



Digital Distribution and Marketing

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Digital Film Distribution in Europe
Hearing on the promotion of European films on-line
Brussels, Nov 18

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Key findings of digital distribution
- European VoD markets issues
- What next?



Under The Milky Way, a Global VoD Aggregator

Introduction

Key Findings
Digital
Distribution

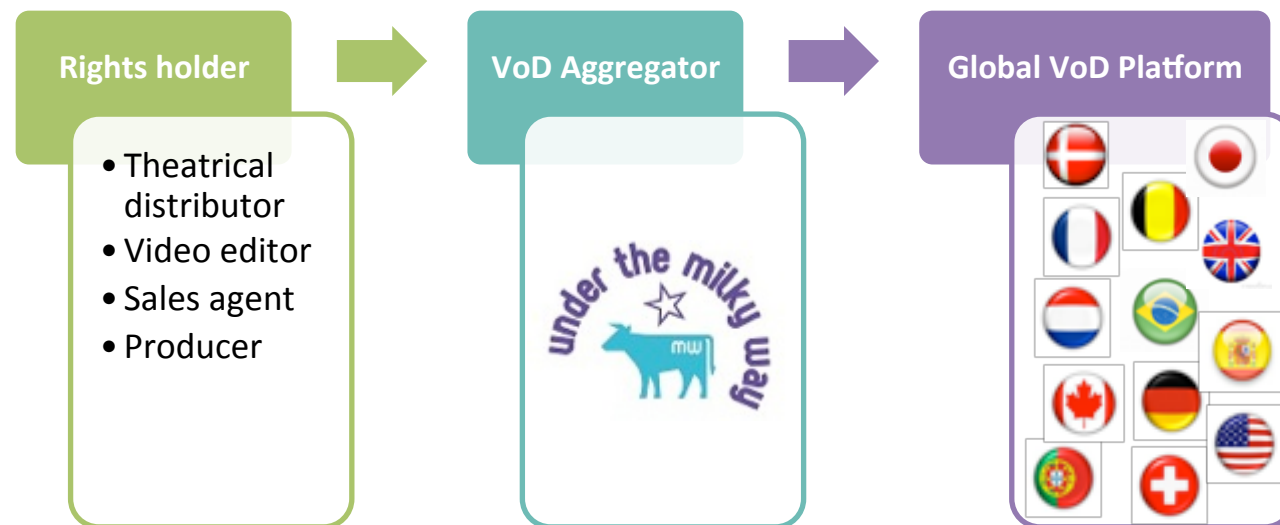
EU markets
VOD issues

What next ?

Founded in June 2010, Under The Milky Way (UMW) is a service company dedicated to the **digital distribution and marketing** of feature films.

Mission Statement:

To ensure that films are delivered and exploited as effectively as possible on the most prominent VoD platforms in the world.





Under the Milky Way services

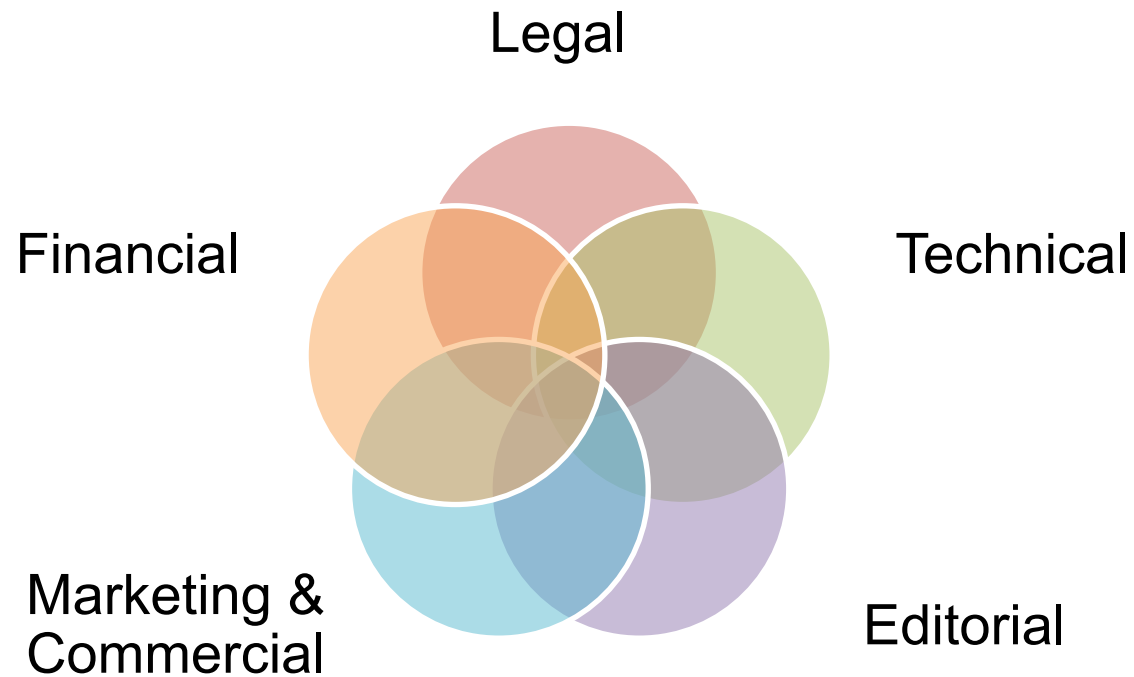
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What next ?

Under The Milky Way provides
interfaces between **rights-holders** and the **VoD platforms**:





Worldwide Digital Distribution

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What next ?

UMW has developed an **international network of 13 local representatives** covering **more than 100 countries**:

Paris	Milan	Copenhagen	Brussels	London	Vienna
France, Switzerland (Fr), International	Italy	Scandinavia	Benelux	United Kingdom, Ireland	Germany, Austria, Switzerland (Ger),
					
Madrid	Sydney	Tokyo	Montreal	New York Los Angeles	Moscou
Spain, Portugal	Australia, New Zealand	Japan	Canada	USA, LATAM	Pan-Russia
					



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Keys findings of digital distribution (1) Context Production & Distribution

Introduction

**Key Findings
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What next ?

- 1,285 films produced in Europe in 2011 (*Source: European Audiovisual Observatory*)
- Most of these films are not exploited outside their country of origin
- Revenues are generated by the Theatrical, DVD and VoD exploitation only once both MG and P&A are recouped, which rarely occurs
- There are often 4 or 5 players in the value chain between the producer and the end user
- Lack of transparency in the financial reporting



Keys findings of digital distribution (2) models under threat

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What next ?

The existing production and distribution models in the movie industry models are under threat:

- **Audience fragmentation**, changes in the public's behavior (the younger generation wanting to access content - especially new content - anytime, anywhere and on any device)
- **Declining** audience for **traditional media (linear TV)**
- **New business models** for the film distribution in the digital era
- Emergence of **new distribution channels**: Connected TV, VoD services (global players : Apple, Google, Amazon, Netflix ...)



Keys findings of digital distribution (3) A transition ?

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What next ?

A transition from a pre-financing model to a distribution model?

- Requires different approaches within the industry (less value, fewer resources to promote, to market, to produce films)
- Can the production & distribution models evolve?
 - Fewer films, shorter production cycles
 - Shorter financial cycle and more transparency: can compensate for lower/no Minimum Guarantee
 - Economies of scale through simultaneous multi-territory releases
 - Dispersal of expenses through transversal marketing
 - More flexibility in windowing to benefit from the multiplied effects of joint marketing campaign
 - Better expertise in the new marketing tools (fragmented audiences but universal usage and normalized behavior through social networks)



Keys findings of digital distribution (4) the new global players

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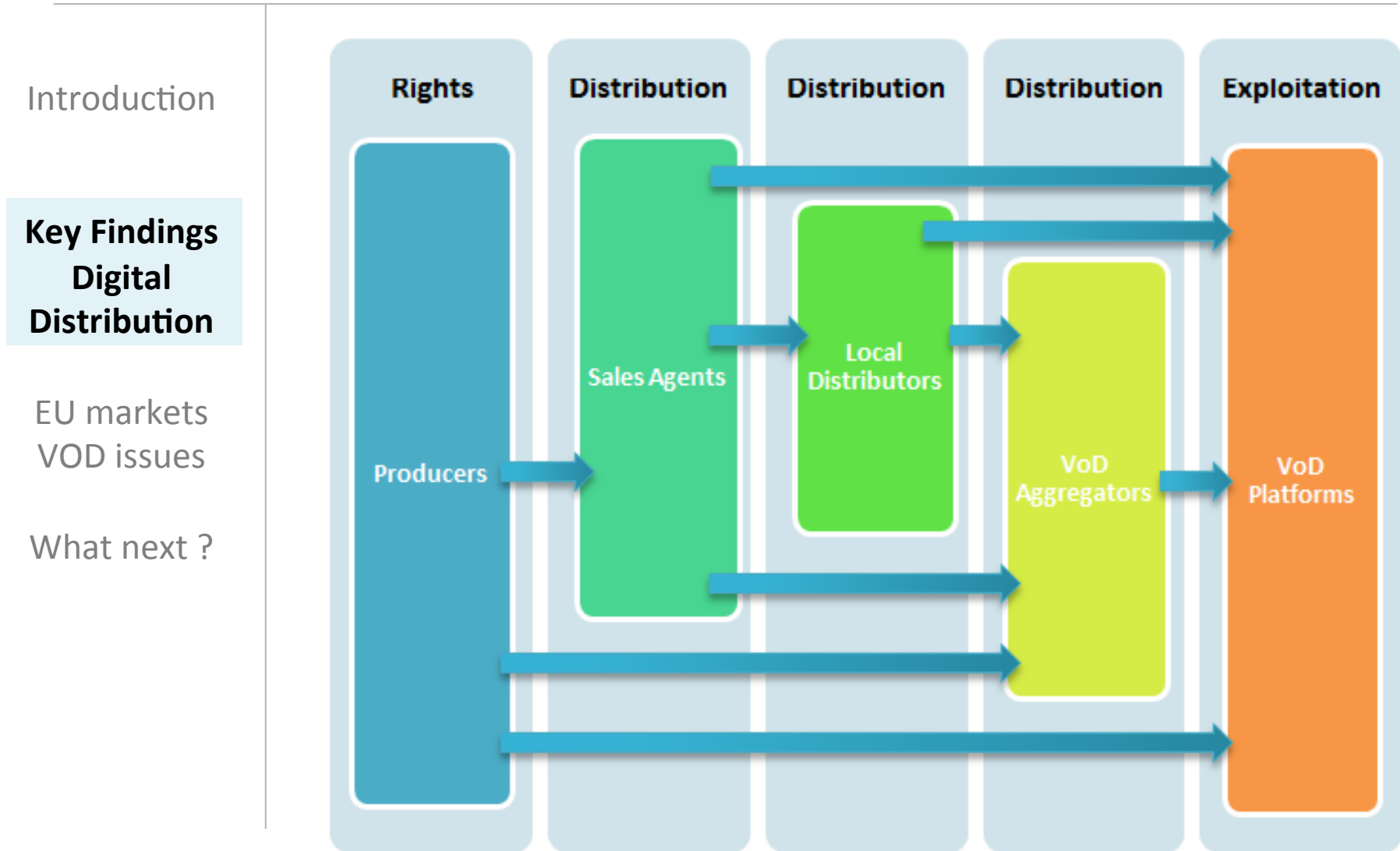
The “threat” of the new global players?

- Huge financial, technological resources and universal brands to attract a broad audience , infinite shelf space
- Very few European competitors
- Content distribution is not necessarily their core business (digital retailers)
- Not willing to pre-finance cinema and to compensate for the loss of existing resources from broadcasters
- Prefer to invest in premium TV content (better branding / greater audience loyalty)
- But need to offer strong local EU content, which EU viewers still seek out
- How do EU films gain exposure on these big platforms (Win-Win relationships)?



Keys findings of digital distribution (5)

Non linear Value Chains for Digital Film Distribution





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EU markets VOD issues

Obstacles

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What next ?

- **Multi territorial rights access:** VoD rights are fragmented across companies / territories
- **Complexity of the information:** rights holder, film, platform, country, language, media, currency, shared packages...
- **Large volume of movies and transactions:** absolute need for an efficient processes
- **Small margins** vs Costs and required Resources
- Lack of local subtitles
- Lack of Global European VoD platforms (Fragmented Online Video Market / many local players)

Fragmented Online Video Market in Western Europe

UK 



FRANCE 



GERMANY 



ITALY 



Benelux 



NORDICS 



x = Exited the business



EU markets VOD issues : opportunities

Introduction

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What next ?

- VoD means : **no physical barriers** for cross border distribution
- Economies of scale / Centralized digital supply chain process
- **Flexible technological solutions:** Geoblocking, Mezzanine compatible files, Multilingual packages...
- **Room for niche content** (long tail), to easily access the **Fragmented European audience**
- No European cross border distributor but global Pan European platforms are emerging (iTunes, Amazon, Google, Netflix, Sony...:



EU markets VOD issues : opportunities

Global VoD: a new scheme of distribution

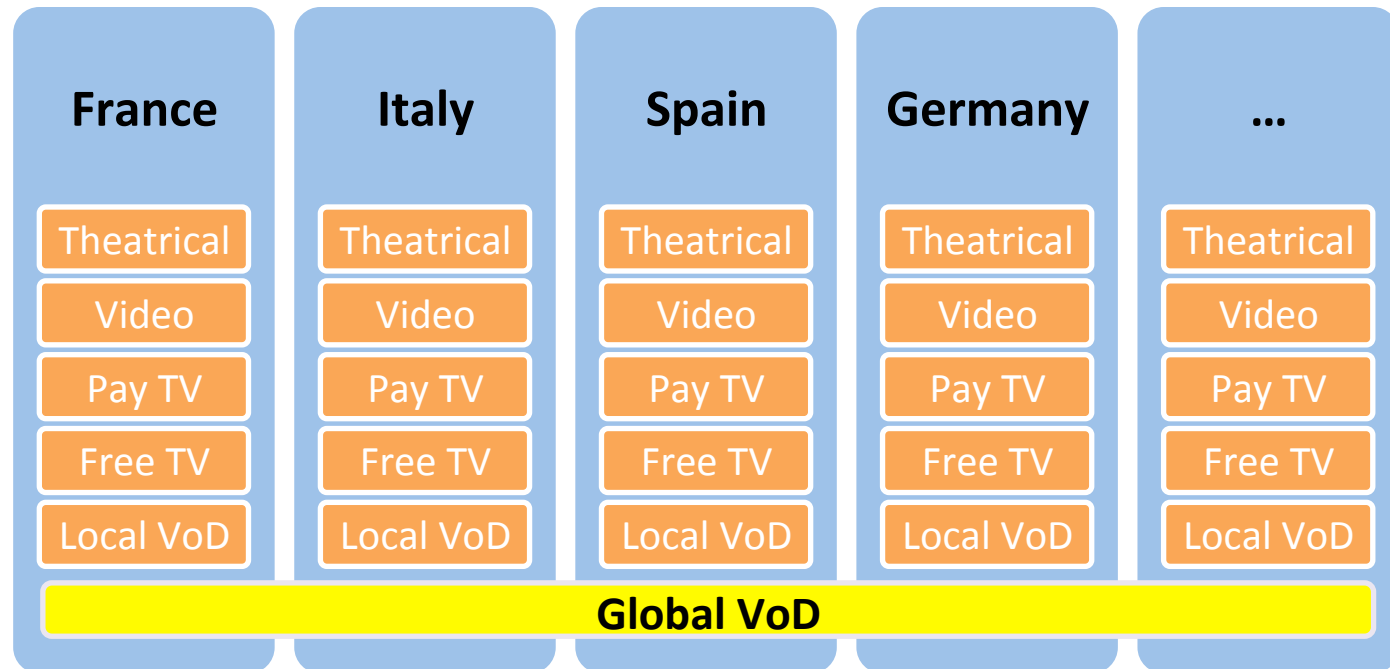
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What next ?

With an increasing number of produced films, the all rights sales / MG / on a per territory basis scheme is no longer adequate





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What next ? Thoughts and suggestions for changes

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What next ?

- Current standards for linguistic rights are not adequate for digital distribution (local communities, multilingual packages)
- The pan-European platforms need easy access to the fragmented rights to concentrate on their core competencies
- Producers deserve transparency, commercial circulation of their movies, however, the rights are often sold for a long period (5-15 years)
- Few integrated groups could manage pan-European digital distribution
- Transversal / per media mandates?
- From a prefinanced business model to a distribution model
Destroying value but boosting creativity



What next ?

Day and Date as an experimentation

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What next ?

Objectives

- Find alternative distribution strategies for films which cannot find their way to the audience in the theaters
- Meet the ATAWAD requirement of the younger generation (also containing the piracy?)
- Lower the financial risks of the distributors (more sustainable ROI)
- Maximize the revenues flow/Improve the profitability in %



What next ?

Day and Date as an experimentation

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What next ?

Principles

- Simultaneous short windowing exploitation (Theatrical/VoD)
- Benefit from the instant and wide broad VoD distribution channels
- Implement a global & transversal marketing strategy (generate rapidly a public awareness on the movie and target more effectively the core audience)
- Manage (more secured) short cycles revenues streams



What next ?

Conclusion

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What next ?

- US Day & Date films releases: not a model but a business case
- US/ EU: different Backgrounds
- Need to experiment our own way dealing with local specs
- Required: changes in film consumption affect the Europe as the US



Thank you for your attention

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