



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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## TAIWAN'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COURT UPHOLDS FOXY CONVICTION

### *Owner Receives Suspended Jail Sentence and Hefty Fine*

**Singapore/Taipei** - On November 22, Taiwan's specialist Intellectual Property Court today upheld the lower court's finding of copyright infringement against the notorious local file-sharing website Foxy (<http://tw.gofoxy.net/>). The Intellectual Property Court sentenced Ming-Hsien Lee, the owner of Foxy to 18 months jail, suspended for five years. The Court also imposed a substantial fine against the defendant company of TWD 750,000 (approximately USD 24,000).

The case was the result of two separate raids against Foxy in 2007 and 2008 by Taiwan's Intellectual Property Rights Police coordinated by Taiwan Foundation Against Copyright Theft (TFACT), which represents the Motion Picture Association (MPA) members' interests at Taiwan.

Once one of the most popular pirate websites in Taiwan, Foxy resides in users' computers and enables users to share illegal movie and music files for free. Similar to the Winny software in Japan, Foxy can cause problems with information being retrieved inadvertently from users' hard drives. Following an embarrassing incident last year when confidential information was leaked by public servants using the website to download movie or music, the Government prohibited the installation of Foxy software on office computers. A similar ban was announced by Taiwan's Ministry of Education, which prohibited faculty and students from using the software on its academic network, TANet. The site has been down since earlier this year.

"The sentence meted out to Foxy's owner confirms that Taiwan takes the threat of online theft seriously and will not tolerate such infringements," said Mike Ellis, President and Managing Director, Asia-Pacific, for the Motion Picture Association (MPA). "Authorities around the region are acting decisively against sites such as Winny and Foxy because they not only compromise user security but deal in infringing content. We hope to hear of more such sentences to deter criminals from using the Internet as a medium and channel for their illegal pursuits."

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**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. To do so, it promotes and protects its member companies' intellectual property rights

and conducts public awareness programs to highlight to movie fans around the world the importance of content protection. These activities have helped to transform entire markets benefiting film industries in each country including foreign and local filmmakers alike.

The organizations' worldwide operations are directed from its headquarters in Los Angeles, California and overseen in the Asia Pacific by a team based in Singapore. 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](http://www.mpa-i.org).

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