



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **SECOND P2P WEBSITE FALLS FOUL OF STRENGTHENED COPYRIGHT LAW IN TAIWAN**

### ***MJIB arrests operator of Hip2p.com***

Hong Kong/Taiwan – Taiwan's Bureau of Investigation, Ministry of Justice (MJIB) today raided the well-known pirate P2P website Hip2p.com operating out of Taipei.

The MJIB, acting on information provided by the Taiwan Foundation Against Copyright Theft (TFACT) representing the Motion Picture Association (MPA) used Taiwan's recently strengthened Copyright Law to carry out this action. The operator, a 34 year old male was arrested at his office and his computer was seized.

The raid on Hip2p came hot on the heels of a raid a week earlier by the MJIB against a similar pirate P2P website, Kupeer.com. Both sites provided P2P programs on their platforms that allowed users to quickly download the thousands of pirated movies they offered. In the case of Kupeer.com, the MJIB arrested the website operator, a 30 year old man and seized the computer server used. The website was immediately shut down after the raid.

Both operators face a sentence of up to two years and/or a maximum fine of US\$15,000 (NT\$500,000).

The two raids were made possible by amendments to Taiwan's Copyright Law that clarified liability against websites who induce others to indulge in copyright infringement. This was a provision that was missing in earlier P2P website infringement cases, such the one against ezPeer. The changes, made in June 2007, essentially provide inducement liability and are similar to a codification of the US Grokster decision into Taiwanese law.

MJIB investigator Hsiao Chih-Chung, who led the raid, had this to say "The changes in the law have definitely made our job much easier. When we go after pirate P2P websites or for that matter any pirate that encourages mass copyright theft by others, it is good to know that the law is on our side. We will continue to target these illegal websites until they are all taken down."

"The amendments to the Copyright Law ensure that website operators who induce others to indulge in piracy are accountable for their actions," said Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President and Regional Director, Asia-Pacific for the Motion Picture Association. "The changes clearly show Taiwan's commitment to protecting the creative industries. We are also delighted to see such an immediate application from MJIB and look forward to working with them on shutting down website number 3."

Praising the MJIB for their actions, TFACT Executive Director Spencer Yang said “Unless people begin to think about the consequences of wholesale copyright theft, the future will be bleak for the next generation of creators. As such we are pleased to see that in giving Copyright Law teeth, Taiwan is taking steps to ensure its creative industries are better protected.”

### ***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 US\$1.2 billion came from piracy across the Asia-Pacific region, while piracy in the U.S. accounted for US\$1.3 billion.

In 2006, the MPA’s operations in the Asia-Pacific region investigated more than 30,000 cases of piracy and assisted law enforcement officials in conducting nearly 12,400 raids. These activities resulted in the seizure of more than 35 million illegal optical discs, 50 factory optical disc production lines and 4,482 optical disc burners, as well as the initiation of more than 11,000 legal actions.

*\*Bootlegging: Obtaining movies by either purchasing an illegally copied VHS/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 Los Angeles, 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.; 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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