



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION AGAINST COPYRIGHT THEFT – GREATER CHINA

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MOVIE PIRATES SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS JAIL FOR RUNNING BURNER LAB

*Pirates Arrested During Hong Kong Customs Raid in April to Serve Longest Jail
Term Meted Out This Year*

Hong Kong – On August 19, District Court Judge Stanley Chan convicted two movie pirates of breaching Hong Kong’s copyright law and sentenced them both to 24 months imprisonment, the longest jail term to be meted out this year for producing pirated optical discs.

The two women, Hua Guihong and Gan Airong, were arrested on April 8 this year when Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department’s Special Task Force raided an illegal burner in Tai Po. 110 DVD-R burners and 27,000 pirated optical discs were seized during the raid, including pirated copies of MPA member company titles “10,000 B.C.,” “Spider-Man 3” and “Transformers” as well as TV series of “Lost” and “Prison Break”.

“The Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department and the Courts are doing a superb job of protecting rights holders’ interests against hard goods piracy in Hong Kong,” said Sam Ho, Executive Director and General Manager of IFACT-GC. “A strong deterrent sentence is just what is needed to cement Hong Kong’s reputation as a tough place for movie pirates to do business, and we hope that the government’s ongoing review of measures to combat online piracy also provides the means to adequately protect creative content in the digital environment.”

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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.*

About the IFACT-GC: *The International Federation Against Copyright Theft was established in 2006 by the Motion Picture Association to protect the film industry in the Greater China region from the adverse impact of copyright theft. IFACT-GC works closely with its supporters, government and enforcement authorities to protect the Greater China film and television industry, retailers and movie fans. For more information about IFACT-GC, please visit www.ifact-gc.org.*

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