It is curious that the recorded media industry in America (and in fact the world) is currently virtually fixated on the potential loss of revenue from copying of recorded music via the new digital audio consumer media. This is despite the presence of the copy limiting chip on all digital recorders sold to consumers in the United States.¹

The American Record Industry, for example, is now trying to recover through its Congressional allies, leak from home digital recording - supposedly hemorrhaging record Industry profits.

Whether FM radio as a feed source for home digital piracy is truly devastating the real pirates who ply their trade offshore - - - with nary a Jolly Roger of a Yo Ho Ho in sight or within earshot! Offshore record piracy can take the following forms:²

Theft of legitimate record shipments for ultimate retail sales by middlemen. An example of this could well be the removal of record shipments from freighters intercepted by real pirates in suspect waters as the Straits of Malacca.

“Outlaw copies of new popular albums such as Billy Joel’s River of Dreams are replicated to cassette, using the legitimate CD as the master. The illicit (though technologically perfect) cassettes are shrink-wrapped and packaged as Eddie Sikorski’s Polka Kings Play The Lawrence Welk Accordion Songbook and are then imported into the target country. If customs should open the box for inspection, they will find only boring polka tapes. Once inside the destination jurisdiction, the surrogate wrappings.”³
References

