



Pacific Media Watch

Title – 5944 SAMOA: New radio station FETU FM to promote local musicians

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NEW RADIO STATION LAUNCHED IN SAMOA

www.rnzi.com/pages/news.php?op=read&id=44699

APIA (*RNZI Online/Pacific Media Watch*): A newly launched radio station in Samoa says it will promote Samoan music, including paying royalties for the first time.

FETU FM, which started broadcasting today, offers a music-based format programme with an emphasis on original works by Samoan performers.

The owners, journalist Apulu Lance Polu and Cook Islander George Pitt, aim to encourage local talent by paying them their dues.

Apulu says it's the right thing to do.

He says the Intellectual Property Act, which came into force in 1998, provides copyright protection for songwriters and musicians.

Up to now no collecting agency has been established but nevertheless FETU FM is making a commitment to pay royalties.

Apulu says the fact there is no official collecting agency will not be used as an excuse to deny local artists their fair share of the commercial cake.

Research and educational resource provided by the Pacific Media Centre | Creative Industries Research Institute
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