



Press Release

1st February 2008

THREE EBAY COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED IN PORTSMOUTH

Three people were arrested today in a joint operation by officers from Hampshire Constabulary and the Federation Against Copyright Theft targeting the sale of counterfeit DVDs on the auction website eBay.

The individuals (two males, age 28 and 24, and a female, 28) are all believed to be students, and were arrested at an address in Claremont Road, Portsmouth. They have been taken to a police station for further questioning.

Kieron Sharp, FACT Director General, said, "FACT continues to target those seeking to profit from the sale of counterfeit DVDs on the internet and we are grateful for the assistance of the police in Portsmouth in today's operation."

Superintendent Richard Rowland said, "We are always concerned about internet related crime. We work closely with companies such as eBay and with agencies like FACT to target those who may be involved in illegal activities whatever they may be."

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.

The loss from piracy to the UK audio-visual sector was £459m in 2006.

More information:

www.fact-uk.org.uk

www.copyrightaware.co.uk

To report any illegal activity in relation to counterfeit DVDs call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

www.crimestoppers-uk.org

