

Google Groups

Pirated software on server. Who's liable?

Norman Hirsch

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Posted in group:[comp.sys.novell](#)

In article <2uta4f\$p...@falcon.bgsu.edu> jko...@bgsu.edu (Joe Konecny) writes:
>From: jko...@bgsu.edu (Joe Konecny)
>Subject: Pirated software on server. Who's liable?
>Date: 30 Jun 1994 02:19:59 GMT

This is exactly one of the problems which Dr. Fred Kantor attacked when he wrote his program FWKCS (current version FWKCS123.ZIP) which creates content signatures that are used primarily to detect if duplicate files have been uploaded on a BBS regardless of filename. The SPA has licensed his product but is having logistics problems in getting commercial software companies to run a content signature collector diskette on their products. If this method was endorsed and used by BBS operators, it would be virtually impossible to upload a commercial product on BBS's. The main reason for his product was to prevent some people from renaming files to upload and get upload credits. It can reject duplicates or commercial software from upload using the database of content signatures.

I would suggest you contact the SPA and voice your suggestion to overcome the logistics problems they are having and get their member companies to endorse the FWKCS product which they already licensed from Dr. Kantor. This means they need to get the commercial companies to gather the content signatures (similar but much more accurate than 32 bit CRC) and get them in the database.

FWKCS has been used for years on the largest BBS's such as Channel 1 and The Invention Factory. When BBS's first install the program they typically uncover a large number of megabytes of space from deleting the duplicate files that FWKCS finds. One major BBS reclaimed 600 MB! Additionally it unzips incoming files and checks for viruses using the latest version of McAfee's anti-virus program. FWKCS is available on the BBS's mentioned and I noticed a few older version on internet sites.

I'll get it and put it up on my 24 hour BBS in New York later today.

Best regards,

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> Say I'm managing a network and someone (not me) installed 6 illegal
>copies of Autocad or something, who's liable if Autodesk wanted to do
>something about it? Say that I know that the copies are there. Also
>say that no one will admit to installing the copies.

>Any ideas?

EMC/VMware v. PersonalWeb

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