

PRESS RELEASE

Music groups successfully act against streaming manipulation site likeservice24.de in Germany

Latest injunction issued in a series of successful actions against streaming manipulation services in Germany and Brazil

Recording industry remains committed to global campaign to tackle streaming manipulation

26th January 2021 – IFPI, representing the recording industry worldwide, and its German national group, BVMI, announced today that the Regional Court of Frankfurt has issued an injunction against the Germany-based operator of likeservice24.de, a widely-used website engaged in illicit music streaming manipulation services.

The injunction prevents the operator from offering artificial ‘plays’ or ‘views’ of streams on digital service providers as well as fake ‘comments’, ‘likes’ and ‘subscribers’ in connection with music content.

This is the latest in a series of injunctions resulting from recording industry actions in Germany and Brazil coordinated by IFPI and local industry bodies. In Germany, the efforts led to preliminary injunctions by several regional courts against the operators of six streaming manipulation services in [March, 2020](#) and [August, 2020](#). In 2019, a music industry coalition signed a [voluntary code of best practice](#) to tackle the practice of streaming manipulation globally.

IFPI Chief Executive Frances Moore, said: “This is yet another positive decision in a series issued by the German courts supporting the recording industry’s ongoing fight against streaming manipulation globally. IFPI and its industry partners remain committed to tackling this harmful practice, which not only deprives artists, songwriters and other rights holders of their rightful compensation, but also misleads music fans.”

Dr. Florian Drücke, Chairman & CEO of BVMI added: “Whilst we don’t know the specific steps that the streaming services themselves are taking on their platforms to directly prevent this activity, for our part, we are taking legal actions to ensure that the streaming market functions properly and without manipulation, which harms creators and their partners. Such manipulation damages both the accuracy of royalty payments to music creators and the credibility of a key industry barometer, the charts. On behalf of music creators and fans alike, we will not accept that.”

ENDS

Notes to editors:

About IFPI

IFPI is the organisation that promotes the interests of the international recording industry worldwide. IFPI and its National Group network has over 8,000 members across more than 70 countries. There are over 70 IFPI offices, National Groups and Affiliated MLCs. IFPI's mission is to promote the value of recorded music, campaign for the rights of record producers and expand the commercial uses of recorded music in all markets where its members operate.

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