
Subject: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [Bivouac](#) on Fri, 29 Apr 2005 19:25:05 GMT

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Ok, I whipped out this Less Than Jake album the other day that I hadn't listened to in forever. Then I remembered if you start the first track and then seek BACK two or three minutes there was this secret track that played up until the first song...

The CD player counts backwards too...freakiest thing.

I figured you guys (if anyone) would know how to do this. I'd really love to know...

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [bblackwood](#) on Fri, 29 Apr 2005 19:59:02 GMT

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It's quite easy if you have the right software. Sequoia, Sadie, Sonic, Wavelab, etc all do it...

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [masterhse](#) on Fri, 29 Apr 2005 22:12:16 GMT

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Basically it has to do with how you position the index on a CD.

Have a look here:

<http://www.cdrfaq.org/faq03.html#S3-36>

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [bblackwood](#) on Fri, 29 Apr 2005 22:17:06 GMT

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Worth mentioning that it is outside of redbook standards, which is why many pieces of software don't do it...

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [TotalSonic](#) on Fri, 29 Apr 2005 22:45:02 GMT
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Sony's CD Architect can do it also if you're looking for a cheap PC based solution.

Best thing is to check with your replicator to make sure they are ok with hidden tracks before you send the master in. Most plants should be able to handle it without a problem - but dealing with hidden track masters can occasionally be a tiny bit trickier in glass mastering. Also if the plant isn't made aware in advance that it your master is intentionally out of spec it can potentially delay your order as most replicators will want to confirm that it is ok to proceed with your master as provided before proceeding with production. As always accurate pq sheets and a note as to the existence of the hidden track help to prevent this problem.

Best regards,
Steve Berson

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [MASSIVE Mastering](#) on Sat, 30 Apr 2005 13:13:24 GMT
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And keep in mind that there are CD players that will choke on the disc. Most will be fine, but you can bank on some of them not being happy.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Viitalahde](#) on Sat, 30 Apr 2005 14:04:46 GMT
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masterhse wrote on Fri, 29 April 2005 23:12<http://www.cdrfaq.org/faq03.html#S3-36>

THANKS!

That's a great link!

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [masterhse](#) on Sat, 30 Apr 2005 22:12:08 GMT
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Viitalahde wrote on Sat, 30 April 2005 10:04masterhse wrote on Fri, 29 April 2005 23:12<http://www.cdrfaq.org/faq03.html#S3-36>

THANKS!

That's a great link!

No prob.

Everything you wanted (and didn't want) to know about CD-Rs. :)

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [xonlocust](#) on Tue, 03 May 2005 19:43:31 GMT
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wierd, i came here to make a post on this very issue and there already was a thread...

so what's the consensus of the group - is it a hassle for most end users? think it'll piss off more than it's worth? if i put that cd in itunes, does it recognize the hidden track - or is it only accessible through a regular cd player?

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [jackthebear](#) on Tue, 03 May 2005 23:49:36 GMT
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The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Cheers,

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [Ronny](#) on Wed, 04 May 2005 00:38:25 GMT

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jackthebear wrote on Tue, 03 May 2005 19:49 The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Cheers,

I've had a couple of people that wanted it at the end to beat the compatibility factor and to keep it within redbook. One guy said that no one found the hidden track that was placed before track 1 on his last cd, so I stuck the hidden track on his next project 30 seconds after the last tune ended, with no track id. The time on the last song included the hidden track. So when the cd is playing and the last tune ends, the time count keeps going and the bonus track plays 30 seconds later at 5:43, IIRC. It's not really hidden but it's not id'd. The artwork had the time of the last song written down instead of the total time of the last song and the bonus tune, so there were no clues on the tray card. He said people found the tune after just a few plays and liked that better. I can understand not wanting to place a tune on a cd where only 10 or 20% of the consumers are going to hear it, but I'd like to know if there is anyway to stop the timeline count at the end of the last known song, have the cd still play and the count pick backup on the hidden track or no displayed time at all. Anyone have any suggestions?

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [OTR-jkl](#) on Wed, 04 May 2005 01:02:55 GMT

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Quote:I'd like to know if there is anyway to stop the timeline count at the end of the last known song, have the cd still play and the count pick backup on the hidden track or no displayed time at all.

Although I've done what Ronny described, I haven't tried this:

Maybe if you put a Pause ID at the end of the last "real" track and the then place the End ID at the end of the disc... I'm guessing that what might happen is that the CD player will count backwards from the Pause ID down to 0 at the End ID...(?) Anybody know?

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [xonlocust](#) on Wed, 04 May 2005 13:58:33 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

jackthebear wrote on Tue, 03 May 2005 19:49The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Cheers,

hmmmm. that screws up my situation. track 1 will actually be an intro that's about :45, and the hidden track is like 3 minutes. crap.

Ronny wrote on Tue, 03 May 2005 19:38

I can understand not wanting to place a tune on a cd where only 10 or 20% of the consumers are going to hear it,

that;s actually why i liked the idea of pre track 1. i wanted it to be something special that may take you a year or so of owning the cd before someone says.. hey, do you know if you rewind track one you can find something?

i know most people just do it at the end with space between them and dont put it on the artwork, that just doesnt seem as special as i want it to be.

remember tool: undertow, and i think NIN: broken had all those missing track ids, so at the end your cd player just went insane counting track by track till it got to the hidden track. (i think track 69 was tool's). i like that idea, but wonder how that'll integrate with modern things like itunes.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Greg Reiersen](#) on Wed, 04 May 2005 14:18:20 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

jackthebear wrote on Tue, 03 May 2005 18:49The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Cheers,

Tony,

I've had success with the pre-gap being much longer than track 1. Is there a technical / replication reason to keep the pre-gap shorter?

GR

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [mastermind](#) on Wed, 04 May 2005 20:20:04 GMT

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xonlocust wrote on Wed, 04 May 2005 08:58

hrmmmm. that screws up my situation. track 1 will actually be an intro that's about :45, and the hidden track is like 3 minutes. crap.

Oh brother... did I mention I charge extra for hidden tracks?

Quote:

remember tool: undertow, and i think NIN: broken had all those missing track ids, so at the end your cd player just went insane counting track by track till it got to the hidden track. (i think track 69 was tool's). i like that idea, but wonder how that'll integrate with modern things like itunes.

On the NIN Broken disc: the first 500k of the pressing had the "bonus" tracks on a separate 3" cd... after that first run the bonus tracks were tracks 98 and 99 on the main disc (rather than being on the separate bonus disc).

t

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [bblackwood](#) on Wed, 04 May 2005 23:32:53 GMT
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jackthebear wrote on Tue, 03 May 2005 18:49 The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.
You sure about this? For the life of me, I cannot figure out why this would be true...

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [jackthebear](#) on Thu, 05 May 2005 02:14:29 GMT
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My only experience has been in Wavelab (with others operating). For some reason the hidden track had to be shorter.....

Operator error???

Cheers,

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [bobkatz](#) on Sun, 08 May 2005 01:09:46 GMT
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bblackwood wrote on Fri, 29 April 2005 18:17 Worth mentioning that it is outside of redbook standards, which is why many pieces of software don't do it...

Has anyone had one of these CDs successfully replicated? With or without special collaboration from the plant?

BK

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [TotalSonic](#) on Sun, 08 May 2005 01:18:44 GMT
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bobkatz wrote on Sun, 08 May 2005 02:09bbblackwood wrote on Fri, 29 April 2005 18:17Worth mentioning that it is outside of redbook standards, which is why many pieces of software don't do it...

Has anyone had one of these CDs successfully replicated? With or without special collaboration from the plant?

BK

Unless my memory is deceiving me I believe that we've done a few at Europadisk (although no one has ever requested one from me) - and also had to reject a few masters that weren't properly set up. I'll try and talk to the head tech of our glass mastering dept on Monday and see if he can shed some light on what in the master would give problems or not - I'm curious myself.

Best regards,
Steve Berson

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Fergal Toohey](#) on Sun, 08 May 2005 07:57:57 GMT
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jackthebear wrote on Wed, 04 May 2005 00:49The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Cheers,

Are you sure on this Tony?

I know that on blur's Think Tank album, they have a bonus track before track 1. The bonus track is called "Me white noise", and it's about 6 minutes drunken rant from a y-list english actor...

The first official track on the album (ambulance) is only 4 minutes long.

One thing that did happen with this CD though, was that in australia, where EMI put a copyprotection scheme on the CD, the CD refused to play on many CD players, or would have Me white noise display as the first track, rather than a "minus track". It was a complete disaster. I know many people from australia/new zealand who ended up downloading the album AFTER they

had bought it.

The moral of the story, hidden tracks at the start of the CD can be a bit unreliable on some cd players, copy protection can be a bit unreliable on some cd players. But hidden tracks at the start of a CD with copy protection should be avoided at all costs...

-Fergal

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [bblackwood](#) on Sun, 08 May 2005 09:29:40 GMT
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bobkatz wrote on Sat, 07 May 2005 20:09bbblackwood wrote on Fri, 29 April 2005 18:17Worth mentioning that it is outside of redbook standards, which is why many pieces of software don't do it...

Has anyone had one of these CDs successfully replicated? With or without special collaboration from the plant?

Yah, maybe 15 or 20 over the years...

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [jackthebear](#) on Sun, 08 May 2005 10:15:08 GMT
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Fergal Toohey wrote on Sun, 08 May 2005 17:57jackthebear wrote on Wed, 04 May 2005 00:49The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Cheers,

Are you sure on this Tony?

Well Brad has already questioned the accuracy of my post....
Some dudes on Wavelab tried it and this was their experience with me present.
Every time I go near a PC something goes wrong.
Maybe this was another one of those weird events.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Fergal Toohey](#) on Sun, 08 May 2005 14:51:54 GMT
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jackthebear wrote on Sun, 08 May 2005 11:15
Well Brad has already questioned the accuracy of my post....

Indeed he has. I missed that, sorry.

Quote:
Some dudes on Wavelab tried it and this was their experience with me present.
Every time I go near a PC something goes wrong.
Maybe this was another one of those weird events.

lol... :)

-Fergal

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Ronny](#) on Sun, 08 May 2005 22:59:58 GMT
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jackthebear wrote on Sun, 08 May 2005 06:15Fergal Toohey wrote on Sun, 08 May 2005 17:57jackthebear wrote on Wed, 04 May 2005 00:49The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Cheers,

Are you sure on this Tony?

Every time I go near a PC something goes wrong.
Maybe this was another one of those weird events.

Those weird events used to happen to me when I got near my PC. I fixed the problem by setting it on some kabala stones and putting an aluminum foil pyramid on top of the monitor. 8o

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [GoobAudio](#) on Thu, 02 Jun 2005 12:49:25 GMT
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jackthebear wrote on Wed, 04 May 2005 00:49Some dudes on Wavelab tried it and this was their experience with me present.
Every time I go near a PC something goes wrong.
Maybe this was another one of those weird events.

Jack:

I thought I was the only guy who could crash everything just by being present in the room.
Perhaps we were both born on the same day and time or something.

Phil

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Datcha](#) on Mon, 06 Jun 2005 09:21:14 GMT
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Hi there,

first post.

It's on a lighter note & a bit of topic, but you'll like the story.

Previous Soulwax album, produced by Dave Sardy.

They sampled this low male voice of a rather unknown English 80's record that they were planning to use as the intro prior to ID1 on the album.

PQ'ing was done at Electric City in Brussels on a Sadie system.

At one point, the English owner walks in, hears the intro & points out that it's HIS voice! :blush:
He used to be the singer of that band 20 years earlier...

Cool thing was, he let them use it.

great forum.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Ronny](#) on Tue, 07 Jun 2005 02:38:40 GMT
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Datcha wrote on Mon, 06 June 2005 05:21Hi there,

first post.

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He used to be the singer of that band 20 years earlier...

Cool thing was, he let them use it.

great forum.

It's a small world ain't it. Welcome to the group FD.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Doug Van Sloun](#) on Tue, 07 Jun 2005 12:43:18 GMT
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Fergal Toohey wrote on Sun, 08 May 2005 02:57jackthebear wrote on Wed, 04 May 2005 00:49The other thing to keep in mind is this.....Track 0 should be shorter than Track 1 for it to work.

Are you sure on this Tony?

I know that on blur's Think Tank album, they have a bonus track before track 1. The bonus track is called "Me white noise", and it's about 6 minutes drunken rant from a y-list english actor...

The first official track on the album (ambulance) is only 4 minutes long.

I did a record which had more than 20 minutes before track 1. I believe the first song was approx. 4 minutes long. Replication worked fine. CD master was created on Sonic "classic".

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [bald mastering engineer](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 13:26:01 GMT
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Hi, my first time posting on this forum.. anyway, I almost had to do this procedure for a client today and from what I can gather it is a piece of cake in wave lab, just make sure you have the " audio in pause" activated in the options window under tools/import audio tracks from CD. Remove ID 1 and your set.

The reason why Im posting this is because there is actually a patent on this method from the guy who first discovered it (or thought to make a patent on this). That means you'll have to pay a % on every CD you sell that has a hidden track before ID 1. The client changed his mind when he realized this was the truth and we ended up putting the hidden track at the end of the CD. This was news to me.

Hope this helps someone out there.. Oh yeah, Mark Wilder is the greatest mastering engineer in the world..
KEV

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Andy Krehm](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 14:55:22 GMT
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We've done this a few times, at the client's request, but were unable to do it with the software that we owned (Masterlist & WaveBurner).

However, Cinram (Toronto plant) our replication plant is more than happy to do it so we just send in a normal CD master, clearly marked that track 1 should be put in the O gap. They then send us a new master for proofing, we send it back and it has worked out perfectly every time! We were never aware of any limitation, as discussed in this post and so we never really paid any attention to those sort of things. We just make the CD run the way we want it, gap, etc, and no one has complained about the results yet.

As far as I know, this is the one and only drawback to using WaveBurner as a sequencing program.Of course I'm not happy about having to out source a mastering chore but given that we've only been asked a few times in almost 3,000 albums mastered, I'm not losing any sleep over it either.

Since our last sent-to-plant pre-gap jobbie, we have bought Sonic Studio's DDPV2 now and I am wondering if it is possible to do it with that software. Anyone know?

Andy,

Silverbirch Productions.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [Jerry Tubb](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 17:46:04 GMT

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Andy Krehm wrote on Tue, 13 June 2006 09:55...were unable to do it with the software that we owned (Masterlist & WaveBurner).-snip- As far as I know, this is the one and only drawback to using WaveBurner as a sequencing program.

Agreed Andy... sounds like we're on the same page in a lot of ways.

WaveBurner 1.2 good stuff, create masters with it every day... No "soundboard" zero-track audio allowed (complying to red book spec), seems to be about the only real weakness at this point. I've only had the "Soundboard" request a few times over the years.

IIRC it was Willie Nelson's "Moonlight Becomes You" CD back in '94 on Houston's Justice records, was the first to do it... and all the legal hoopla that ensued.

I'm still curious to try Sonic's PMCD, maybe I'll buy it this afternoon. I know David Glasser, Bob Boyd, and others have good reports.

Anyone done the Zero-Track with PMCD?

JT

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [Bob Boyd](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 01:52:40 GMT
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Jerry Tubb wrote on Tue, 13 June 2006 12:46: Anyone done the Zero-Track with PMCD?

JT

Unless I'm overlooking something, it does not appear that PMCD will write a "zero" track. When I erased the Start and End markers on the first song, it started writing the DDP fileset from the second track (which was now the first Start ID).

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Jerry Tubb](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 08:01:56 GMT
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Hey Bob, remember this?

Bob Boyd wrote on Tue, 09 August 2005 11:04: I hear they make a great burger and they'll bring it right out to your car!

I couldn't resist having a chuckle about your "Sonic" comment from last year.

Now you're all about it.

Gee, somehow I thought I'd be the first ME in Texas feature both PT and Sonic!

Must be goin' soft in the head... Cheers JT

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Sonovo](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 09:25:05 GMT
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As far as I can recall, PMCD and DDP 2.1 will not do it. I had a client last year who wanted that for a kids CD. After much jumping through hoops to get it to work, I finally had to give up on it with the Sonic apps. I ended up letting the plant do it, they sent a ref as a check before pressing, everything worked out fine.

It wouldn't surprise me if it ended up in a later version, but only the people at Sonic know for sure if and when that will happen.

Cheers,
Thor

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [jtr](#) on Wed, 14 Jun 2006 19:33:20 GMT
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bald mastering engineer wrote on Tue, 13 June 2006 06:58:26

The reason why I'm posting this is because there is actually a patent on this method from the guy who first discovered it (or thought to make a patent on this). That means you'll have to pay a % on every CD you sell that has a hidden track before ID 1. The client changed his mind when he realized this was the truth and we ended up putting the hidden track at the end of the CD. This was news to me.

Hope this helps someone out there.. Oh yeah, Mark Wilder is the greatest mastering engineer in the world..

KEV

1. The patent holder was the owner of Justice Records, I think the business name was Justice Soundboard? I think they were in Texas somewhere...don't know for sure. And you are correct- they didn't "discover" the technique, the guy was an entertainment lawyer (I think) who thought to patent it. They then entered into a lawsuit with Sony which dragged on for a bit till it was settled by agreement.

I just wish I had thought to patent the concept of using a 5 frame offset for pq points. Or maybe putting music in the normal pause areas. Or something else equally mundane.

2. Ditto re: Mark Wilder. (patent pending)

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Bob Boyd](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 02:25:52 GMT
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Jerry Tubb wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 03:01: Hey Bob, remember this?

Bob Boyd wrote on Tue, 09 August 2005 11:04: I hear they make a great burger and they'll bring it right out to your car!

I couldn't resist having a chuckle about your "Sonic" comment from last year.

It was the shakes that did me in.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Jerry Tubb](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 06:29:40 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hey Bob

Congrats on the cool feature article on the Sonic Studio Website!

http://sonicstudio.com/company/bboyd_ambient.html

JT

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Mark Donahue](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 16:50:23 GMT
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jtr wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 15:33

1. The patent holder was the owner of Justice Records, I think the business name was Justice Soundboard? I think they were in Texas somewhere...don't know for sure.

And you are correct- they didn't "discover" the technique, the guy was an entertainment lawyer (I think) who thought to patent it. They then entered into a lawsuit with Sony which dragged on for a bit till it was settled by agreement.

I just wish I had thought to patent the concept of using a 5 frame offset for pq points. Or maybe putting music in the normal pause areas. Or something else equally mundane.

2. Ditto re: Mark Wilder. (patent pending)

Jim,

It seems to me that this patent is not really enforceable. Where does the differentiation happen between standard Redbook 2 second pregap and the Justice Records "hidden track" patent? Also, were they the very first person to put audio in the pregap? If not then the existing prior art comes into play, doesn't it?

Just thinking out loud....

-m

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?

Posted by [Andy Krehm](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 17:11:58 GMT

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Mark Donahue wrote on Thu, 15 June 2006 12:58:50jtr wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 15:58:33
1. The patent holder was the owner of Justice Records, I think the business name was Justice Soundboard? I think they were in Texas somewhere...don't know for sure.

And you are correct- they didn't "discover" the technique, the guy was an entertainment lawyer (I think) who thought to patent it. They then entered into a lawsuit with Sony which dragged on for a bit till it was settled by agreement.

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Just thinking out loud....

-m

Many of our masters are manufactured by Cinram, Toronto branch, and believe me, they are so diligent about any kind of copyrights that I would be so very surprised if there is an enforceable patent on a track hidden in the zero gap, or anywhere else, for that matter.

We have submitted at least a half a dozen masters over the years with zero gap material, including one this year and no rejections for this reason.

Andy,

Silverbirch Productions.

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [Jerry Tubb](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 18:28:40 GMT
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jtr wrote on Wed, 14 June 2006 14:58:33 The patent holder was the owner of Justice Records, I think the business name was Justice Soundboard? I think they were in Texas somewhere...don't know for sure.

And you are correct- they didn't "discover" the technique, the guy was an entertainment lawyer (I think) who thought to patent it. They then entered into a lawsuit with Sony which dragged on for a bit till it was settled by agreement.

Hi Jim, yes we know the parties involved, interesting story, don't want to elaborate too much but...

Justice Records in Houston, Randal Jamail owner, the CD in question was Willie Nelson's "Moonlight Becomes You", year 1994, came up with the term "soundboard", it was the first zero track that I know of.

IIRC Sony refused to press it since it wasn't redbook spec, Justice sued for delay of CD release, settled out of court for big dollars. (The Jamails' are famous for winning a huge lawsuit against Pennzoil).

The publicity caused a "fad" reaction of CDs containing zero tracks, along with all the other funny track number gimmicks back in the '90s.

Maybe we could share some of our silliest track # tricks on this thread.

I think mine was a bonus track #99 after a string on blank 4 second tracks, to confuse the "random play" mode.

JT

Subject: Re: Secret Track Before the First Song...How in the World?!?
Posted by [jtr](#) on Thu, 15 Jun 2006 20:26:53 GMT
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Jerry Tubb wrote on Thu, 15 June 2006 11:58:28

Justice Records in Houston, Randal Jamail owner, the CD in question was Willie Nelson's "Moonlight Becomes You", year 1994, came up with the term "soundboard", it was the first zero track that I know of.

IIRC Sony refused to press it since it wasn't redbook spec, Justice sued for delay of CD release, settled out of court for big dollars. (The Jamails' are famous for winning a huge lawsuit against Pennzoil).

T
JT

I think one of the reasons they won was because about the same time Sony Disc refused to replicate it, Sony Music released a couple albums that were set up with music before track 1. (oops)

Interesting. I didn't realize the lawsuit was for delay of CD release- kind of a relief. I've always viewed the process as an unenforceable patent as well, and have put music before track 1 a number of times.

I still think it goes in the book as a silly trick.

One thing we were asked to do at Sony Disc was figure out a way to start a disc on track 13 without a countdown. This was for a Korn release. Red Book does allow for multi disc sets, where numbering leaves off on one disc and picks up again consecutively on the next. We thought, ok,

no problem. We'll just pretend this is volume 2.

Unfortunately, the player manufacturers didn't think this provision was all that important. The test disc I put together

(using the Sony PQ Editor for 1630) did start on track 13 in several older players. Put it in a computer though, and it would either lock up or automatically renumber starting at 1 in the software player. Then when I tried running it through the Eclipse, I got all sorts of error messages....(I actually enjoyed doing stuff like this)

We finally recommended they just put a bunch of empty tracks in first and the fans can watch the player count to 13 before the first song plays. We let the mastering house know and they handled it. I was HIGHLY amused when the project came through for replication- someone I'd never worked with called to give me a heads up on the numbering, but took a condescending "don't mess up our new, cool original idea you dumb plant monkey " approach. (defensive? me?) We all had a good laugh over that one.