



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 24, 2009

MPAA STATEMENT ON ISOHUNT DECISION

The following statement was made today by Daniel Mandil, Senior Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Chief Content Protection Officer for the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), in response to a ruling issued late yesterday by a Federal Judge in Los Angeles who granted summary judgment in the MPAA member companies' lawsuit against Gary Fung – owner and operator of Isohunt, one of the most notorious pirate websites in the world. The Court ruled that Gary Fung and his company, Isohunt Web Technologies, are liable for copyright infringement of MPAA member company works:

“Judge Wilson’s decision is an enormous victory for all copyright owners. The sole purpose of Isohunt and sites like it is to facilitate and promote the unlawful dissemination of copyrighted content. Isohunt’s entire business model is premised upon copyright infringement and the Court rightly concluded that Fung and Isohunt ‘promoted their users’ infringing activities by consciously fostering a community that encouraged – indeed, celebrated – copyright infringement.’

“Users are attracted to Isohunt and Mr. Fung’s other websites to access illegal copies of popular movies, television shows, and other copyrighted content. Like other notorious pirate site operators before them, Mr. Fung operates his websites for the sole purpose of profiting from rampant copyright infringement impacting markets all over the world. The Court found that Mr. Fung not only facilitates this infringement but also actively encourages, promotes and exploits it.

“The Court’s decision establishes a powerful precedent that makes clear, once again, that website operators must respect the rights of content owners and control infringement on their websites, or face liability for their actions. The Isohunt decision should serve as a clear warning that similar sites are likely to face the same liability. Our goal is to stop this kind of illegal activity and we will not hesitate to continue to aggressively enforce our members’ rights to stop the blatant theft of their content around the world.”

About the MPAA

The Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA) serves as the voice and advocate of the American motion picture, home video and television industries from its offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.

Its members include: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLLP; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

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