



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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TAIWANESE FILESHARING WEBSITE FOXY INDICTED FOR COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

***Rightsholders suffered US\$5.2 million in losses as a result of infringement say
Taiwan prosecutors***

Taipei – The Pan-Chiao District Prosecutors Office announced yesterday the indictment of the company operating local file-sharing website Foxy (<http://tw.gofoxy.net/>) and indicted one person, suspected of being the owner and operator of the site, of violations of Taiwan's Copyright Law. Prosecutors estimated that Foxy's operation caused approximately NT\$177 million (US\$5.2 million) in losses to rights holders.

The indictments follow raids by Taiwan's Intellectual Property Rights Police in 2007 and 2008 against both Foxy and a publishing company believed to be related to Foxy. The Foxy software resides in users computers and, similar to Winny software in Japan, can cause problems with information being inadvertently shared by users.

Such was the concern over this system that Taiwan's Government has prohibited the installation of Foxy software on Government computers. Taiwan's Ministry of Education has also banned the use of the software on the academic network, TANet, used by students across the country.

"These indictments against Foxy are proof of the value Taiwan places on intellectual property rights and the great effort the country will go to ensure they are protected," said Mike Ellis, President and Managing Director, Asia-Pacific, for the Motion Picture Association (MPA). "We look forward to more indictments as these will serve to deter such operators as well as send a clear message across that illegal file sharing will not be tolerated in Taiwan."

Spencer Yang, the Executive Director of Taiwan's Foundation Against Copyright Theft (TFACT), representing the MPA in Taiwan said: "We thank the authorities for their efforts in taking down this website and sending a strong signal to those who use it as a tool for piracy. For sure, content owners and creators in Taiwan are greatly encouraged by the fact that action is being taken against those who try to steal their work."

In Taiwan, Internet piracy remains a key concern for rights holders. In 2008, TFACT coordinated with local enforcement authorities to take action in regard to more than 423 online piracy cases.

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Piracy in Asia

A study aimed at providing a more accurate picture of the impact that piracy – including Internet piracy - has on the film industry estimated that MPA member companies lost US\$6.1 billion to worldwide piracy in 2005. Of that lost revenue, approximately 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 2008, the MPA's Asia Pacific operations investigated and helped law enforcement officials to conduct more than 7,500 raids, seizing more than 19 million illegal optical discs, 17 factory optical disc production lines and 6,000 optical disc burners. Additionally, these efforts initiated more than 4,000 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) and Motion Picture Association International (MPA-I) represent the interests of major motion picture companies in the global marketplace. As part of this, it investigates and reports on activities infringing its member companies' intellectual property rights, assists with the resulting criminal and civil litigation to protect their copyrights, and conducts education outreach programs to teach movie fans around the world about the harmful effects of piracy. These activities have helped to transform entire markets from pirate to legitimate, benefiting video distributors, retailers, and foreign and local filmmakers alike.*

The organization's worldwide anti-piracy operations are directed from its headquarters in Los Angeles, California and overseen at the regional and local market levels by teams located in Brussels (Europe, Middle East and Africa), São Paulo (Latin America), Montreal (Canada) and Singapore (Asia Pacific). Its member companies include: Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLLP; Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. For more information about the MPA, please visit www.mpa-i.org.

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