



NEWS RELEASE

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ANOTHER ILLEGAL DVD FACTORY UNCOVERED IN MALAYSIA

Hong Kong/Kuala Lumpur – A team of 15 enforcement officers from the Ministry of Domestic Trade, Co-operative and Consumerism (MDTCC) assisted by two investigators from the Malaysian Federation Against Copyright Theft (MFACT) representing the Motion Picture Association (MPA), raided an unlicensed replicating facility in Balakong, Selangor yesterday afternoon. They seized one DVD replicating line, an offset printer and a metalizing and bonding machine during the raid.

Acting on investigations stemming from a tip-off, the team from MDTCC formerly known as the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (MDTCA) raided the premises located at Kampung Kenangan in the Balakong Industrial Area about 25km from Kuala Lumpur.

A group of dogs were guarding the premises, the entrance of which was equipped with CCTVs. On entering the premises, the raiding party found the machines in operation but no one on the factory floor.

The enforcement team seized an estimated 2,000 pirated DVDs of 4-in-1 movies, TV series and games in spindles of 100 ready for delivery. Recent titles among them include *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*, *Watchmen* and *Race to Witch Mountain*. Silk screens of the titles such as *Night at the Museum 2*, *Land of the Lost*, and *Public Enemies* and more than 100 boxes of DVD casings were also found on the premises.

Conservatively, the factory line was capable of manufacturing more than 3.5 million pirated optical discs annually, generating illegal revenues in excess of US\$9 million.

“Today’s successful raid and seizure of a DVD replicating line is a continuation of the Ministry’s efforts in addressing source piracy in Malaysia, with an emphasis on addressing the proliferation of replicating operations of pirated optical discs. We are happy with the results and hope that the flow of such information which resulted in yesterday’s successful raid will continue. This is a clear signal to the pirates that we will not waver in our efforts to shut them down” said Mohd. Roslan bin Mahayudin, Director-General, Enforcement Department of MDTCC.

“These pirates are operating without any regard for, and worse, exploiting cinemas and movie DVD retailers in Malaysia during these tough economic times when so many jobs are at stake.” said Mike Ellis, President and Managing Director, Asia-Pacific for the MPA.

"We commend the MDTCC for keeping up the pressure on such criminals as we support their endeavours to tighten the screws on such illegitimate business activity that takes jobs away from Malaysians."

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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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