

Media Release

For Immediate Release

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**Screenrights collects a record \$22.75 million
for filmmakers**

Filmmakers will benefit from a record \$22.75 million in audio-visual copyright royalty collections by Screenrights, the Australian film and television copyright collecting society.

Speaking last night at Screenrights' Annual General Meeting in Sydney, Chairman Bridget Godwin said the amount was the highest collected by the company since it was established in 1990.

Godwin also welcomed the commencement of payments for retransmission of free to air services on pay tv.

"This is one of the most significant developments in Screenrights history. This productive relationship with the paytv industry is good news for the industry and for copyright owners who will now receive a valuable new revenue stream from this use of their works," Godwin said.

In the past reporting year, the company also launched a new service for the film industry: ISAN Australasia and its educational website, enhanceTV.com.

"ISAN is a unique identification number for content that will improve efficiencies in data management, royalty collections and in combating piracy," Godwin said.

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Simon Lake, Screenrights' Chief Executive, said the Enhance TV service has already made a significant contribution to the increased recognition and support of Screenrights as a trusted bridge between the production industry and the education sector.

Screenrights' Australian educational service (which enables nearly all schools, TAFEs and universities to copy from TV and radio), accounted for \$20.07 million in collections.

"Innovative services, such as EnhanceTV, which was established to give teachers the resources they need to use television in the classroom, has helped ensure the continued growth of this service," Lake said. "The site now has over 6,000 subscribers and more than 500 free study guides available for downloading."

The rest of Screenrights' income came from the New Zealand educational copying service and the international service for collecting retransmission and home copying royalties from Europe, the United States and Canada.

Other key results for 2005/06 included a record \$19.78 million distributed to copyright owners (compared to the previous highest figure of \$16.20 million), and an 11% growth in membership with 2,505 members from 52 countries.

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