July 17, 2015

Dear Copyright Office,

I am the director of Stolk Photography ltd in New Zealand.

Our main product is stock photography. The stock-image market is very competitive and profits are made by volume. In other words, we only receive a small amount per sale (varying from just 25 cents to sometimes 4 dollars). We need to produce new images all the time and we need to provide a lot of them in order to make a small profit after writing off our equipment and our standard business costs.

All our images (a set of nearly 10,000 images) are sold via Getty. Only because we own the copyright of these images are we able to sell them.

It's very hard work and the revenue is small. However, by hard work and commitment we can keep going and provide for our costs of living.

I am following the writing re your new US Copyright law and I think it doesn't matter we are based in New Zealand, it will still have an effect on us.

It would be the end of our business if we have to license our images ourselves before we admit them to Getty and also create a license of the existing set.

Without the current copyright protection we would not be able to sell them. Also, when our set of images would be orphaned, it would mean we would not be able to sell any of them anymore as pirates would be able to steal them and we will lose our business. We also are aware of the fact that we would not have the assets to fight large companies in court when they start using our images for free. Based on Meta data from our cameras we can prove all the images are ours but the legal costs would be far too much to bare for our small company.

With the upmost respect,

Henk Stolk

Director of Stolk Photogrpahy ltd

New Zealand