



Sixties rockers await their judgment day

The next few months are expected to deliver a number of significant judgments, consultations and reports. The common theme however is the difficulties faced by rights owners and the law to deal with changing technology.

Alexander Ross, music and technology partner considers the current consultation by the Intellectual Property Office on how to implement recommendations from the Gowers Review and suggests that the consequences will be "far reaching".

He says, "One proposal is the format-shifting exception, which would enable a person to buy a CD and copy it to an iPod of that is necessary to be able to play the music on the other device".

"The big question however is whether you'll be able to sell the CD after copying it, which would seem to be against the spirit of the proposed exception".

For further details see The Guardian Media Law Supplement, 10 March 2008.