

Media Briefing Note

17 October 2007

New Report Calls for Search Engines to Join Fight against Copyright Abuse

On Monday this week YouTube and Google launched their much mooted filtering system in an attempt to step up the fight against online copyright abuse. Because the internet and online material is now at the very heart of disputes over Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) this event could potentially mark a turning point in a long-standing legal and philosophical debate over who is responsible for what in protecting intellectual property on the internet. The past decade has seen several landmark court cases involving various internet mediators, including Napster, Grokster, Google, and, now, the ongoing *Viacom v YouTube* case.

Coinciding with this development the Stockholm Network will tomorrow, the 18th of October, be releasing an in-depth report on the legal and philosophical conflict between internet mediators and the creators of content. This report, entitled '*Free Use or Fair Use? The Role of Internet Mediators in Protecting Intellectual Property Rights*', concludes that the current situation is unsatisfactory and proposes three main policy recommendations. Amongst them is a recommendation to institute a system of monetary compensation which is similar to the one proposed by YouTube this week.

- For an executive summary of the Stockholm Network report please go to:
http://www.stockholm-network.org/downloads/publications/Executive_Summary_Free_Use_or_Fair_Use.pdf
- Please find attached the accompanying Press Release for the launch of this report.
- For further commentary and quotations on the above, please contact:

Cara Walker

Head of Communications

Stockholm Network

35 Britannia Row
London N1 8QH
T: +44 207 354 8888
F: +44 207 359 8888
E: cara@stockholm-network.org
W: www.stockholm-network.org