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Satellite radio software squabble XML

September 01, 2004

An Ontario man wrote software that's essentially a VCR for your satellite radio and it's got the venerable RIAA and his radio provider in a tizzy.

Scott MacLean of Ottawa wrote TimeTrax, which lets users record satellite radio shows directly to their hard drives in what he says was in attempt to make XM satellite radio more user friendly. Before the software if you were asleep or away when a show was broadcast, you were out of luck.

Of course, TimeTrax - which is being sold to hundreds of radio subscribers - also lets you turn music from those shows in MP3s, which is what got the RIAA's attention.

"We remain concerned about any devices or software that permit listeners to transform a broadcast into a music library," RIAA spokesman Jonathan Lamy said. Not a shocker there.

XM and the RIAA are busy pouring over copyright law to see if they can find a monkeywrench to throw.
Via Yahoo News

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