband and digital piracy generally, as well as the later rise of the sale and importation of foreign-made, counterfeit physical music products through e-commerce platforms and the rise of stream-ripping. As noted in the 2025 Special 301 Report, while the "increased availability of broadband Internet connections around the world, combined with increasingly accessible and sophisticated mobile technology, has led to the development of legitimate digital platforms for distribution of copyrighted content," these "technological developments have also made the Internet an extremely efficient vehicle for disseminating pirated content that competes unfairly with legitimate e-commerce and distribution services that copyright holders and online platforms use to deliver licensed content."[6]

In this submission, we first address physical markets engaged in or facilitating copyright piracy or trademark infringement, including superfakes or superclones. We follow this by addressing online markets engaged in facilitating copyright piracy, and finally present a few additional areas of concern for your consideration.

## II. PHYSICAL MARKETS / SUPERFAKES AND SUPERCLONES

Physical CD and vinyl album sales continue to generate considerable revenue for U.S. record companies.[7] Prominent e-commerce platforms have become the ideal outlet for counterfeit physical products produced in China and Russia. In some cases, Chinese and Russian sellers will sell directly on retail platforms, shipping the goods to consumers from China or Russia. In other cases, the principals behind the Chinese and Russian counterfeits sell to third-party sellers on platforms that may or may not know they are buying and reselling counterfeits. As discussed further below, these counterfeits often qualify as superclones or superfakes.

### Chinese and Russian Counterfeit CD and Vinyl Manufacturing and Distribution

Counterfeit CDs and vinyl records being manufactured and sold out of China and Russia are high quality products made to closely resemble authentic ones. While these counterfeits can be identified by our experts, there are no tell-tale signs of counterfeits that would be apparent to casual observers. The outside packaging will copy pull tabs, security seals, and shrink-wrap, while the insert booklets will mirror the legitimate versions of the product, printed on high-grade commercial printing machinery. These counterfeits are of such high quality that they should be considered superclones or superfakes.

In addition to counterfeit copies of legitimate album releases, we continue to see a vast array of

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[5] Source: RIAA. In inflation-adjusted dollars, the peak U.S. recorded music revenue in 1999 at wholesale was worth over $16 billion today. In 2025 the U.S. recorded music revenue at wholesale was $11.4 billion.
[6] 2026 Special 301 Report, Apr. 2026, p. 22, available at https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/Press/Releases/2026/2026%20Special%20301%20Report.pdf.
[7] *RIAA 2025 Year End Revenue Report*, available at https://www.riaa.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/RIAA-Year-End-Revenue-2025.pdf.

compilation "Best of" and "Greatest Hits" albums that were never released by the record labels. With the resurgence in popularity of the vinyl format, we are finding the unauthorized manufacture and sale of vinyl versions of albums that were only legitimately released digitally, on CD or pressed on different colored vinyl. Finally, we are finding counterfeit versions of official box sets discographies as well as unauthorized box sets discographies that were never released by record labels.

Test purchases, surveys, and enforcement programs have established that massive quantities of these counterfeits were finding their way into the legitimate market principally through major e-commerce platforms like Amazon, eBay, Marktplaats, and Leboncoin. Notably, eBay's and Vinted's global platforms have had the largest number of counterfeit vinyl and CD listings. Vinted has become a destination platform for illicit vinyl sellers. Originally created as clothing resale platform, the volume of infringing vinyl listings has reached epidemic proportions. Despite industry efforts to remove infringing listings from the platform, sellers are allowed to continually relist counterfeit titles, and it appears the platform takes no meaningful action against repeat infringers. Among regional platforms, Marktplaats has an unusually large number of counterfeit listings and has made enforcement of IP rights challenging. Consumers are paying full price for counterfeit offerings appearing alongside legitimate offerings, resulting in one-for-one displacements of legitimate sales.

Marktplaats and Wallapop stand out among regional platforms due to the high volume of counterfeit listings on their sites, particularly infringing vinyl. Wallapop, based in Spain, presents a particular challenge because it often rejects notices covering multiple infringing listings, even when all counterfeit items come from the same account. Marktplaats, based in The Netherlands, presents a similar challenge by refusing to accept notices for infringing content based on administrative requirements that appear to change depending on the reviewer. As a result, both platforms have become safe havens for counterfeit sellers.

These platforms should do more to protect their customers and IP rights holders from these Chinese and Russian counterfeits. First and foremost, these platforms should prescreen sellers to ensure they have legitimate sources of supply. Second, each platform should publish and enforce the specific terms of their repeat infringement policy. In our experience, while each of these platforms has established processes by which counterfeit offerings can be reported and removed, there appears to be inconsistent to no action against repeat infringers. Third, the platforms should prohibit the sale of titles where there is no legal version of the title available (e.g., "greatest hits," vinyl albums) if the seller is not the direct owner or exclusive distributor of the product, and otherwise exercise due diligence on the source of third-party high-demand products sold by a seller. These steps would help e-commerce platforms to prevent counterfeit products illegally manufactured and sold from China and Russia from infiltrating the legitimate marketplace here and around the world.

## III. ONLINE MARKETS ENGAGED IN OR FACILITATING COPYRIGHT PIRACY

The following is a non-exhaustive list of online markets that engage in or facilitate substantial copyright piracy that infringes on U.S. intellectual property. We request these markets be considered for inclusion in the 2026 Notorious Markets List. These markets engage in the unlicensed reproduction, creation of derivative works, streaming, and/or distribution/downloading or other unauthorized dissemination of sound recordings that significantly damage the rights of U.S. companies, and/or also engage in circumvention activities that violate 17 USC § 1201.

These services harm U.S. artists, songwriters, record labels, and music publishing companies by (i) disseminating music, or derivative works thereof, without authorization and without providing any compensation to the creators and rights holders of the music, and (ii) artificially distorting the market

value of the music, thereby reducing the compensation to the creators and rights holders owners from licensed services.

## *1.* Stream-ripping Sites

Stream-ripping services enable users to make permanent copies of recordings from online streaming services, most commonly YouTube. They circumvent the technical protection measures applied to protect the copyrighted content and enable users to download ("rip") it to their own devices.

Typically, a stream-ripping service works by allowing a user to copy the URL of the content hosted on an online platform and paste the URL into a search box which appears on the homepage of the stream-ripping service, which then provides the user with a media file (in MP3 or MP4 format, for example) once they have clicked the download button.

The music industry has a program to report stream-ripping sites to search engines. Notices designate URLs on the sites that offer the infringing downloads. Search engines will eventually demote these sites in search results based on these notices. However, stream-ripping site operators have responded to this effort by creating new domain names to operate through, which allows them to reappear at the top of search results.

### Y2mate

*Domain*: Y2mate.gs
*Registrant*: Details not available
*Registrar*: Immaterialism Limited, (U.K.)
*Hosting Provider*: PRQ AB (Sweden)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 1006, with 49 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Source*: Advertising

Y2mate allows users to paste a YouTube URL into its search bar and download either an audio-only MP3 file or the full audiovisual work as an MP4 file. The site uses the well-known Y2mate "brand," which has been associated with similar sites for several years, including the former Y2mate.com. Y2mate.gs,'s (previously Y2mate.nu's) traffic has noticeably increased since June 2026. The site has also received tens of millions of visits over the past 12 months, demonstrating its continued global popularity.

### Savefrom

*Domain*: Savefrom.net
*Registrant*: Redacted for Privacy
*Registrar*: Tucows, Inc. (Canada)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is OVH SAS (France)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 424, with 1.36 billion visits globally in the past 12 months
*Revenue Source*: Advertising

Savefrom operates a slightly different but equally harmful model from the other stream-ripping services listed here. Rather than downloading content to its own servers and offering MP3 files or full videos for download, Savefrom circumvents YouTube's content protection measures and delivers the unprotected content directly from YouTube's servers, allowing users to save either the video or audio to their devices.

In April 2020, Savefrom announced that it would stop providing its services in the United States, citing "strenuous attacks by certain US copyright holders." The site has since blocked access from the U.K., Spain and Canada. However, Savefrom continues to operate in many jurisdictions outside the U.S. and still attracts more than 110 million visits per month globally.

**Ssyoutube**

*Domain:* Ssyoutube.com
*Registrant:* Redacted for Privacy
*Registrar:* Dynadot, Inc. (U.S.)
*Hosting Provider:* Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is OVH GmbH (Germany)
*Traffic:* Global SimilarWeb ranking of 5,306, with 217.4 million visits globally in the past 12 months
*Revenue Source:* Advertising

Ssyoutube allows a user to paste a YouTube URL into the search bar and then download the full audiovisual work as an MP4 file. Users can also access the service directly from YouTube by adding "ss" before "YouTube" in the URL, which redirects them to Ssyoutube to download the audiovisual work. Although Ssyoutube has blocked access from the U.S., its global traffic has increased since February 2026 and remains relatively steady.

**Notube**

*Domain:* Notube.net
*Registrant:* Domains By Proxy, LLC (U.S.)
*Registrar:* GoDaddy Online Services (U.S. and Cayman Islands)
*Hosting Provider:* Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is Limestone Networks (U.S.)
*Traffic:* SimilarWeb Country Ranking from Turkey is 347, with over 163 million visits globally in the past 12 months

Notube allows users to paste a YouTube URL into its search bar and download either an audio-only MP3 file or the full audiovisual work as an MP4 file. Users can copy the YouTube video URL, select MP3 or MP4 as the preferred format, and click "OK" on the Notube homepage. The site also offers a shortcut: users can replace "YouTube" in a video URL with "notube.net," while leaving the rest of the link unchanged, to start an automatic download. The site describes itself as the "best free and fast converter in mp3 and mp4 formats." The site also notes it is compatible with over 1,000 supported sites, listing YouTube, TikTok, X (Twitter), Instagram, Facebook, Twitch, and Dailymotion, by way of example on its homepage. The site is available via multiple domains including notube.lol, notube.link, notube.cc, and notube.im.

Notube additionally promotes its app for Windows, macOS, and Linux, which launched in October 2025.

**Y2mate.is**

*Domain:* Y2mate.is.
*Registrant:* IceNetworks Ltd. (Hong Kong)
*Registrar:* Details not available
*Hosting Provider:* Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is Trabia SRL, Moldova (front end)
*Traffic:* Global SimilarWeb ranking of 14,181, with nearly 100 million visits globally in the past 12

months
*Revenue:* Donations from users and advertising

Y2mate operates as a typical stream-ripping site. Its homepage highlights a tip noting "Add pi after youtube in the URL bar to download MP4 and MP3 files faster."

## *2.* Music Download/Streaming Sites

These sites directly or indirectly offer unauthorized on-demand streaming and/or downloading of our members' music, including their most popular and valuable content. Commonly, these sites also provide unauthorized downloading of pre-release music, i.e., tracks and albums that have not yet been commercially released to the public. As noted above, such infringing activity clearly harms U.S. artists, songwriters, record labels, and music publishers by disseminating their works without authorization and severely diminishing the commercial value of those works.

### Mp3.pm

*Domain:* Mp3.pm
*Registrant:* OVH ("redacted for privacy")
*Registrar:* OVH (France)
*Hosting Provider:* SkyCore Technologies L.L.C-FZ (United Arab Emirates)
*Traffic:* Global SimilarWeb ranking of 20,801, with over 91.04 million visits globally in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising

Mp3.pm is a direct download site that allows users to stream and download content, which is provided in MP3 format. A vast number of genres are made available on the site, including unreleased content. The site is designed for mobile interfaces to search and download content quickly, and also states on the homepage to be "the largest mobile music archive." The site is believed be Russian-affiliated and currently hosts Russian advertisement platforms which have been labelled as malicious and thought to contain malware. The service is not available in the U.K.

### Tubidy

*Domain:* Tubidy.cool
*Registrant:* Domains By Proxy, LLC (U.S.)
*Registrar:* GoDaddy, LLC (U.S.)
*Hosting Provider:* Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is IPVolume (The Netherlands/Seychelles)
*Traffic:* Global SimilarWeb ranking of 20,801, with over 20 million visits globally in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising

Tubidy.cool is an indirect download site[8] that enables users to watch, stream, download, and upload content, which is provided in both MP3 and MP4 formats. The site does appear to present features commonly seen on stream-ripping sites, as downloadable MP4 videos are provided alongside audio file formats such as MP3. However, when examining the network traffic, there are no indications to suggest content is being sourced from YouTube. This suggests that the ripping may be done by users

[8] An infringing website delivery method is defined as indirect download when the content is not hosted on the same domain. Even though the user remains on the same website when downloading the content, a separate domain or service hosts and delivers the content.

or operators prior to uploading the content to the site.

**Scnlog**

*Domain*: Scnlog.me
*Registrant*: Currently privacy protected by Whois Privacy Corp.
*Registrar:* TLD Registrar Solutions, Ltd. (U.K.)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is Internetport Sweden AB (Sweden)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 77,868, with 7.76 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising

Scnlog provides extensive collections of newly released and catalog music, with a particular focus on so-called "scene" releases distributed by organized piracy groups. The site also offers access to films, television programs, software, and other content. Music is available in high-quality, lossless audio formats and is organized by genre, with a fully searchable index to help users locate content. Copyrighted music is hosted on cyberlockers, including Nitroflare and Ddownload.

## *3.* BitTorrent Indexing Sites

BitTorrent indexing sites provide a searchable index of links to content which can be downloaded by users running the appropriate client software. Indexing services can generate revenue from advertising and/or user donations. The financial model, structure, and approach varies from site to site.

The following popular sites are the most egregious, based on: (i) the extent of the infringement, i.e., the number of users visiting the site to infringe copyright; (ii) the amount of unlicensed content on the site; and (iii) the site's failure to take steps to address the massive piracy problem across its network. Moreover, these BitTorrent index sites demonstrate they are dedicated to infringement by the way they organize and display the files they index. Files are typically organized into categories of music, movie, software, and games with file names clearly and unmistakably describing content in a way that shows the operators know they are distributing torrents for copyright-protected content.

Increasingly, BitTorrent sites are registering multiple domains to mitigate the problem of their sites going offline if one of their domains is seized or blocked, and to work around search engine demotion algorithms. A simple change in the country code or other top-level domain allows the site to reappear in top search results.

**ThePirateBay**

*Domain*: Thepiratebay.org
*Registrant*: Unknown (Redacted for Privacy)
*Registrar*: easyDNS Technologies Inc. (Canada)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.), underling hosting provider is Shinjiru Technology Sdn Bhd (Malaysia)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 1,219 with 363 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising

ThePirateBay remains a popular global BitTorrent indexing site. This continues to be the case

even though courts in many countries around the world have issued orders blocking access to the site in their jurisdictions. Vast catalog of music and the world's most popular and newly released films can be downloaded via the site. The site makes no pretense of legitimacy, fails to respond to any takedown notices, and has previously ridiculed those who have sent them such notices.

There are a number of other very popular BitTorrent sites that make a broad range of copyrighted content downloadable using the BitTorrent P2P protocol. The worst of these sites includes the two sites listed immediately below.

**1337x**

*Domain*: 1337x.to
*Registrant*: None provided for .to TLD
*Registrar*: Tonic (Tonga, administered in U.S.)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.), underlying hosting provider: Fredrik Holmqvist (Sweden)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 867, with 428.6 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising

**RuTracker**

*Domain*: Rutracker.org
*Registrant*: Whois Privacy Corp. (Bahamas)
*Registrar*: Internet Domain Service BS Corp (Bahamas)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.), underlying hosting provider is AS-Colocrossing - HostPapa, (U.S.)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 1,113, with 421.9 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising

## *4.* Cyberlockers

A "cyberlocker" is a type of website/service which enables users to upload, store, and distribute digital files on a dedicated storage infrastructure on the Internet that is controlled, managed, and maintained by the website's operator. Although there appears to be some similarity between cyberlockers and legitimate cloud storage services (as they both allow users to upload files to servers for storage and sharing), their business models are strikingly different. The business model for legitimate storage services is principally based around personal file storage and limited ability to share access to the files. Cyberlockers are all about maximizing and monetizing traffic to their service. Nothing draws traffic like popular copyrighted content that can be downloaded for free. Thus, their business model is, at its heart, the distribution of unlicensed content.

Cyberlockers typically earn revenue from one or more of the following means: advertising such as banner and "pop-up" ads, which usually appear on the pages where the files to be downloaded are accessed; and sale of "premium accounts," which offer users benefits such as greatly increased download speeds, no-wait downloads, and simultaneous downloads – all features of particular interest to users who want to download large files such as albums and films. Some cyberlockers provide financial rewards to uploaders whose content draws large volumes of traffic to the site (which translates to advertising dollars) or when a downloader

purchases a premium account after accessing an uploader's content.

Conversely, cyberlocker sites often have a policy of deleting content uploaded by non-paying users that is not regularly downloaded by others – in other words, content which is not drawing traffic to the site. Finally, these services provide little if any accountability for infringing uploaders. Files can often be uploaded without even opening an account, or free accounts can be opened with nothing more than an email address. Thus, there is no ability to police uploaders or effectively remove repeat infringers from their system. The fact of the matter is that, for many of these services, there would be no economic viability in the absence of traffic generated through piracy.

To a limited extent, rights holders can attempt to tackle these infringements by sending takedown notices to the site operators. However, this often entails monitoring thousands of third-party link resources – e.g., blogs, forum sites, and search engines – to locate the information that is needed to notify the locker of infringements occurring on their own services. These services are in a much better position to identify infringing content being uploaded to or distributed from their own servers, if they really had an interest in conducting their business legally. There are efficient and reasonable technological solutions available that would assist in this.

The following cyberlockers are some of the most problematic affecting the U.S. music industry:

**Rapidgator**

*Domain*: Rapidgator.net (and Rg.to, which redirects to Rapidgator.net)
*Registrant:* Whois Privacy Corp. (Bahamas)
*Registrar*: Internet Domain Service BS Corp. (Bahamas)
*Hosting Provider*: Melbikomas UAB (Lithuania)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 2,137, with over 298 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising and premium accounts

This cyberlocker launched in October 2011 and, from the outset, has been a major source of the distribution of infringing music content. Rapidgator is also a major source for piracy of pre-release content, i.e., content that has not yet been commercially released. The site offers a rewards program that shares revenue with uploaders whose material draws large volumes of traffic, thus encouraging the upload of popular copyrighted content (particularly pre-release) and undercutting any pretense that it is operating a simple cloud-based personal storage service.

Despite the volume of infringements detected and removed from Rapidgator, the same content reappears and there is no effective action being taken to prevent infringement by the service. Although it provides rights holders with a takedown account, this does nothing to prevent content from (i) being disseminated (via links generated by the site) in the window *before* rights holders can intervene to take it down; (ii) being re-uploaded after removal; and (iii) appearing in multiple locations within the site, rendering such a takedown account not a sufficiently effective solution. Users complain on social media about being ignored when trying to cancel premium accounts and about Rapidgator's failure to deliver on premium services.

In 2018 and 2019, on applications brought by the game and music industries, the German courts issued preliminary decisions finding the site liable for copyright infringement, and in 2019 the Russian court ordered ISPs to block access to Rapidgator. The corporate structure of Rapidgator

uses a sophisticated network of offshore companies and specialized corporate vehicles to obscure the underlying beneficiaries. It is believed to be operated from Russia.

**Krakenfiles**

*Domain*: Krakenfiles.com
*Registrant*: Unknown (Redacted for Privacy)
*Registrar*: Key-Systems GmbH (Germany)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is Alexhost SRL (Moldova)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 24,680, with over 61 million visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising and paid premium accounts

Up until recently, this cyberlocker had played a significant role in the distribution of infringing music content and was also a major source of piracy of pre-release content. The operator is also running an indirect and forum site which contains infringing content and provides users with links to Krakenfiles, from where users could previously download their chosen music track or album. We are aware that Krakenfiles has undergone some changes including the removal of the upload functionality in 2026. The site is also unavailable in some countries, including the U.K. Following an investigation into the site launched by the U.K. telecoms regulator Ofcom in 2025, the site operator geo-blocked access from the U.K. The site remains available in the U.S.

**Chomikuj**

*Domain*: Chomikuj.pl
*Registrant*: Unknown (Redacted for Privacy)
*Registrar*: Instra Corporation Pty Ltd (Australia)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is believed to be Leaseweb (The Netherlands)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 7,439, with 71 million visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources*: Advertising and paid subscriptions

This popular cyberlocker primarily targets a Polish audience, with more than 80% of its visitors located in Poland. Despite this, the site hosts a wide range of U.S. music, along with films, books, and other copyrighted content. Users can upload music and share download links with others. Both free and paid accounts are available, and a points-based reward system incentivizes users whose uploads generate traffic.

Chomikuj was subject to long-running civil litigation in Poland. In 2015, Polish film producers obtained a court order against the service requiring it to implement measures to prevent infringing copies of Polish films being made available. Following a lengthy appeals process, the Polish Supreme Court ruled in May 2022 that Chomikuj.pl was liable for copyright infringement in respect of illegal user-uploaded content, finding that the operator's role went beyond the passive and neutral provision of hosting services. The Court held that platforms sharing illegal content uploaded by users can be liable where they contribute to infringement, including through features such as payment arrangements linked to file downloads and incentives for popular uploads. Chomikuj.pl was required to remove the illegal content and pay compensation to the right holders. The ruling was an important confirmation of cyberlocker liability under Polish law.

**Pixeldrain**

*Domain*: Pixeldrain.com
*Registrant*: Privacy service provided by Withheld for Privacy LLC (U.S.)
*Registrar*: Namecheap, Inc. (U.S.)
*Hosting Provider*: Keystone Networks (Australia & U.S.)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 1,154, with 481 million visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources: Advertising and paid subscriptions*

Pixeldrain has grown in popularity following the redirection of traffic from the former cyberlocker dbree.org. Members of the pre-release community frequently use the service to host content that has not yet been commercially released. Links to content hosted on Pixeldrain are regularly shared on known forums for music leaks, including Leaked.cx.

This cyberlocker also offers an Android app for uploading and sharing files on Pixeldrain. The APK is available to download from the service's connected Github profile.

The operator(s) of Pixeldrain have not taken steps to conceal their identities. The cyberlocker is a product by Fornaxian Technologies.

Last year, the site was subject to an investigation within the CSAM enforcement programme by the UK telecoms regulator Ofcom. The investigation was closed in April 2026 following changes implemented by the site.

**Pillowcase**

*Domain*: Pillows.su
*Registrant*: Redacted For Privacy
*Registrar*: Regtime (Russia)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is KHOMUTOV ARTEM SERGEEVICH (Russia)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 55,900, with 8.8 million visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources*: Donations

Pillowcase is a popular cyberlocker which harms the music industry through the distribution of pre-release content. Pillowcase emerged when the cyberlocker Onlyfiles.io, whose operator was heavily involved with the distribution of pre-release content, went offline in February 2023. The site initially appeared as a mirror site of Onlyfiles.io.

Pillowcase.su now redirects to Pillows.su. Links to pre-release content hosted on Pillows.su are frequently shared on known leak sites and forums. Pillowcase remains unresponsive to copyright infringement notices and the operators have purposively taken steps to conceal their identities by, for example, using privacy protection services and by obtaining hosting services from Russia.

**Mega.nz**

*Domain*: Mega.nz accessed via Mega.io
*Registrant*: Not disclosed
*Registrar*: Instra Corporation Pty Ltd (Australia)
*Hosting Provider*: Mega Limited LU (own hosting provider)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 395, with 1 billion visits in the past year

*Revenue Sources*: Premium accounts and upgrade options

Mega is a widely used cyberlocker that plays a significant role in the distribution of infringing music content, including pre-release material. The service's global user base, free storage offerings, and emphasis on privacy and encrypted file-sharing have made it a popular platform for the storage of unauthorized content.

Mega allows users to share files and folders through public links, as well as transfer content directly between user accounts. The service has received thousands of infringement notices. While Mega removes content that is specifically reported by rights holders, it does not implement effective measures to prevent the re-upload of infringing material or deter repeat infringement. As a result, unauthorized content continues to be made available on the platform, including pre-release music and AI-related infringing content such as vocal models and cloned recordings.

**Gofile.io**

*Domain*: Gofile.io
*Registrant*: Not disclosed (France on registrant country)
*Registrar*: OVH SAS (France)
*Hosting Provider*: MOJI SAS (France)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 547, with over 794 M visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources*: Premium accounts

Gofile is a cyberlocker that is growing in popularity and is frequently referenced on music leak forums and used to host infringing content, including pre-release content. The service allows users to upload files and share them via download links. Although the site's apparent origin is France, the U.S. is its largest source of traffic. The top referring industries for the service include the categories "adult" and "TV movies and Streaming."

**Sendgb.com**

*Domain*: Sendgb.com
*Registrant*: Domains By Proxy, LLC (U.S.)
*Registrar*: GoDaddy.com, LLC (U.S.)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is Scaleway SAS (France).
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 15,261, with over 53 M visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources*: Premium accounts

Sendgb is a cyberlocker that is frequently used to host and distribute infringing music content, including pre-release releases. Links to content hosted on the platform are commonly shared on known forums for music leaks, with Leaked.cx identified as its top referring website. The service enables users to upload and share files through direct download links and continues to be used within leak communities for the distribution of unauthorized content. The U.S. is among the platform's top sources of traffic.

**Imgur.gg**

*Domain*: Imgur.gg
*Registrant*: Not disclosed
*Registrar*: NameCheap, Inc (U.S.)

*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is Amazon Web Services (U.S.)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 15,261, with over 53 M visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources*: Premium accounts

Imgur is a cyberlocker that is frequently used to host and distribute infringing music content, including pre-release material. Links to content on the service are regularly shared on known forums for music leaks, including Leaked.cx. The operators have taken steps to conceal their identities and use a layered setup involving U.S.-based companies, including CloudFlare, Netlify, and Amazon Web Services. Despite repeated periods of downtime, the service remains popular within leak communities and continues to be used for the distribution of infringing content. Compliance testing conducted in 2026 indicated a low response rate to infringement notices.

**Ddownload.com**

*Domain*: Ddownload.com (ddl.to and download.to redirect to Ddownload.com)
*Registrant*: Privacy service provided by Withheld for Privacy LLC (U.S.)
*Registrar*: NameCheap, Inc. (U.S.)
*Hosting Provider*: Served through Cloudflare (U.S.); underlying hosting provider is Virtual Systems LLC (Ukraine)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 36,526, with over 20 M visits in the past year
*Revenue Sources*: Premium accounts

DDownload continues to be a significant source of infringing music content, including pre-release material. Links to content hosted by the service are frequently found on piracy sites and forums that promote access to unauthorized music. The platform offers premium subscriptions that provide enhanced download capabilities and generates revenue through paid account packages. Although infringing content is removed following notification by rights holders, the service does not take effective measures to prevent the re-upload of reported content, resulting in the same material reappearing on the platform.

## IV ADDITIONAL ISSUES

**Anna's Archive**

*Domain*: annas-archive.gl[9]
*Registrant*: Not disclosed
*Registrar:* Immaterialism Limited (UK)
*Hosting Provider*: DDOS-Guard Ltd, Russia
*Traffic*: Global Similarweb ranking of 1,233, with 154.6 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Sources*: Donations

On December 20, 2025, the shadow library Anna's Archive publicly announced that it had downloaded from Spotify 86 million music files and metadata for 256 million tracks. Further data was to be released in different stages, including music files, additional file metadata, album art, and zstdpatch files. The metadata database torrent file was available until January 15, 2026, following which Anna's Archive published on its four operating domains that it was "unavailable until further notice." However, on February 11, 2026, they released 3 million music files.

[9] Site is also available via the domains: Annas-archive.pk and Annas-archive.gd

On January 2, 2026, in an action coordinated by RIAA on behalf of its members and Spotify, the applicants successfully obtained an emergency ex parte temporary restraining order against Anna's Archive and, as a result, (i) the site's .org domain was suspended by the domain registry PIR, and (ii) Cloudflare stopped providing services to Anna's Archive. The order remained under court seal until January 16, 2026, when the judge replaced the temporary restraining order with a preliminary injunction.

On April 14, 2026, RIAA and Spotify obtained a $322 million default judgment against the unknown operators of Anna's Archive. IFPI has carried out disruptive actions to support of RIAA's efforts in the U.S., including succeeding in getting five Anna's Archive domains suspended. The site has been blocked in a number of countries following applications by rights holders, including in the U.K., Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, and Belgium.

**Lalals.com**

*Domain*: Lalals.com
*Registrant*: Details not available
*Registrar*: Spaceship, Inc. (U.S.)
*Hosting Provider*: Vercel, Inc. (U.S.)
*Traffic*: Global SimilarWeb ranking of 203,098, with 2.7 million visits in the past 12 months
*Revenue Source*: Subscription

Lalals.com is a platform operated by Lalals FZ-LLC, based in the United Arab Emirates. Among other things, the site offers the ability to change a vocal recording to sound like various sound recording artists, without their consent or authorization. The sound recording artists whose voices are being exploited include Taylor Swift, Drake, Ariana Grande, Bruno Mars, Ed Sheeran, Lady Gaga, Chris Martin, and Rihanna, among many others. The site offers voice changing, voice cloning, text-to-speech, stem splitting, AI song generation, mastering, and AI cover tools. This infringes these artists' rights of publicity in their voice and likeness, as well as likely infringing our members' rights in the sound recordings used to train the vocal clone models.

**Other Intermediaries**

Messaging platforms Telegram and Discord have become the primary mechanisms through which pre-release music is distributed. Through private and semi-private communities, organized, global groups engage in hacking, social engineering, and other methods to obtain pre-release music and, in many cases, sell this illegally obtained material for thousands of dollars. While Telegram and Discord have been largely responsive to takedown notices sent about specific infringements, it is unclear what steps, if any, they take to limit or prevent the ongoing abuse of their platforms for illegal pre-release distribution.

* * *

We hope you find this information useful, and we look forward to continuing to work with the U.S. government to find solutions to these problems. If you have questions or would like to discuss, please contact George York or Victoria Sheckler at RIAA.

Respectively submitted,

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