

中国知財ニュース IP NEWS in CHINA

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...On February 28, 2013, the four international record companies (Universal Music Group, Warner Music Hong Kong Limited, Sony Music Entertainment (Hong Kong) Limited, Gold Typhoon Entertainment Limited) and Beijing Sohu, Sogou signed a reconciliation agreement under the auspices of Beijing Municipal High People's Court, together confirming that both parties will jointly concentrate efforts on operation model innovation of Internet music works and copyright protection model innovation of Internet music works, and thus carry out all-round cooperation, and sign a cooperation agreement and an anti-piracy agreement on specific way and content thereof; the four record companies will no longer appeal; Sogou will co-invest a sum of money used for supporting the anti-piracy fund of the International Federation of Phonographic Industry (IFPI). Meanwhile, Sogou reached another agreement with the four record companies, stating that Sogou will pay royalties to the four record companies, while the four record companies will license Sogou to upload all of their song lists and upcoming new song lists; network users can play online and download relevant songs directly from Sogou website free of charge.

So far, a major copyright case involving 105 popular songs and with the subject up to RMB 54 mn has been successfully solved, thereby completely resolving a copyright dispute lasting for many years, and enabling hundreds of millions of netizens to get a large number of genuine songs from Sogou website.

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