

Reply Comment to

Exemption to Prohibition on Circumvention of Copyright Protection  
Systems for Access Control Technologies

I am opposed to the idea of prohibition of circumvention. The copyright is a legal protection for intellectual property that should stand on its own; the technical means of enforcing copyright should not be protected in any special way because there are already sanctions for those who violate copyrights regardless of applied protection.

The commercial interests began already using this law to expand their control over distribution, seeking to destroy fair use exceptions that are well established in the copyright area. The RIAA claims for instance that the fair use exceptions do not apply to digital media. This is of course ridiculous, and the commercial interests cannot enforce it on its own statute. Instead, they invent inept protection systems, whose only purpose is to establish a straw-man copyright protection system, and accuse those who point out weaknesses in these systems of violations of circumvention rules.

I protest this backdoor usurpation of unprecedented control of copyrighted material by large corporations. It is contrary to the intended role of copyright in promoting original contributions by protecting the authors' rights. Strict enforcement of anti-circumvention rules does little good for authors' or consumers' rights; it only provides unjustifiable control to the large content broker corporations.

(Letter originally written by Przemek Klosowski, Ph.D. but I find myself in complete agreement with his statements and so I include them as my own.)

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