



December 18, 2009

[Name]
[Designation]
[Store]
[Address]

SUBJECT: ALERT ON RETAIL HARD DISK LOADING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Reference: Republic Act 8293 – Intellectual Property (IP) Code of the Philippines

- With the recent increase in the demand for computers and computer accessories in time for the holidays, we, at the Pilipinas Anti-Piracy Team (PAPT), have received information through our website (www.papt.org.ph) that some stores offer to install pirated and illegal copies of software to attract more customers to buy computers from them. While these reports will be investigated into, as we continue to receive such information at an alarming rate, we would like to remind you to make sure that your store is not engaged in this misleading and unlawful promotion scheme known as **hard disk loading**.
- The PAPT is fully committed to protecting law-abiding computer stores and consumers who are unwitting victims of the illegal activities of hard disk loaders taking advantage of the holiday shopping rush to make more money. We have intensified our law enforcement activities by conducting raids and unannounced visits to retail stores to ensure that the IP Code of the Philippines is duly enforced.
- We understand that the holiday shopping rush is an opportunity for your business to earn more. However, we would like to reiterate that hard disk loading is not only unethical but is a violation of the copyright provisions of Republic Act 8293, and violators are subject to criminal sanctions of up to nine years imprisonment and a fine of up to P1.5 Million. Please accordingly educate your employees about the legal consequences for reproducing copyrighted materials.
- In view of the criminal nature of copyright infringement, hard disk loading may result in serious legal consequences and jeopardize the integrity of your business. The law is by no means limited. We expect your full compliance to spare your business from the PAPT enforcement campaign and to protect consumers from the unscrupulous act of hard disk loading or any form of software piracy.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Atty. Dante Bonoan
Chief, IPR Division
National Bureau of Investigation

Atty. Anthony Liongson
Executive Director
Optical Media Board

PSSupt. Joel Orduña
Chief, CIDG-AFCCD
Philippine National Police

For more information about the PAPT, call the PAPT Secretariat at (02) 692-9516 or visit
www.papt.org.ph.