



PRESS RELEASE

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HACKNEY DVD SELLERS ORDERED FOR DEPORTATION

Two men and four women arrested last Thursday (1st February) in Hackney, East London have been ordered for deportation. Sitting at Thames Magistrates Court, District Judge Stephen Dawson remanded the six in custody until Friday 9th February and ordered that they be served with notices of deportation on that date. All six are Chinese nationals and were identified by the Immigration Service as being in the UK illegally. They all pleaded guilty to offences of film piracy by breach of copyright.

They were arrested by Hackney Borough Police working in co-operation with FACT, Hackney Council and the Immigration Service. The raid was part of an ongoing operation to target and disrupt pirate DVD selling in Hackney, and in particular in the car park of Tesco supermarket on Morning Lane, where up to 14 sellers have been observed operating on a daily basis. Over a thousand counterfeit DVDs were also seized.

A fifth woman was also arrested last Thursday and was bailed to return in March.

ends

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Notes to editors:

Photos available showing seized product from contacts above

About FACT

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.

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