To: US Copyright Office, in response to a call for opinions on the prohibition against circumvention of access control technologies.

Dear Sir or Madam,

It is my belief that the prohibition against circumvention of access control technologies would be to the great detriment of non-infringing uses of such technology. The circumvention of access control technology should only be called into question when actually used for something illegal or . If their are multiple uses of a technology, besides simple theft, then it should not be prohibited. The sole responsibility of a technology resides with the user, not the creator. If their is to be any response to a misuse of this type of technology, it should be against persons misusing it, rather than the technology itself.

In example. Utilizing commonly available technology (2 VCR's with cabling) anyone may legally copy a video or DVD, owned by the copier, to a VHS cassette. That same person could copy another's VHS cassette or DVD. Owning 2 VCR's simply because they may be misused is not illegal. But, if the same use is made of the recently released Decrypting software, DeCSS, it's legality is being called into question. The responsibility and legality of any piece of technology lies not on the technology itself, but on the end user of such technology. Anything has the potential for misuse.

In closing, the prohibiting of circumvention of access control technology would prevent a large portion of the public from legitimately using their own equipment to its fullest potential. Without DeCSS to play DVD's, I would not be able to use this potentially great new technology on my Linux based PC. Also, their are many people whom wish to archive their purchased copy of a DVD as proof against the ravages of time. They would be left without any cost effective and easy way to do this. Their are already DVD technologies on the market to play and record (much like 2 VHS VCR units) Digital Video Disks, so their are easier ways of accomplishing the recording of DVD's than through DeCSS.

Thank you for your time,
Christopher M. Bergeron