



For Immediate Release

TAIWAN ANTI-PIRACY AGENCIES CONTINUE SUCCESSFUL JOINT OPERATIONS WITH MPA

Public Support for Reward Scheme Yields Arrests, Seizures

August 2, 2004 - Encino, CA/Hong Kong: Raids last month by police in Taiwan, in cooperation with intellectual property organizations, have resulted in significant setbacks for Internet piracy syndicates in Kinmen County and Taoyuan County.

On July 8, the Foundation for the Protection of Film and Video Works (FVWP), representing the Motion Picture Association, and IFPI, representing the recording industry, joined police in raiding an Internet café in Kinmen County.

Police arrested one man and seized 70 personal computers and one server. Examination of the server by FVWP personnel confirmed that 45 MPA member company movies were stored inside the server, including *Van Helsing*, *Troy*, *The Day After Tomorrow*, *Brother Bear* and *Spartan*. The movies were being illegally served via the Internet to the operation's customers.

The following day, acting on information generated by the MPA's CD-R Reward Scheme, FVWP joined Taiwan's IPR Police Task Force in raiding an illegal CD-R lab in Taoyuan County. Four suspected video pirates were arrested at the scene and 44 CD-R burners and 35,600 pirated CD-Rs were seized.

Of the seized discs, FVWP personnel confirmed that 9,101 copies were infringing 99 MPA member companies' titles, including *Spider-Man 2*, *Around The World in 80 Days*, *Troy*, *Garfield*, *Shrek 2*, *The Day After Tomorrow*, *Harry Potter: The Prisoner of Azkaban*, and *Mean Girls*.

Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President, Asia-Pacific, MPA said, "Continued close cooperation between the MPA and Taiwan's law enforcement authorities, notably the IPR Police, has produced outstanding results in the fight against piracy in Taiwan, delivering hard hits to pirate syndicates in a number of counties. In addition, public support for the MPA's CD-R Reward Scheme continues to generate valuable intelligence that is putting criminals behind bars and choking off traffic in illegally copied movies."

The MPA's CD-R Reward Scheme encourages the public to support law enforcement efforts in raiding pirate CD-R factory operations and provides significant cash rewards for people who provide information that leads to a successful raid on pirate production facilities.

Given the capacity of the CD-R burning operation, if the Taoyuan County lab had continued in operation for one year, the potential annual profit to the pirate syndicate would have been NT\$69.7 million (US\$2.1 million).

The IPR Police believe the raid successfully neutralized a pirate optical disc syndicate that supplied illegally burned CD-Rs to both night markets and flyer groups in northern Taiwan. Flyer groups operate by circulating flyers (delivering handbills to people's homes or placing advertisements in local newspapers) that solicit pirated optical discs for home delivery.

Piracy in Asia

The MPA estimates that its Member Companies lose an excess of US\$718 million in potential revenue annually in the Asia-Pacific region alone. A significant portion of the losses is due to the lack of adequate and effective copyright protection in the region.

In 2003, the MPA operations in the Asia-Pacific region investigated nearly 15,500 cases of piracy and assisted law enforcement officials in conducting nearly 13,000 raids. These activities resulted in the seizure of approximately 44,000,000 illegal optical discs, and the initiation of almost 9,100 legal actions.

About the MPAA:

The Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA) serves as the voice and advocate of the American motion picture, home video and television industries from its offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. These members include: Buena Vista Pictures Distribution; Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc.; Paramount Pictures; Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal Studios from Universal City Studios; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

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For more information, contact:

Anne Caliguiri
MPAA Encino
818-995-6600 ext. 293

Matt Grossman
MPAA Encino
818-995-6600 ext. 130

Mike Ellis
MPA Asia-Pacific
+852 2785-8677