

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of distributing content to a plurality of recipients over a distributed computer network, each recipient having a terminal connected to the network, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) receiving a content file and a distribution list associated with said content file from a registered provider using a provider terminal connected to the network and storing said content file and said distribution list in a database;
 - (b) receiving a request for access to said database from one of the recipients;
 - (c) verifying the identity of said one of the recipients and verifying that said distribution list includes said one of the recipients; and
 - (d) providing said one of the recipients with a copy of said content file, if said one of the recipient's identity and inclusion in said distribution list are verified.
2. The method claimed in claim 1, further including a step of notifying said plurality of recipients identified in said distribution list of the availability of said content file.
3. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of verifying the identity of said one of the recipients includes receiving biometric input from the recipient and comparing said received biometric input with a stored biometric profile.
4. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said content file includes digital music.
5. The method claimed in any one of claims 1 or 4, wherein said plurality of recipients includes a plurality of radio stations.
6. The method claimed in any one of claims 1, 4, or 5, wherein said registered provider includes a music recording label.
7. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said database further contains a release

condition, and wherein said method further includes a step of verifying that said release condition is met prior to said step of providing.

8. The method claimed in claim 7, wherein said release condition includes a time and a date before which said step of providing cannot be performed.

9. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of receiving further includes a step of receiving a sample associated with said content file from said registered provider and wherein said method further includes a step of streaming said sample to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

10. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the database further includes a graphical file associated with said content file and wherein the method further includes a step of streaming or downloading said graphical file to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

11. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein the database further includes a video file associated with said content file and wherein the method further includes a step of streaming or downloading said video file to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

12. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said content file comprises an encrypted content file, and said step of providing includes the steps of downloading said encrypted content file to the terminal of said one of the recipients and decrypting said encrypted content file to produce said copy.

13. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said content file comprises an encrypted content file, and said step of providing includes the steps of decrypting said encrypted content file to produce said copy and downloading said copy to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

14. The method claimed in claim 13, wherein said step of downloading includes streaming.

15. The method claimed in claim 1, further including the step of receiving and storing an

opinion from said one of the recipients through the terminal of said one of the recipients.

16. The method claimed in claim 15, wherein more than one opinion is received and stored, and further including the step of determining, based upon said more than one opinions, whether said content file is approved.

17. The method claimed in claim 16, wherein said content file includes an advertisement.

18. The method claimed in claim 17, wherein the advertisement includes a radio advertisement.

19. The method claimed in claim 15, wherein said opinion includes a selection of approval or disapproval.

20. The method claimed in claim 19, wherein said opinion further includes comments regarding said content file.

21. A system for distributing content to a plurality of recipients over a distributed computer network, the system comprising:

- (a) a server connected to the network and including a database having a content file and a distribution list associated with said content file, an interface for receiving a request for access to said content file from one of the recipients, a verification module for verifying the identity of said one of the recipients and a management module that confirms that said distribution list includes said one of the recipients, and a download module for providing a copy of said content file to said one of the recipients in response to verification by said verification module and confirmation from said management module;
- (b) a provider terminal connected to the network for providing said server with said content file and said distribution list; and

- (c) a recipient terminal connected to the network and having an input means for interacting with said interface and for providing input to said verification module and a storage means for receiving said content file.
22. The system claimed in claim 21, wherein said input means includes a keyboard and said verification module includes a typing cadence identity verification module.
23. The system claimed in claim 21, wherein said database further includes a sample associated with said content file, and wherein said server includes a sample streaming module for streaming said sample to said recipient terminal.
24. The system claimed in claim 21, wherein said content file comprises an encrypted content file, and said download module downloads said encrypted content file to said terminal, and wherein said recipient terminal further includes a decryption module for decrypting said encrypted content file and producing said copy.
25. The system claimed in claim 21, wherein said content file comprises an encrypted content file, and said server further includes a decryption module for decrypting said encrypted content file to produce said copy, and wherein said download module downloads said copy to said recipient terminal.
26. The system claimed in claim 25, wherein said download module streams said copy to said terminal.
27. The system claimed in claim 21, wherein said server further includes a reviewer module for receiving and storing an opinion from said one of the recipients regarding said content file.
28. The system claimed in claim 27, wherein said reviewer module receives and stores multiple opinions regarding said content file and wherein said reviewer module determines whether the content file is approved based upon said multiple opinions.
29. The system claimed in claim 28, wherein said content file includes an advertisement.

30. A method of receiving content over a distributed computer network, the content being received by a recipient via a recipient terminal connected to the network, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) requesting access to a remote database connected to the network through the recipient terminal;
- (b) providing identity verification information, wherein said remote database verifies the identity of the recipient; and
- (c) if the recipient's identity is verified by said remote database, selecting a content file stored on said remote database, wherein said remote database contains an encrypted copy of said content file and contains a distribution list corresponding to said content file, wherein said distribution list includes the recipient; and
- (d) receiving a decrypted copy of said content file from said remote database.

31. The method claimed in claim 30, further including a first step of receiving notification from said remote database of the availability of said content file.

32. The method claimed in claim 30, wherein said identify verification information includes the recipient's typing cadence.

33. The method claimed in claim 30, wherein said content file includes digital music.

34. The method claimed in claim 30, wherein the recipient includes a radio station.

35. The method claimed in claim 30, wherein said database further contains a release condition, and wherein said step of receiving is conditional upon said release condition being met prior to said step of receiving.

36. The method claimed in claim 35, wherein said release condition includes a time and a date before which said step of receiving cannot be performed.

37. The method claimed in claim 30, wherein said database further includes an unencrypted sample associated with said encrypted content file and wherein said method further includes a step of receiving said unencrypted sample.
38. The method claimed in claim 30, wherein said step of receiving includes the steps of receiving said encrypted copy and decrypting said encrypted copy to produce said decrypted copy of said content file.
39. The method claimed in claim 30, wherein said step of receiving includes receiving said decrypted copy of said content file via streaming.
40. The method claimed in claim 30, further including a step of reviewing said decrypted copy of said content file and providing an opinion regarding said content file.
41. The method claimed in claim 40, wherein the encrypted content file includes an advertisement.
42. A computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium tangibly embodying computer executable instructions for distributing content to a plurality of recipients over a distributed computer network, each recipient having a terminal connected to the network, the computer executable instructions comprising:
- (a) computer executable instructions for receiving a content file and a distribution list associated with said content file from a registered provider using a provider terminal connected to the network and storing said content file and said distribution list in a database;
 - (b) computer executable instructions for receiving a request for access to said database from one of the recipients;
 - (c) computer executable instructions for verifying the identity of said one of the recipients and verifying that said distribution list includes said one of the

recipients; and

- (d) computer executable instructions for providing said one of the recipients with a copy of said content file, if said one of the recipient's identity and inclusion in said distribution list are verified.

43. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, further including computer executable instructions for notifying said plurality of recipients identified in said distribution list of the availability of said content file.

44. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein said computer executable instructions for verifying the identity of said one of the recipients includes computer executable instructions for receiving a biometric input and for comparing said received biometric input with a stored biometric profile.

45. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein said content file includes digital music.

46. The computer program product claimed in claim 45, wherein said plurality of recipients includes a plurality of radio stations.

47. The computer program product claimed in claim 46, wherein said registered provider includes a music recording label.

48. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein said database further contains a release condition, and wherein said computer program product further includes computer executable instructions for verifying that said release condition is met prior to providing said one of the recipients with said copy of said content file.

49. The computer program product claimed in claim 48, wherein said release condition includes a time and a date before which said copy cannot be provided.

50. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein said computer executable instructions for receiving further include computer executable instructions for receiving a sample associated with said content file from said registered provider and

wherein said computer program product further includes computer executable instructions for streaming said sample to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

51. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein the database further includes a graphical file associated with said content file and wherein the computer program product further includes computer executable instructions for streaming or downloading said graphical file to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

52. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein the database further includes a video file associated with said content file and wherein the computer program product further includes computer executable instructions for streaming or downloading said video file to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

53. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein said content file comprises an encrypted content file, and said computer executable instructions for providing include computer executable instructions for downloading said encrypted content file to the terminal of said one of the recipients and decrypting said encrypted content file to produce said copy.

54. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, wherein said content file comprises an encrypted content file, and said computer executable instructions for providing include computer executable instructions for decrypting said encrypted content file to produce the decrypted copy and downloading said copy to the terminal of said one of the recipients.

55. The computer program product claimed in claim 54, wherein said downloading includes streaming.

56. The computer program product claimed in claim 42, further including computer executable instructions for receiving and storing an opinion from said one of the recipients through the terminal of said one of the recipients.

57. The computer program product claimed in claim 56, wherein more than one opinion is received and stored, and further including computer executable instructions for determining, based upon said more than one opinion, whether the content file is approved.

58. The computer program product claimed in claim 57, wherein the content file includes an advertisement.

59. The computer program product claimed in claim 58, wherein the advertisement includes a radio advertisement.

60. The computer program product claimed in claim 57, wherein said opinion includes a selection of approval or disapproval.

61. The computer program product claimed in claim 60, wherein said opinion further includes comments regarding said content file.

62. The computer program product claimed in one of claims 42 to 61, wherein said computer-readable medium is a medium selected from the group including a magnetic storage device, an optical storage device, a modulated electrical signal, and a modulated optical signal.

63. A computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium tangibly embodying computer executable instructions for receiving content over a distributed computer network, the content being received by a recipient via a recipient terminal connected to the network, the computer executable instructions comprising:

- (a) computer executable instructions for requesting access to a remote database connected to the network through the recipient terminal;
- (b) computer executable instructions for providing identity verification information, wherein said remote database verifies the identity of the recipient; and
- (c) computer executable instructions for, if the recipient's identity is verified by

said remote database, selecting a content file stored on said remote database, wherein said remote database contains an encrypted copy of said content file and contains a distribution list corresponding to said content file, wherein said distribution list includes the recipient; and

- (d) computer executable instructions for receiving a decrypted copy of said content file from said remote database.

64. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, further including computer executable instructions for receiving notification from said remote database of the availability of said content file.

65. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, wherein said identify verification information includes the recipient's typing cadence.

66. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, wherein said content file includes digital music.

67. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, wherein the recipient includes a radio station.

68. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, wherein said database further contains a release condition, and wherein said computer executable instructions for receiving are conditional upon said release condition being met prior to said receiving.

69. The computer program product claimed in claim 68, wherein said release condition includes a time and a date before which said receiving cannot be performed.

70. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, wherein said database further includes an unencrypted sample associated with said encrypted content file and wherein said computer program product further includes computer executable instructions for receiving said unencrypted sample.

71. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, wherein said computer executable instructions for receiving include computer executable instructions for receiving said encrypted copy and decrypting said encrypted copy to produce said decrypted copy of said content file.
72. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, wherein said computer executable instructions for receiving include computer executable instructions for receiving said decrypted copy of said content file via streaming.
73. The computer program product claimed in claim 63, further including computer executable instructions for reviewing said decrypted copy of said content file and providing an opinion regarding said content file.
74. The computer program product claimed in claim 73, wherein the encrypted content file includes an advertisement.
75. The computer program product claimed in one of claims 62 to 74, wherein said computer-readable medium is a medium selected from the group including a magnetic storage device, an optical storage device, a modulated electrical signal, and a modulated optical signal.