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SIIA Says New Legislation will Aid Software & Content Piracy Fight

'Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act" Will Equip DOJ with Tools to Thwart Online Piracy at Home & Abroad

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Sept. 20, 2010) The Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA), the principal trade association for the software and digital content industries, today applauded Sens. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) for introducing legislation that will strengthen the U.S. government's ability to combat software and content piracy.

The bi-partisan bill, "Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act," introduced today, would allow the Department of Justice to bring *in rem* actions against domain names used on websites to sell pirated and counterfeit goods. Additionally, if the court issues an order allowing the Department of Justice to enjoin the use of the domain name, the Department can serve the order on an Internet service provider (ISP), domain name registrar, financial transaction provider, or advertising placement service to stop them from transacting business with domain names that peddle pirated goods.

"The Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act arms our justice system with the tools it needs to combat software and content piracy and protect consumers," said Keith Kupferschmid, Senior Vice President for Intellectual Property Policy & Enforcement at SIIA. "The legislation not only strengthens the DOJ's ability to shut down individual domains; it also gives authorities the power to cut piracy off at the source by eliminating critical technical and financial resources. SIIA runs the industry's most aggressive anti-piracy program, and we believe the legislation introduced today could greatly extend our reach and ability to thwart piracy – especially operations taking place on foreign websites.

"Additionally, the Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act provides essential protection for ISPs and other providers so that they incur no liability when they comply with the court order and help shut down piracy operations. We would like to thank Senators Leahy and Hatch for their continual efforts to provide SIIA and IP owners with the necessary tools to fight piracy, and look forward to working with the Senators and his staff as the legislation winds its way though Congress."

About SIIA Anti-Piracy Division
The Software & Information Industry Association's Anti-Piracy Division conducts a comprehensive, industry-wide campaign to fight software and content piracy. The pro-active campaign is premised on the notion that one must balance enforcement with education in order to be effective.

About SIIA
The Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) is the principal trade association for the software and digital content industry. SIIA provides global services in government relations,

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business development, corporate education and intellectual property protection to more than 500 leading software and information companies. For further information, visit: www.siia.net.

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