

COUNTRY OF OPERATION : Belgium

ORGANISATION : Reprobel

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a) History summary : Reprobel was founded on June 1994 and has been registered as a collecting society by the Minister of Justice on June 1996.
Then, Reprobel was designated as the (only one) collecting society entitled to collect reprographic fees in Belgium on October 1997.
Collection started on 1the January 1998.**
- b) Legal system : Legal licence, with equipment levy and operators levy for all sectors (education, public sector and private sector)**
- c) Members : All collecting societies of owners of reprographic rights of literary and artistic works (see list enclosed)**
- d) Composition of Board of Directors : 8 members, 4 designated by authors collecting societies and 4 designated by publishers collecting societies**
- e) Staff : 13 equivalent full time**
- f) Licensing : all sectors**
- g) Other rights : Public lending (Royal decree still missing)**
- h) Financial year : 1 january / 31 december**
- i) Total Income from all licensing for last financial year :
6.640.338,57 euros**

1. DOMESTIC REPROGRAPHIC COLLECTIONS BY SOURCE

a) equipment levy : 3.820.904,98 euros

b) operators levy : 2.819.433,59 euros (to be detailed later)

*note that this amount covers sometimes collections for 1999, 2000, 2001, due to the Belgian system which allow operators to pre-pay for 2 or 3 years.
In the same time, at the end of the fiscal year, important collections for 1998 was not already paid.*

1. REPROGRAPHIC INCOME FROM OTHER RROS

0

2. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Costs : 826.961, 42 euros

Investments in 1998 : 425.222, 55 euros

PS : In addition, Reprobel has to cover 505.828, 05 euros invested during the pre-collection period.

3. DISTRIBUTIONS & DISTRIBUTION PLANS

a) Summary of distribution plan(s): in development.

Reprobel's "college of authors" and "college of publishers" are now working on distribution schemes and planing.

First distribution to members will start, if possible, before the end of 1999.

b) Author/Publisher split : legal split 50 /50

c) Distribution to National Rightsholders : unknown at this stage

d) Distribution to Foreign RRO's : unknown at this stage

6. BILATERAL AGREEMENTS BY TYPE

none

7. ACADEMIC PERMISSIONS

Legal licence

8. ELECTRONIC STORAGE & ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT DELIVERY

a) Legal situation : new situation in 1998 due to implementation of the "European Databank directive" in the Belgian authors law. The Belgian legal situation is very complex, with a mix of exclusive right and legal licence for education and research. A detailed comment of the law will be issued by Reprobel, before the end of 1999

*b) Actual licensing
By Reprobel, none
By publishers, some based on exclusive right*

*c) Pilot projects
none*

10. DEVELOPMENTS SINCE LAST REPORT

*a) Legislation
See 9.1*

*b) Court cases : only one
Machine makers went to "the Council of State" for an abrogation of the equipment levy provisions in the royal Decree". No decision is to wait before one or two years.*

*c) Surveys & statistical results :
none*

*d) New areas of licensing
none*

e) Others

Reprobel first year of collection was considered as a succes, with no important problem except the court action introduced by the machine makers.

7.000 contracts were concluded with operators, covering more than 15.000 operators.

30.000 declarations were returned by operators to Reprobel the Starting phase is still in process, with quite good results, in 1999, for operators who did not answer to the first mailing and who received a new proposal from Reprobel.

CONVERSION INTO EURO

MEMBER ORGANISATION : REPROBEL

COUNTRY: BELGIUM

	1998-9 or 1998		1997-8 or 1997	
	Local Currency	in EUR	Local Currency	in EUR
1) TOTAL INCOME from all licensing	267.870.594	6.640.338,57	0	0,00
2) REPROGRAPHIC COLLECTIONS				
<i>domestic equipment operators</i>	267.870.594 154134925 113.735.669	6.640.338,57 3.820.904,98 2.819.433,59	0	0,00
<i>from foreign RRO's</i>	0	0,00	0	0,00
Total	267.870.594	6.640.338,57	0	0,00
5) DISTRIBUTIONS				
<i>national rightsholders</i>	0	0,00	0	0,00
<i>to foreign RRO's</i>	0	0,00	0	0,00
TOTAL	0	0,00	0	0,00