

Name: Stefan Georg

Class of works: I am writing in support of Class #2 (DVD Region Coding):
Audiovisual works stored on Digital Versatile Disks ("DVDs") that are not
available in Region 1 DVD format and access to which is prevented by
technological measures.

Summary:

Disc name: Das Boot

I travel to Germany every summer, and I bring my American-made laptop. I bought Das Boot when I was in Germany, and wanted to play it on my laptop. It didn't work -- which I didn't understand, until I did a search on the net which told me about region coding. So I had to return the DVD to the store and buy a VHS Tape instead, which will work on my tape player which supports the european standard. I could not view the DVD I wanted to watch. DVDs offer better quality picture and audio, for about the same price as VHS. Also what I really like about it is that I can skip to any part of the movie without the hassle of rewinding which takes a few minutes on normal VHS tapes. However, new technologies for DVDs have allowed the movie industry to prevent users from skipping the previews at the beginning. (I have read about this but don't know exactly how it works). On my VHS tapes, I can choose to do whatever I please with them, I can make a backup copy for myself, or skip the previews whenever I choose to do so.

I am free to do as I please, instead of being a slave to the movie industry.