

Technology risk news

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Copyright: Number of IP disputes jumps by 33%

The number of intellectual property disputes launched in the High Court has jumped by 33% as businesses fight harder to protect market share in the recession. The *Financial Times* reports that claims relating to copyright and design showed the highest jump, of 66% from 172 in 2007 to 286 last year. And, the report notes, the firm forecast more claims in telecoms. 'With the difficult economic conditions, businesses fight harder to enforce their IP rights to ensure that their profit margins and market share are well protected,' said Mark Finn, the firm's intellectual property specialist.

[Full Financial Times report](#)

Cybercrime: UK police Web site attacked

A computer hacker protesting over terror deaths in Pakistan has attacked the Web site of Durham Police, forcing it to temporarily close, reports *BBC News*. Durham Police said an investigation was now under way and the 'offending matter' was being removed by computer specialists.

[Full BBC News report](#)



Domain: US lawyer files lawsuit against auction site

A Miami lawyer has filed a class-action lawsuit against domain name auction site SnapNames.com, after the company announced that a former employee was bidding against potential customers in domain name auctions. The lawsuit alleges that a former vice-president at SnapNames.com secretly bid on tens of thousands of domain name auctions over the past four years, leading to falsely inflated prices.

[Full PC World report](#)



Copyright: Court rules for Norwegian ISP

Norwegian ISP Telenor doesn't have to block access to file-sharing site The Pirate Bay, according to a ruling from the district court for Asker and Bærum. *Computer World* reports that the entertainment industry has been trying to get Telenor to block The Pirate Bay since February, when it sent a warning letter to the operator. But Telenor has maintained that there is no legal basis for any ISP to act in the interests of digital intellectual-property rights holders by blocking individual Web sites, and now the district court has sided with that notion.

[Full Computer World report](#)

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Copyright: New anti-counterfeiting treaty could harm business

Leaked documents concerning the latest round of negotiations on the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement show that the treaty is less about piracy, and more about a global intellectual property initiative that could harm businesses and consumers, notes a *v3* report. It says the participating countries are working on a global system enforcing a 'three strikes' system favoured by the UK Government, and the institutionalisation of laws similar to the US Digital Millennium Copyright Act. Gwen Hinze, international policy director for the Electronic Frontier Foundation, is quoted as saying: 'The Internet provisions have nothing to do with addressing counterfeit products, but are all about imposing a set of copyright industry demands on the global Internet....'

[Full v3 report](#)

Security: Former employees pose information risk

The actions of former employees are posing an increasing risk to companies. A *v3* report notes that researchers from Ernst & Young said in the firm's annual *Global Information Security Survey* that as more companies are forced to cut staff, information theft and destruction at the hands of former workers is becoming an increasing risk. 'With the economy still in recession, employees who are made redundant may feel resentful towards their previous employer in a number of ways that may affect the smooth operation of an organisation,' said Ernst &

Young IT risk advisory partner Richard Brown. 'Increasingly, the employer's IT system has become a common target and data theft is also prevalent.'

[Full v3 report](#)

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