

SECTION III – ITEM B

EMI Music and EMI Christian Music Group An Historical Perspective

- 1897 An American (William Owen) establishes “The Gramophone Company” in London
- 1899 Company adopts “His Master’s Voice” image and title as trademark
- 1921 First “His Master’s Voice” retail outlet in London
- 1930’s “Electric & Musical Industries” (EMI) formed by merger of The Gramophone Company and The Columbia Graphophone Company
- 1931 Abbey Road Recording Studios open
- 1955 EMI acquires Capitol Records
- 1962 EMI signs The Beatles and releases “Love Me Do”
- 1972 Contemporary Christian Music Company, Myrrh Records founded in Waco, TX by Billy Ray Hearn
- 1973 EMI Music Publishing formed
- 1976 Sparrow Records founded in Los Angeles, CA by Billy Ray Hearn. Artists included Keith Green, John Michael Talbot, and 2nd Chapter of Acts among others.
- 1988 ForeFront Records founded in Nashville by Dan Brock, Eddie DeGarmo and Ron Griffin. Artists included dcTalk, Rebecca St. James, and Audio Adrenaline among others.
- 1991 Sparrow Records relocates from Los Angeles, CA to Nashville, TN. Artists included BeBe & CeCe Winans, Steven Curtis Chapman, Steve Taylor, and Margaret Becker among others.
- 1992 EMI acquires Virgin Music Group
- 1992 EMI acquires Sparrow Records
- 1994 EMI acquires Star Song Records. Artists included Petra, Newsboys, and Twila Paris among others.
- 1994 EMI Christian Music Group and Chordant Distribution are formed. Distributed labels included Integrity Music, Gospo Centric and Gaither Music Group among others.
- 1994 EMI Christian Music Publishing is formed.
- 1996 EMI Christian Music Group acquires ForeFront Records. Artists included Stacie Orrico, Toby Mac and Rebecca St. James among others.
- 1998 EMI Christian Music Group creates EMI Gospel. Artists included Smokie Norful, Kierra “KiKi” Sheard and Bishop T.D. Jakes among others.
- 1998 EMI Christian Music Group creates WorshipTogether.com
- 2000 EMI Christian Music Group acquires 50% interest in Tooth and Nail Records. Artists included MXPX, Jeremy Camp, Kutless, Thousand Foot Krutch, and Underoath among others.

- 2002 EMI Christian Music Group acquires minority interest in Gotee Records. Artists included Jennifer Knapp, Sonic Flood, Grits and Out of Eden among others.
- 2002 EMI Christian Music Publishing acquires 50% interest in Kingsway’s Thank You Music copyright catalog.
- 2003 EMI Christian Music Group launches over 600 albums for digital sale.
- 2004 EMI Christian Music Publishing makes history with *Here I Am To Worship*, earning honors as the #1 CCLI song in North America in addition to Dove Awards for Inspirational Song of the Year and Worship Song of the Year.
- 2004 EMI Gospel sensation, Kierra “Kiki” Sheard makes history debuting at #1 on *Billboard* Gospel and *Billboard* Heatseeker Sales charts and #1 on R&R Gospel Radio chart with her first CD, I Owe You.
- 2004 EMI CMG companies shine in *Billboard* Magazine’s year end issue with top honors in 8 categories including Contemporary Christian Artist and Album, Imprint, Label, Radio Imprint, Radio Label, Publishing Corporation and Gospel Artist.
- 2005 EMI Christian Music Publishing acquires Meaux Music Publishing.