



11th May 2009

PERU BRINGS ITS STRONG INDIE SECTOR INTO WORLDWIDE INDEPENDENT MUSIC NETWORK

The independent music trade body in Peru, APROFIP (phonogram producers Independent Association of Peru) operates in a country where indies can claim a 60% share of their national market, as against a global average indie market share of approximately 25%.

Founded in 2004 and based in Lima, APROFIP has now officially joined WIN, and brought its 63 member companies into the increasingly active and significant worldwide organisation. Those members together have 42% of the national recorded music market. Peru joins South America's two largest countries (Brazil by size and Argentina by population) which are already WIN members, and brings the total number of nations represented in the WIN membership to 26.

WIN Chairman Alison Wenham said: "We welcome Peru's independent music association into WIN very warmly, at a time when this growing worldwide network is identifying some important global issues on which it can focus, speak collectively and begin sensibly to flex its developing muscles."

The next WIN Board meeting, open to all representatives of member organisations, will take place in New York on June 30, hosted by the US independent music trade association A2IM.

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About WIN (www.worldwideindependentnetwork.com)

WIN was founded in July 2006, with the support of the European independent music associations and labels' grouping Impala, to represent the rights and interests of the global independent music community. WIN formed as a logical and required response to the fact that wherever independent music companies are based, they tend to face the same issues of market concentration, massive technological change, assertion of their rights to revenue streams and little individual resource to address these and other

issues.

WIN's first priorities were therefore defined by the global membership, and it was able to provide a springboard for the creation of Merlin, the world's first global new media rights licensing agency, now a separately constituted and fully operational company.

WIN Chairman Alison Wenham (Chairman and CEO of AIM in the UK) is supported by four Vice Chairmen whose appointment at Midem in January this year recognized the widening business and geographical focus of WIN: David Vodicka, Chairman of Australian Independent Records (AIR); Mark Chung, Chairman of German independents trade body VUT; Portia Sabin, representing the American Association of Independent Music (A2IM); and Duncan McKie, President and CEO Canadian Independent Record Production Association (CIRPA).

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