



PRESS RELEASE

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EBAY COUNTERFEIT TRADER ARRESTED IN EAST LONDON

An eBay trader who was selling large quantities of pirate DVDs and making several thousand pounds per month has been arrested following extensive work by FACT's Internet Investigations Team.

In a combined raid with the Metropolitan Police (Newham Borough) and Newham Council Trading Standards, a 22 year old man was arrested at an address in Trinity Gardens, Canning Town, London E16 and has been taken away for questioning.

PC equipment found on the premises has been seized, along with several hundred discs ready to be shipped to potential buyers. These included counterfeit copies of TV and film titles such as The Sopranos, Harry Potter And The Goblet Of Fire, The Little Mermaid and 24.

Also seized were quantities of counterfeit clothing, shoes, jewellery and iPods for sale online. All these items will be examined by Newham Trading Standards.

Kieron Sharp, Director General of FACT, said: *"Whilst we are working more closely with sites such as eBay to enforce our members' copyrights, there are still those who persist in listing counterfeit DVDs for criminal gain.*

We will continue to actively pursue such illegal traders who are openly flouting the law."

ENDS

Notes:

FACT's Guide on eBay was launched this month and contains advice for DVD sellers and buyers:

<http://pages.ebay.co.uk/buy/guides/dvd-fact-buying-guide/>

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

- The Federation Against Copyright Theft is the UK's leading trade organisation established to protect and represent the interests of the film and broadcasting industry against copyright and trademark infringements. Established in 1983, FACT works closely with statutory law enforcement agencies to combat the growth of pirate DVDs, film and other forms of broadcast material including the increasing threat from online/internet based piracy. FACT has been accepted as a prosecution authority and engages in criminal prosecutions in its own right.

The maximum penalty for offences of film piracy is 10 years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine. Proceeds of Crime Act legislation now also enables confiscation of assets and goods obtained through criminal activity.

More: <http://www.fact-uk.org.uk>