

Non–Title-Specific Royalties for Publishers, Transcript

Speakers:

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MH: Hello. I'm Michael Healy, Executive Director of International Relations at CCC. I'm here with my colleague Victoriano Colodrón to provide you with some information about a specific type of royalty which you as a publisher may have received. These are called "non–title-specific royalties."

VC: Thank you, Michael. First, we should explain what these royalties represent.

MH: Absolutely. These royalties are collected by collective licensing organizations in countries outside the United States, and they are sent to CCC in compliance with international copyright treaties.

VC: That's right. Why are the royalties distributed through CCC?

MH: CCC is a reproduction rights organization (an "RRO"), and we work with similar organizations around the world to repatriate royalties.

VC: Some publishers are surprised that their content is used in other countries. Is it OK for this to happen without the author's or publisher's permission?

MH: For certain types of use, according to a country's copyright law the explicit permission of the publisher or author is not required. These are "reproduction" usages—photocopies and in some countries digital copies too—and NOT "republishing" for commercial purposes. And, usage covers *parts* of a work—not a whole work.

VC: What guidance do foreign RROs give that allows CCC to distribute these royalties?

MH: Even RROs who cannot provide title-level information do provide less detailed information about usage in their territories. This information can include the types of works covered or the market segment where they were used.

VC: Right. And how does CCC use that information to allocate the royalties to specific publishers?

MH: CCC allocates this type of royalty payment on the basis of title-specific usage reported by other RROs with similar usage, and we call this a "proxy methodology."

VC: Got it. But how does all of this account for authors? Some publishers have contractually agreed to pay royalties to their authors, and they can't do this if there are no titles associated with the payment.

MH: The non–title-specific royalties you receive are designated by RROs for publishers only. These RROs pay authors separately.

VC: Lastly, how do publishers know which countries have contributed to their non–title-specific royalty payment?

MH: RightsCentral is CCC's secure channel for royalty communication, and the cover letters stored there include the names of contributing RROs. We encourage publishers to sign up for a free RightsCentral account to access payment history.

VC: Thanks for taking us through the details, Michael. Publishers: if you have further questions, please take a look at the resources in our Royalty Information Center. Thank you for listening.