



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **TAIWAN'S IPR POLICE AND MPA INVESTIGATORS SEIZE 108 OPTICAL DISC BURNERS FROM TAIPEI MOVIE PIRATE**

***Burner Lab Was Capable of Producing Nearly 7 Million Discs Per Year***

Hong Kong – On June 5, acting on a tip, a team of 10 officers from Taiwan's Intellectual Property Rights Police, with support from the Foundation for the Protection of Film and Video Works (FVWP), representing the Motion Picture Association (MPA), raided a pirate optical disc burning lab in Taipei, arresting six people and seizing 108 optical disc burners.

Also seized at the CD-R lab, believed to have been supplying pirated discs to street vendors throughout Taiwan, were 71,095 pirated DVD-Rs and CD-Rs, some of which were infringing 196 MPA member company titles. The seized 91 CD-R burners and 17 DVD-R burners were capable of producing 6,552,000 CD-Rs and 367,200 DVD-Rs in one year, generating potential revenue of US\$6,467,213.

"Low-cost, scalable optical disc burner labs are a leading source of piracy in Taiwan and are extremely difficult to detect," said Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President and Regional Director, Asia-Pacific for the Motion Picture Association. "This raid in Taipei underscores the effectiveness of the cooperation between the MPA and Taiwan's law enforcement authorities in the battle against copyright theft that so badly damages creative industries and the people who rely on those industries for their livelihoods."

In Taiwan, pirated movies are increasingly being individually burned onto optical discs with DVD-R or CD-R burners. Last month, Taiwan's National Highway Patrol Police, in collaboration with IPR Police and FVWP representatives, raided a pirate optical disc manufacturing and distribution facilities in Miaoli City, seizing a total of 250 DVD-R and CD-R burners. Large-scale burner labs, which allow pirates to individually burn movies onto optical discs, are capable of producing millions of pirate CD-Rs or DVD-Rs per year.

The Taipei raid was part of aggressive MPA anti-piracy enforcement operations, code named *Operation Red Card*, focused on notorious piracy "black spots" in major cities in Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand.

By cracking down on the availability of illegally pirated movies in retail shops and markets and from street vendors during the northern hemisphere's summer months, when many new movies are released, the MPA hopes to protect sales of cinema tickets and legitimate home video products such as DVDs, VCDs and VHS videotapes.

### ***Piracy in Asia***

A comprehensive study aimed at producing a more accurate picture of the impact that piracy has on the film industry including, for the first time, losses due to internet piracy, recently calculated that the MPA studios lost US\$6.1 billion to worldwide piracy in 2005. About US\$2.4 billion was lost to bootlegging\*, US\$1.4 billion to illegal copying\* and US\$2.3 billion to Internet piracy. Of the US\$6.1 billion in lost revenue to the studios, approximate \$1.2 billion came from piracy across the Asia-Pacific region, while piracy in the U.S. accounted for \$1.3 billion.

In 2005, the MPA's operations in the Asia-Pacific region investigated more than 34,000 cases of piracy and assisted law enforcement officials in conducting more than 10,500 raids. These activities resulted in the seizure of more than 34 million illegal optical discs, 55 factory optical disc production lines and 3,362 optical disc burners, as well as the initiation of more than 8,000 legal actions.

*\*Bootlegging: Obtaining movies by either purchasing an illegally copied HS/DVD/VCD or acquiring hard copies of bootleg movies.*

*\*Illegal copying: Making illegal copies for self or receiving illegal copies from friends of a legitimate VHS/DVD/VCD*

*\*Internet piracy: Obtaining movies by either downloading them from the Internet without paying or acquiring hard copies of illegally downloaded movies from friends or family.*

***About the MPA:*** *The Motion Picture Association (MPA) represents the interests of major motion picture companies in the global marketplace. On behalf of its Member Companies, the MPA conducts investigations around the world, assists with the criminal and civil litigation generated by such cases, and conducts education outreach programs to teach movie fans around the world about the harmful effects of piracy. The MPA directs its worldwide anti-piracy operations from its headquarters based in Encino, California and has regional offices located in Brussels (Europe, Middle East and Africa), São Paulo (Latin America), Montreal (Canada) and Singapore (Asia-Pacific). The MPA's anti-piracy activities have helped to transform entire markets from pirate to legitimate, benefiting video distributors, retailers, and foreign and local filmmakers alike. The MPA Member Companies include: Buena Vista International, Inc.; Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc.; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Releasing International Corporation; Twentieth Century Fox International Corporation; Universal International Films, Inc.; and Warner Bros. Pictures International, a division of Warner Bros. Pictures Inc.*

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