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XM Subscriber Creates, Sells Automatic Music Download Software

An XM Satellite Radio subscriber from Canada who's also a computer programmer has written software that allows him to download XM songs from a PC-based XM software radio into MP3 files or WAV files on his computer. Scott MacLean is selling the TimeTrax software on his Web site for \$29.95. He told Reuters he's sold about 400 copies so far and more than 2,400 XM listeners have downloaded the program.

MacLean states on www.nerosoft.com/TimeTrax: "This radio, available for under \$50, plugs into a USB port on your PC and lets you tune into over 120 digital audio satellite channels, featuring music, talk, comedy and news. Each MP3 file is named with the artist and song name, and its ID3 is written with the same information. Leave TimeTrax recording overnight, and in the morning you will end up with a directory full of several hundred MP3 files, each perfectly cut and edited!"

MacLean also states TimeTrax does not "currently" work with any other satellite radio system.

XM is researching potential legal violations and says the product is not authorized by the satcaster.

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