

### **Important Information that could affect your business.**

The Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000 requires businesses to obtain a copyright license to exhibit TV programmes and/or film on their premises. Whenever audiovisual content is viewed outside the private home, it is considered a 'public performance' where legal authorisation is needed to avoid copyright infringement. Such audiovisual content may include films or TV shows, whether on DVD/Blu-ray, downloads, streaming, broadcast, pay TV or video on demand.

MPLC<sup>®</sup> licences these public exhibitions. MPLC offers an annual MPLC Umbrella Licence<sup>®</sup> which allows unlimited showings of all works from MPLC's rightsholders without the need of reporting titles, dates or times of performance. MPLC has been offering its Umbrella License for over 30 years, in over 30 countries around the world, making copyright compliance easy.

Many gyms/leisure centres screen TV shows and films as a great way to entertain customers, as well as add style and ambience within their showrooms, service waiting areas and staff rest rooms. With MPLC's Umbrella License, businesses have unlimited use of videos from MPLC's 1,000 plus motion picture studios and producers including Twentieth Century Fox, Paramount, Walt Disney, Warner, Dreamworks, Touchstone, Lionsgate, Universal and many independent film studios. Please see [www.mplc.ie](http://www.mplc.ie) for a full list of MPLC Affiliated Studios and TV Broadcasters.

Businesses that have a TV licence may wonder if they still need a copyright license. Yes, they do. A TV licence covers the installation of TV receiving equipment at the premises specified on the licence. It does not cover a business premises for the "public performance" of copyright material contained within film and television programmes. The MPLC Umbrella license will protect businesses from infringing copyright laws.

What if the business already has a music licence? An MPLC Umbrella Licence is required in conjunction with a music licence. Music Rights Organisations are separate and manage music rights only.

Would a business need to obtain a licence if they only display television shows? Yes, a license is required for television shows as well. The Copyright Act defines "film" as a recording on any medium from which a moving image may, by any means, be reproduced. This means that copyrighted motion pictures, as well as any creative work such as that exhibited via television shows, would require a licence. MPLC's Umbrella Licence's protections are not limited to film, but also includes TV shows that are broadcast through terrestrial television, TV channels, Freeview, cable or satellite services. MPLC's Umbrella Licence keeps businesses copyright compliant whether they are exhibiting film or television shows.

It's simply not worth exposing a business to the consequences of copyright infringement. Under the Copyright Act, infringement penalties could include damages, injunction and/or an amount of profits. Furthermore, your actions may amount to a criminal offence which attracts fines up to €1500 and/or twelve months in prison for summary convictions, as well as fines up to €100,000.00 and/or five years imprisonment upon an indictment. MPLC works with An Garda Síochána and the Revenue's Customs & Excise Department to investigate and ensure that illegal showings are prosecuted on behalf of the industry.

MPLC are registered members of the Irish Patents Office. (Registration No: P/21/03/0015/1).

To apply for your MPLC Umbrella Licence, please complete and return the MPLC Application Form.

You may also contact us via email at [jeinfo@mplc.ie](mailto:jeinfo@mplc.ie) or via FREEPOST at:

Motion Picture Licensing Company DAC  
Suite 7, Clare Technology Park  
Gort Road  
Ennis, Co Clare

Your MPLC Umbrella Licence and Invoice will be issued to you by return. Alternatively, simply call our licensing team to arrange a licence on 065 6820368.