From: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty To:

Subject:

Feedback on copyright Wednesday, February 24, 2010 9:39:06 PM Date:

Ok, here's two suggestions on what not to do and what to do.

What not to do: Technology solutions to infringement won't stop infringement, it will push it underground. People can use USB sticks, or encrypted connections with onion routing, and while the later might sound too technical for the average person it is infact very simple and it can be made as easy as the click of a button. Already some file sharing software incorporates these kinds of technologies and much of internet will become encrypted if there is a clampdown upon networks through a technology solution. This will also affect the ability of law enforcement to track online activity for non-copyright tasks. Basically technology solutions won't work, and will have unfortunate side-effects.

Here's what to do: Music and Movies are sold for (basically) standard prices per unit, whereas the price of software can vary a lot more. Because of this it's better to focus on separate solutions to these copyright holders. It's very difficult to pay for new movies online as there is very often not a legal option. The industry still operates in a pre-internet mindset with regional release dates in movie theatres. Here's a question for you -- music and movies are mass market things and when customers want to pay should they be able to restrict copies? What if we treated internet connections like radio stations and people could pay to a royalty collection society. In other words, I'm suggesting the approach defined here:

http://www.eff.org/wp/better-way-forward-voluntary-collective-licensing-music-file-<u>sharing</u>

There's a PDF of the proposal available too,

http://www.eff.org/files/eff-a-better-way-forward.pdf

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