

RICHARD MOLLET ELECTED AS CHAIR OF THE ALLIANCE AGAINST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY THEFT

10 July 2012

The members of the Alliance Against Intellectual Property Theft (the Alliance) are delighted to announce the election of Richard Mollet, Chief Executive of the Publishers Association, as its new Chairman. Mollet, who will remain as CEO of the Publishers Association, succeeds Lavinia Carey, Director-General of the British Video Association. Lavinia Carey, who set up the Alliance 14 years ago, stepped down on Monday 9th July at the Alliance's AGM.

The Alliance is a UK-based coalition of trade associations and enforcement organisations whose objective is to tackle all forms of copyright theft to ensure continued protection for rights holders and creative industries who contribute over 8% of the UK's GDP.

Following Mollet's election, Susie Winter, Director-General of the Alliance said:

"It is fantastic news that Richard has been elected Chairman of the Alliance, and I am sure he will carry on the great work of our outgoing Chair and founder, Lavinia Carey. The Alliance has doubled in size since its first AGM and under Lavinia's direction and has had some notable successes including improving the regulatory environment for industries reliant on IP over the past fourteen years. We now have 22 members across a huge variety of sectors which has broadened our base and our ambitions for further success in promoting the interests of IP.

"I look forward to working closely with Richard to ensure IP is valued as a genuine property right as it remains increasingly vital to the UK's economic, cultural and social well being."

Outgoing Chairman Lavinia Carey said:

"I am delighted to be passing the baton to Richard. He will be a talented ambassador who brings a deep understanding of the challenges faced by IP dependent industries in addition to superb campaigning skills. I am very proud of how The Alliance has drawn on the expertise of so many members to become one of the UK's leading champions of intellectual property and under Richard's stewardship I know it will continue to go from strength to strength."

Following his election Richard Mollet said,

"The Alliance Against IP Theft has a strong track record in representing the UK's creative sector and ensuring that intellectual property is understood, promoted and protected by our political community. The Alliance's core strength lies in its ability to bring together companies and associations from a range of sectors, covering publishing, music, film sports rights, branded goods, design and software.



Members:

Anti-Copying in Design
Anti-Counterfeiting Group
Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society
British Brands Group
BPI (British Recorded Music Industry) Limited
British Video Association
Business Software Alliance
Cinema Exhibitors Association
Copyright Licensing Agency
Design and Artists Copyright Society
Educational Recording Agency
Entertainment Retailers Association
Federation Against Copyright Theft
Film Distributors Association
Motion Picture Association
Premier League
PRS for Music
Publishers Association
Publishers Licensing Society
UK Interactive Entertainment

Supporters:

British Jewellery, Giftware & Finishing Federation
Video Standards Council

“I am delighted to be taking on the chairmanship at this critical time. It has never been more vital that we convey the economic, social and cultural importance of championing intellectual property, against those who would erode it or those who willfully infringe creators’ rights.

“I would also like to pay tribute to the amazing work of Lavinia Carey in creating the Alliance 14 years ago and turning into the hugely effective political voice it is today.”

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

Established in 1998, the Alliance Against IP Theft is a UK-based coalition of trade associations and enforcement organisations with an interest in ensuring intellectual property rights receive the protection they need and deserve. With a combined turnover of over £250 billion, our members include representatives of the audiovisual, music, games and business software, and sports industries, branded manufactured goods, publishers, retailers and designers.

The Alliance is concerned with ensuring that intellectual property rights are valued in the UK and that a robust, efficient legislative and regulatory regime exists, which enables these rights to be properly protected. Our members work closely with trading standards and local police forces to reduce the harm caused by intellectual property crime in local communities and to ensure that legitimate businesses and traders are able to operate fairly.

We work closely with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Intellectual Property Office to raise awareness of the harm caused by IP theft. We, and many of our members, are also participants in the IP Crime Group, which facilitates cross departmental dialogue and joint working amongst the relevant enforcement bodies and organisations.

For more information please contact Amy Bourke or Grainne Magee on 0207 618 9105, or e-mail alliance@luther.co.uk

ABOUT RICHARD MOLLET

Mollet joined the Publisher’s Association as Chief Executive in 2010, prior to which he was Director of Public Affairs at the BPI. During that time he was closely involved in the Digital Economy Act, the Gowers Review of Intellectual Property, and the wider debates around the value of copyright to the creative industries and he will therefore bring industry-specific experience to the role as Chair of the Alliance.

Before joining the BPI Richard had ten years experience as a political communications consultant, working across a range of political and media sectors. This valuable mix of creative, political and media knowledge will be crucial in building on the Alliance’s work to ensure intellectual property rights are valued in the UK and that a robust, efficient legislative and regulatory regime exists, which enables these rights to be properly protected.