

JAY GRESS

Jay Gress is Senior Vice President, IP Licensing at Sony Music Entertainment where he has worked in various roles since 2000. In his current role he has responsibility for a wide range of functions including publisher licensing strategy, mechanical royalties administration, and copyright registrations on behalf of Sony Music's various labels, including Columbia, RCA, Epic, Legacy, Masterworks & Nashville among others.

Over the past several years Jay has participated in the ongoing negotiation of collective bargaining agreements with AFM and SAG-AFTRA unions, and has helped advise SME labels regarding the application of those agreements. He has been a regular member of the Best Practices industry group which promotes the maintenance of shared policies and procedures between record labels and music publishers in the US, and has been chair of the DDEX Licensing ("MWDR") Working Group since 2014 as part of its ongoing efforts to develop metadata standards to improve and streamline licensing activities between music publishers, labels and digital platforms in that space across the music industry.

Prior to his current role at Sony Music, Jay worked in various Licensing, Rights & Permissions related roles at Columbia House and at the book publisher Random House. Jay graduated with a B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1994.