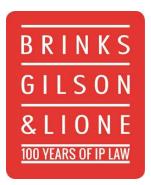
# Intellectual Property Virtual Happy Hour

Presentation to
Association of Corporate Counsel
Chicago Chapter

July 22, 2020

www.brinksgilson.com



**Presented by** 

André Frieden, William Frankel and Virginia Marino

**Moderated by** 

**Andrew Avsec** 



## **CLE and Q&A Information**

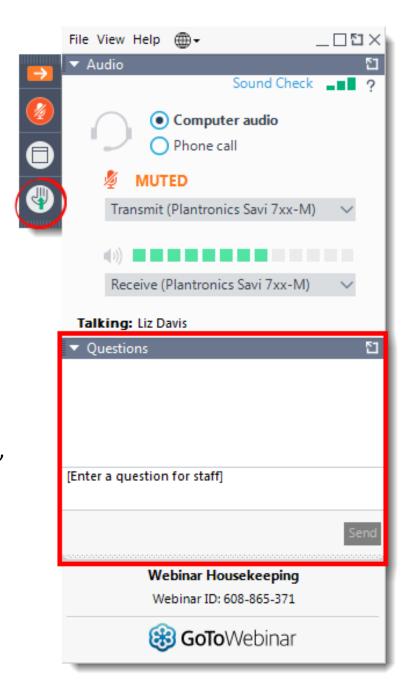
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There will be a Q&A period at the end of the webinar, but you may ask questions throughout:

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# **Agenda**

- Introductions
- Trademark Licensing
- IT Licensing
- Copyright Licensing
- Questions/Discussion

## **Presenters**

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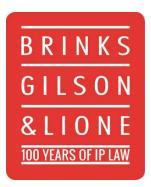
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# Trademark Licensing Basics

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## **Trademark Basics**

- In the United States, a trademark can be any word, name, symbol or device that identifies the source of the good or service
  - Words
  - Logos
  - Sounds
  - Colors
  - Scents
  - Three dimensional shapes
  - Building shapes

## When To Consider A Trademark License?

- Brand expansion
- Co-branding
- Settlement and license back

# Written Licenses Are Recommended, Not Required

- Oral licenses can be problematic
- Course of dealing may create an implied license

## **Trademark License Considerations**

- Parties
- Trademarks and associated products or services
- Granting Clause
- Requirements as to correct trademark usage and explanatory legends
- Trademark policing
- Royalties/license fee
- Quality control requirements
- Term
- Territory
- Assignability
- Indemnification
- Termination rights

## **Quality Control Requirements**

- Failure to exercise control → mark misrepresents connection of goods/services with the trademark owner
- Uncontrolled licensing deceives public and may harm trademark owner
- Naked licensing
- Related companies doctrine 15 USC §1055
  - Adequate quality control → "related company"
  - Parent and subsidiary
  - Applicant/registrant + no deception + related company

# **Quality Control?**

- Barcamerica Intern. v. Tyfield Importers, Inc., 289 F.3d
   589 (9th Cir. 2002)
- Barcamerica owns incontestable registration for DA VINCI for wine; licensed mark to third party
- No quality control provision in license; informal tasting of wine and winemaker reputation
- Poll Question: Is this a naked license?



# Polling Results: Barcamerica

- Poll Question: Is Barcamerica's license agreement a naked license?
  - YES!
- No knowledge or reliance on actual quality controls used by licensee; no ongoing effort to monitor quality; no close working relationship
- Consider industry practice



# **Quality Control?**

- FreecycleSunnyvale v. Freecycle Network, 626 F.3d 509 (9th Cir. 2010)
- No express contract
  - "Keep it Free, Legal and Appropriate for All Ages"
  - No commercial use email
  - Etiquette guidelines
  - Freecycle Ethos
- Poll Question: Is this a naked license?



# Polling Results: Freecycle

- Poll Question: Is this a naked license?
  - YES!
- No actual control over members
- No close working relationship
- Demonstrate actual control through supervision and inspection



# **Related Companies?**

- Noble House Home Furns. LLC v. Floorco Ents. LLC, 118 USPQ2d 1413 (TTAB 2016) [precedential]
- Registered mark NOBLE HOUSE owned by Floorco, a subsidiary of Furnco, but Furnco used the mark
- No express agreement; no quality control

Poll Question: Are Floorco and Furnco "related

companies"?



# Polling Results: Noble House

- Poll Question: Are Floorco (subsidiary and registrant) and Furnco (parent and user of the mark) related companies?
  - NO!
- Furnco is not a "related company" because its activities are not controlled by Floorco
- Make sure applications are filed in the name of the right entity
- Consider internal licenses if marks are being used by affiliated entities



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# Managing IP Rights in IT Transactions

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Deputy General Counsel, Capgemini\*

July 22, 2020

<sup>\*</sup> Information contained in these slides and comments made by the speaker are solely the speaker's opinions and do not represent the position of Capgemini.

# **IT Industry Trends**

#### Where is IT headed?

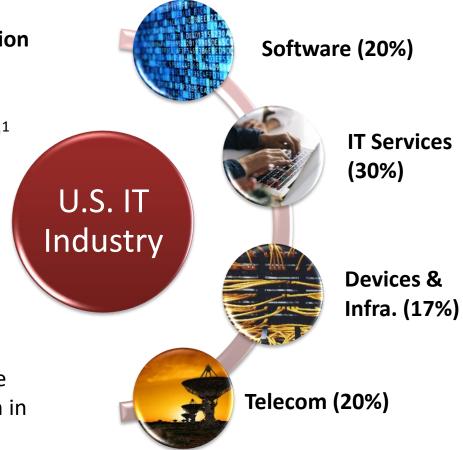
 Global IT industry forecast: \$5.2 trillion by 2020.<sup>1</sup>

Share of spend by region: U.S. 32%
 (APAC 32%; Europe 23%; LATAM 6%)¹

 46% of growth is coming from emerging technologies.<sup>1</sup>

 Covid-19 accelerated demand for cloud services, infrastructure, 5G network adoption/deployment and cybersecurity capabilities.<sup>2</sup>

 Worldwide cybersecurity spending: \$123.8 billion by 2020.<sup>3</sup> (The average cost of a data breach is \$8.19 million in the U.S.)<sup>4</sup>



# **IT Industry Trends**

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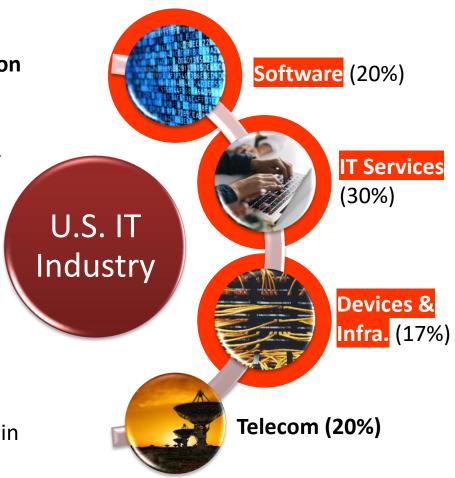
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#### The market demands

#### Efficiency:

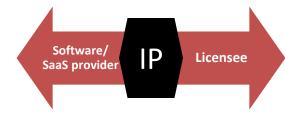
- Automating manual processes or improving existing ones
- More capable and versatile use of portals, devices and IT infrastructure
- Better user interfaces and customer experience

#### Cost reductions:

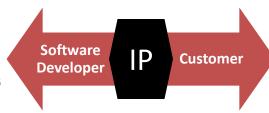
- Consolidation of platforms, systems and tools
- Efficient resource usage
- Maintaining a competitive edge with the latest IT developments (e.g., blockchain, artificial intelligence, Cloud, IoT, Big Data/analytics, AR/VR, Robotics/drones, etc.)
- Reducing risk (improved cybersecurity, data management, IT services governance)
- IP ownership and monetization of software, data, IT systems, platforms and networks makes the IT industry innovative and robust

### Types of IT transactions that leverage IP

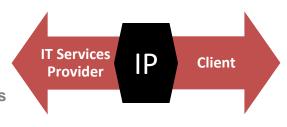
- Software/Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) licenses
  - Code
  - Trade secrets
  - Patents



- Proprietary data (customer data)
- · Content, user interfaces, et
- · Confidential business info
- Software/applications development agreements
  - Pre-existing IP
  - Know-how
  - Third party tools
  - · OSS



- · Work made for hire
- Proprietary data (customer data)
- Know-how
- Business info
- Patents
- Various forms of IT outsourcing/managed services agreements
  - Pre-existing IP
  - Know-how
  - Methodologies
  - Third party tools
  - · OSS



- Proprietary data (client's customer data)
- · Confidential business/financial info
- Business methodologies
- Custom, client-owned proprietary tools

#### Software/SaaS Provider

VS.

- Copyrights:
  - Source code (human readable instructions in programming language)
  - Object code, APIs, graphical elements, design, manuals, etc.
- License grant (contractual)
- Patents and trade secrets

#### **SaaS** (vs. traditional software):

- No installation
- No access to source code
- Licensee/User access controls
- Term licenses
- Less customization

#### Licensee/User

- Licensee use rights
  - Type of license
    - Enterprise license, nameduser, concurrent-use, etc.
  - Scope of use
  - IP indemnities
  - Audits and excess usage fees

#### Licensee proprietary data

- Limited license to Software/
   Saas provider
  - Confidential business info
  - Licensee customer data

#### Warranties

- noninfringement
- OSS disclosures

## IT Services Provider (Outsourcing) vs. Customer

- IP rights in complex outsourcing/managed services engagements
  - IP rights in deliverables ("work made for hire")
    - Source & object code, algorithms, interfaces, databases—almost everything.
    - Burden on service provider to carve out its IP. Are there creative options?
    - Exclusivity and other restrictions (license to provider to perform services)
  - Access and use of third party IP (e.g., third party software/SaaS solutions, database subscriptions, other third party content, leased devices/hardware)
    - Who obtains and maintains these licenses?
  - Preexisting service provider-owned IP (e.g., tools, bots, methodologies)
    - What is an appropriate limited license? For how long?
  - Rights to derivative works
  - Joint development (investment, ownership and revenue sharing)
  - IP indemnities/risk mitigation
  - Related rights (domain names, URLs, toll free numbers, etc.)

## IT Services Provider (Outsourcing) vs. Customer

- Ownership of data
  - Customer data usually remains the customer's property
    - Business and financial data
    - Personally identifiable data
    - Aggregate data, de-identified data, coded/tokenized data, or anonymized data
  - Limited license back to service provider (scope of use)
- What if the services include an **AI capability**?
  - Does the "Al-derived" data become a derivative work or is it new data?
  - Who owns the Al-derived data?
  - Are there different license use rights to the AI-derived data?
- **Revenue sharing models** around certain proprietary and AI-enhanced data

### **Evolving IP issues in IT**

- Augmented/virtual reality; other AI-enhanced functionality:
  - Challenges to IP rights between provider and licensees/users
  - Is there a marketable solution where every contributor benefits?
- Uncertain jurisdictional boundaries:
  - Data ownership and related usage disputes
- "Smart Contracts" using blockchain
  - Securing contracts and IP rights
- Cyber-espionage/trade secret theft
  - State and non-state actors will have growing influence on innovation
  - Export controls may affect future IP innovation, collaboration and monetization
- Patents:
  - The post-Alice debate and resurgence of IT-related patents



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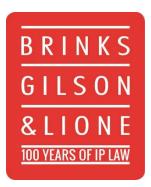
Twitter: @afriedenesq

# **Copyright Licensing: General Considerations**

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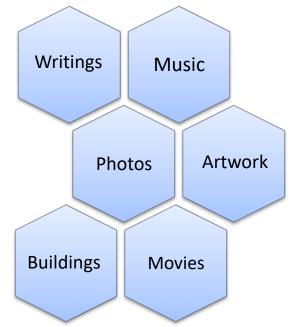
# What Is A Copyright?

Short Answer: a property right in a creative work



- Copyrights provide the owner with a bundle of exclusive rights —
  essentially, copyrights provide the owner with control over the creative work
- These exclusive rights may be transferred, assigned or licensed to others

What Types Of Works May Be Protected By Copyright?



... just to name a few



# **Licensing Generally**

- Types of Licenses
  - Written
  - Oral
  - Implied
  - Digital Licensing Online
- Grant of rights, as opposed to a sale or transfer
- Rights may be granted with limits
- Exclusive vs. non-exclusive



## **General Considerations**

- What rights am I giving up?
  For how long?
  To what extent?
  For what in return?

- Flexibility?Exclusivity?Enforceability?Transferability?

## **Common Provisions**

- Identify Works to Be Licensed
- Identify Rights to Be Licensed
- Identify Parties
- Consider Intended Uses/Limits on Uses
- Exclusivity of License
- Royalties
- Enforcement
- Warranties and Indemnification
- Consider Right to Sublicense/Assign
- Copyright Registration and Notice
- Term and Termination
- Other Considerations

## **Identify Works To Be Licensed**

- License must clearly, specifically, and accurately identify the copyrighted work being licensed
  - Consider registered vs. unregistered works
  - Consider layered works

# **Identify Rights To Be Licensed**

- License must clearly, specifically, and accurately identify the specific rights in the work that are being licensed
  - Uses not expressly authorized are generally prohibited
  - Ensure license covers all anticipated uses for work
  - Beware of the term "use" in copyright licenses (ambiguous)

# **Identify Parties**

- Due Diligence review registration certificates, assignments,
   Copyright Office searches
  - Consider Works Made for Hire
  - Consider Joint Authors

#### Intended Uses / Limits on Uses

- License must clearly, specifically, and accurately identify the media format, term, territory, and scope of use
  - Format i.e. digital, print, web, video, audio, certain software applications
  - Term duration of license
  - Territory geographic scope of license
  - Scope of use broad grant vs. specific purpose

## **Exclusivity of License**

- Consider non-exclusive vs. exclusive
  - Non-exclusive limits no standing to sue to enforce rights; no right to transfer or sublicense without authorization
  - Exclusive license benefits standing to sue; reduced competition; increased control; higher royalty rate

# Royalties

- More Rights, More Exclusivity = Higher Royalties
  - Consider:
    - When are they due?
    - Where/how to pay?
    - Audits?
    - Format % of sales? Flat fee? Minimum payments?

#### **Enforcement**

- Identify party responsible for monitoring infringement/pursuing infringers
  - Who pays costs and fees?
  - Can exclusive licensee take action if licensor chooses not to?
  - How are recovered damages and fees to be distributed?

#### **Warranties & Indemnification**

- Consider licensor warranties
  - i.e. validity of copyright; not infringing third party rights; no prior exclusive licensee
- Consider licensee warranties
  - i.e. no misuse of copyright; will not use work in infringing manner; agrees to assist in infringement lawsuits
- Consider licensor & licensee indemnification

# Right to Sublicense/Assign

- Rights to Sublicense/Assign should be expressly stated
  - Absent express language exclusive licensee's rights are assignable; non-exclusive licensee's rights are personal and cannot be transferred
  - Consider right of first refusal and other limitations

## **Copyright Registration & Notice**

- Registering Copyright
  - Which party registers?
  - Registration must be within 3 months of publication
- Require copyright notice to appear on all copies and on website
- Registering License
  - Establishes priorities between conflicting transfers
  - Provides constructive notice of transfer

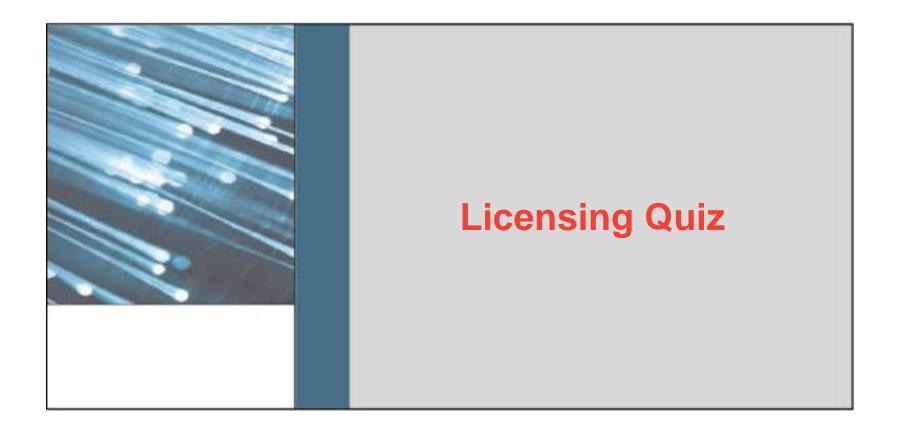
#### **Term & Termination**

- Include express provision for duration
  - Copyright Act governs if not specified
  - Should not exceed term of copyright
- Consider termination upon certain events or upon notice by licensor

### **Other Considerations**

- Renewal
- Arbitration or ADR
- Attribution of Authorship
- Choice of Law/Jurisdiction
- Reservation of Rights

- Confidentiality
- Integration Clause
- Disclaimer of Warranties
- Revocability/Irrevocability



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#### **Fact Pattern**

- A professional photographer posted one of her photos on Instagram
- The news site Mashable contacted her and offered her \$50.00 for permission to reuse the Instagram image in a story about female photographers
- The photographer denied Mashable's request
- Mashable used the image anyway by embedding the Instagram image of photographer's photo in its story
- The photographer sued *Mashable* for copyright infringement

### **Poll Questions**

- Poll Question 1: Did the photographer forfeit her copyright by posting her image on Instagram?
- Poll Question 2: Is Mashable liable for copyright infringement for embedding the Instagram post in its story?

#### Post at Your Own Risk

APRIL 14, 2020 8:40am PT by Eriq Gardner

### Court Rules Photographer Gave Up Exclusive Licensing Rights by Posting on Instagram



By agreeing to Instagram's Terms of Use when creating her account, the photographer [Sinclair] granted to Instagram "a nonexclusive, fully paid and royalty free . . . worldwide license to the Content." **Judge Wood** (S.D.N.Y.) (April 13, 2020)

https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/thr-esq/court-rules-photographer-gave-up-licensing-rights-by-posting-instagram-1290170

### **Think Before You Re-Post**



Sinclair's "copyright claim against Mashable cannot be dismissed on the basis of Mashable's sublicense defense on the record presently before the Court." **Judge Wood** (S.D.N.Y.) (June 24, 2020)

https://www.thefashionlaw.com/mashable-and-other-publishers-may-not-be-able-to-embed-instagram-users-imagery-without-running-afoul-of-copyright-law-per-sdny/



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