



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **MALAYSIAN POLICE SHUTDOWN ILLEGAL OPTICAL DISC FACTORY IN JOHOR**

### ***Smell of polycarbonate gave factory away***

Hong Kong/Johor – On November 20, a team of nine Malaysian police officers, on a routine inspection, uncovered a clandestine factory located in a palm oil plantation in Kluang, Johor. What gave the factory away was the strong polycarbonate smell detected by the police officers. Polycarbonate is the material used for the production of optical discs.

Four men aged between 20 and 60, believed to be workers operating on the replicating machines were arrested. Police also seized the two DVD replicating machines found on the premises, two printing machines, 6,200 pirated DVDs and 3,000 kg of polycarbonate. Among the MPA member companies' titles found in the factory were the Bee Movie and American Gangsters.

The DVD replicating machines were capable of producing over seven million pirated optical discs per year generating a potential value of US\$20 million.

"In the past week, our enforcement officers have seized 414 burners and two replicating machines used to produce pirated optical discs" said Tuan Iskandar Halim Sulaiman, Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer. "We will not stop until we have shut down every single pirate operation in Malaysia."

Malaysian Federation Against Copyright Theft (MFACT) Director Nor Hayati Yahaya, whose officers were on the ground to assist the police, praised the efforts of the enforcement agencies and noted, "So far this year, a total of 17 replicating machines have been seized. These machines running ten hours a day, seven days a week would have produced 60 million pirated discs in a year." MFACT represents the Motion Picture Association to protect the film and television industry in Malaysia.

"This is factory number nine that has been taken down this year by the authorities in Malaysia" said Mike Ellis, Senior Vice President and Regional Director, Asia-Pacific for the Motion Picture Association. "We commend the Malaysian Government's uncompromising stance and look forward to working with them to take down factory number 10."

### ***Piracy in Asia***

A comprehensive study aimed at producing a more accurate picture of the impact that piracy has on the film industry including, for the first time, losses due to internet piracy, recently calculated that the MPA studios lost US\$6.1 billion to worldwide piracy in 2005.

About US\$2.4 billion was lost to bootlegging\*, US\$1.4 billion to illegal copying\* and US\$2.3 billion to Internet piracy. Of the US\$6.1 billion in lost revenue to the studios, approximate \$1.2 billion came from piracy across the Asia-Pacific region, while piracy in the U.S. accounted for \$1.3 billion.

In 2006, the MPA's operations in the Asia-Pacific region investigated more than 30,000 cases of piracy and assisted law enforcement officials in conducting nearly 12,400 raids. These activities resulted in the seizure of more than 35 million illegal optical discs, 50 factory optical disc production lines and 4,482 optical disc burners, as well as the initiation of more than 11,000 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) represents the interests of major motion picture companies in the global marketplace. On behalf of its member companies, the MPA conducts investigations around the world, assists with the criminal and civil litigation generated by such cases, and conducts education outreach programs to teach movie fans around the world about the harmful effects of piracy. The MPA directs its worldwide anti-piracy operations from its headquarters based in Los Angeles, California and has regional offices located in Brussels (Europe, Middle East and Africa), São Paulo (Latin America), Montreal (Canada) and Singapore (Asia-Pacific). The MPA's anti-piracy activities have helped to transform entire markets from pirate to legitimate, benefiting video distributors, retailers, and foreign and local filmmakers alike. The MPA member companies include: Buena Vista International, Inc.; Paramount Pictures Corporation; Sony Pictures Releasing International Corporation; Twentieth Century Fox International Corporation; Universal International Films, Inc.; and Warner Bros. Pictures International, a division of Warner Bros. Pictures Inc. For more information about the MPA, please visit [www.mpa-i.org](http://www.mpa-i.org).*

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