



**Producers &
Engineers Wing**

The Recording Academy[®]

Producers & Engineers Wing

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For Immediate Release

THE RECORDING ACADEMY[®] PRODUCERS & ENGINEERS WING TAKES ADVOCACY ACTION FOR MUSIC CREATORS' RIGHTS

*Producers & Engineers Wing Members Help Educate National Legislators on the Crucial Roles
Played by Record Producers, Recording Engineers and Mixers*

*GRAMMY[®] -Winning Guitarist Slash and Producer Mike Clink Demonstrated the Relationship
Between Artist and Producer During a Recording Session at The Record Plant Studios
in Los Angeles*

*In Washington, D.C., Producers and Engineers Help Rally Support for the Performance Rights Act,
Currently Before Congress*

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (April 6, 2009) — The Producers & Engineers Wing of The Recording Academy[®] has played an activist role throughout its existence, something that was illustrated by two recent events in which P&E Wing members played a key role. These events focused on educating U.S. legislators on the record-making process and lobbying for the Performance Rights Act, currently before Congress.

In February, as part of congressional briefings arranged by The Recording Academy, former Guns N' Roses/Velvet Revolver guitarist Slash and acclaimed record producer Mike Clink (Guns N' Roses, Metallica) provided congressional representatives with a look "Behind the Scenes – Inside the Studio." This demonstration of the working relationship between the artist and the producer, as well as the creative and technical aspects of modern record production, illustrated in graphic fashion the importance of the recording process to the entire music industry. The event, which took place at the renowned Record Plant Recording Studios in Hollywood, Calif., was as real as it gets: Slash, who won a GRAMMY[®] Award for Best Hard Rock Performance in 2004 for his work with Velvet Revolver, along with keyboardist Teddy Andreadis, drummer Kenny Aronoff and bassist Chris Chaney, recorded the closing track for a new motion picture as the legislators looked on, experiencing first-hand the collaboration between musician and producer.

"Members of Congress and legislative staff have a good sense of the artists' and songwriters' roles in creating a record, but the producer's role is sometimes not as well understood," commented Maureen Droney, Senior Executive Director of The Recording Academy's Producers & Engineers Wing, which co-produced the event with The Academy's Advocacy office. "The studio demonstration at The Record Plant served as another step in the continual process of shining a bright light on the important work of studio professionals to the policy makers in Washington so that future laws might more accurately reflect the credit due to these talented individuals."

In March, the P&E Wing was present for Performance Rights Act lobbying day in Washington, D.C., organized by the MusicFirst Coalition and The Recording Academy. Members of the Wing, including Ed Cherney, Alia Fahlborg, Bennett Kaufman, Glenn Lorbecki, Jeff Lorber, Sylvia Massy, Phil Nicolo and Phil Soussan, were there to help explain and voice their support for the Performance Rights Act. This proposed legislation with broad bipartisan support in Congress would amend Federal copyright law to grant performers of sound recordings equal rights to compensation from terrestrial (over-the-air) radio broadcasters, a right enjoyed by recording artists and musicians in the rest of the world.

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"To be able to speak directly with our elected representatives and express the importance and fairness of the terrestrial radio Performance Rights Act with 100 of our fellow musicians, engineers and producers was a great reminder that we really can have an effect on our future," stated Ed Cherney, GRAMMY-winning producer/engineer and a founding member of the P&E Wing and the Music Producers Guild of America.

Glenn Lorbecki, producer/engineer/studio owner and co-chair of the P&E Wing, commented, "The members of Congress seemed sincerely impressed that we took the time to educate them about the record making process from the perspective of producers and engineers. It proves to me that we still do have a voice in this democracy, and that the average person can absolutely make a difference."

Photo File: PE_OntheHill.JPG

Photo Caption: Pictured L-R: Jeff Lorber, producer/musician; Bennett Kaufman, producer/manager; Maureen Droney, Sr. Executive Director of the P&E Wing; Phil Soussan, producer/songwriter/bassist; Ed Cherney, producer/engineer and founding member of the Music Producers Guild of America and the P&E Wing; and Dan Navarro, songwriter/recording artist, in front of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., as the P&E Wing membership and leadership participated in the Performing Rights Act lobbying day in March 2009.

Photo courtesy of The Recording Academy® © 2009.

Established in 1957, The Recording Academy is an organization of musicians, producers, engineers and recording professionals that is dedicated to improving the cultural condition and quality of life for music and its makers. Internationally known for the GRAMMY Awards — the preeminent peer-recognized award for musical excellence and the most credible brand in music — The Recording Academy is responsible for groundbreaking professional development, cultural enrichment, advocacy, education and human services programs. The Academy continues to focus on its mission of recognizing musical excellence, advocating for the well-being of music makers and ensuring music remains an indelible part of our culture. For more information about The Academy, please visit www.grammy.com.

Currently, 6,000 professionals comprise the Producers & Engineers Wing, which was established for producers, engineers, remixers, manufacturers, technologists, and other related creative and technical professionals in the recording community. This organized voice for the recording community addresses issues that affect the craft of recorded music, while ensuring its role in the development of new technologies, recording and mastering recommendations, and archiving and preservation initiatives. For more information, please visit www.producersandengineers.com.

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