



Intellectual  
Property  
Office



# IP CRIME HIGHLIGHT REPORT 2014/15

Intellectual Property Office is an  
operating name of the Patent Office



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# Membership

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## **Regular Membership includes:**

- Anti Copying in Design
- Alliance for Intellectual Property
- Anti-Counterfeiting Group
- Association of Chief Police Officers
- British Electrotechnical and Allied Manufacturers Association
- BPI - British Recorded Music Industry
- Chartered Trading Standards Institute
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Department for Culture Media and Sport
- Electronics Systems Community
- Educational Recording Agency
- Federation Against Copyright Theft
- Federation Against Software Theft
- Food Standards Agency
- Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
- Home Office
- International Federation of Spirits Producers
- Intellectual Property Office
- Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
- National College of Policing
- National Crime Agency
- National Trading Standards Board National Intelligence Hub
- National Trading Standards eCrime Centre
- Nominet
- Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit
- Police Scotland
- Police Service Northern Ireland
- PRS for Music
- Publishers Association
- REACT
- Scottish Anti-Illicit Trade Group
- Trading Standards
- Pharmaceutical Security Institute
- UK Interactive Entertainment

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# IP Crime Group

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**T**he UK IP Crime Group is comprised of representatives from private sector, enforcement agencies and government departments who have a role in tackling IP crime in the UK.

The UK IP Crime Group was founded in 2004 by the Intellectual Property Office. The group is chaired by Chief Constable Giles York who is responsible for IP crime at a UK national level for the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO).

The membership includes those who are responsible for border security, those who investigate cases of IP crime in communities, those who represent the brands where intellectual property is being infringed as well as policy makers.

The group meets every two months to:

- Discuss strategic policy issues in relation to IP crime
- Identify strategic priorities for collaborative action
- Identify and distribute good practice
- Raise awareness of IP crime
- Discuss production of an annual report.

This report gives an insight into the work done by members in 2014-2015

# Scope and scale of IP crime in the UK

## TOP 5

products investigated by Trading Standards



TOBACCO



CLOTHING



ALCOHOL



FOOTWEAR



DVDs

## TOP 5

links to other criminality



BENEFIT FRAUD



MONEY LAUNDERING



ORGANISED CRIME GROUPS



DRUG DEALING



VIOLENCE

## TOP 10

locations investigated for counterfeit goods



SHOPS



SOCIAL MEDIA



WEBSITES



PRIVATE RESIDENCES



AUCTION SITES



MARKETS



CAR BOOTS



STREETS



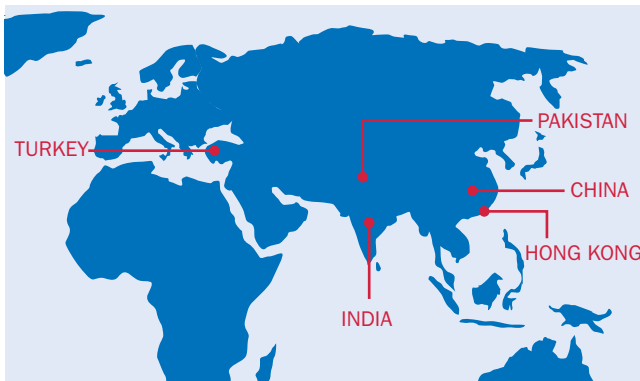
FACTORIES



PUBS

## TOP 5

countries of origin for IPR infringing goods continue to be



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## Scope and scale of IP crime in the UK

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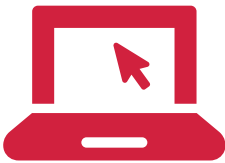


# 100,000,000

Professional Publishers Association estimates 100 million illegal copies of UK produced digital magazines were downloaded in 2014

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## 1.75 million Internet links



Publishers Association requested Google remove 1.75 million URLs from its search results, which link to copyright protected material

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# 2,277



reports were submitted by Crimestoppers to the IPO Intelligence hub in 2014-2015



Federation Against Copyright Theft's investigations into illegal access to subscription TV services increased from **6% to over 18%** in 2014/15

# Partnership working between government, industry and law enforcement



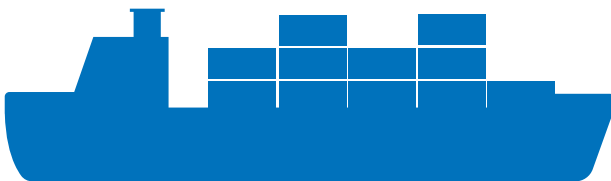
The Anti-Counterfeiting Group worked with **40 Trading Standards Authorities** and **13 Police Forces** throughout the UK in coordinated operations

**TOP 5 PUBLIC SECTORS PARTNER ORGANISATIONS**

- Police
- Other Trading Standards
- HMRC
- Scambusters
- Dept Work and Pensions



**166** Trading Standards Authorities completed the annual IP Crime Survey



Border Force detained over **1.6 million** IPR infringing items, if genuine the retail value would have been in excess of **£56 million**



Since the formation of the Police IP Crime Unit (PIPCU) in Sept 2013 they have made **52 arrests** and seized counterfeit goods worth **£3 Million**

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## What success looks like

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Operation Pangea is an Interpol coordinated Internet Week of Action, involving Customs agencies around the world. During 2014 **35,206 parcels** were seized worldwide, containing **9,695,815 doses** of medicine

Police Scotland worked closely with other enforcement and industry partners in a major operation in Scotland. This resulted in **£15.6 million** worth of illicit goods being recovered and **35 arrests**



The Anti-Counterfeiting Group's (ACG) Facebook initiative, operation Watch identified the availability of over **30,000** individual images of counterfeit goods in one day

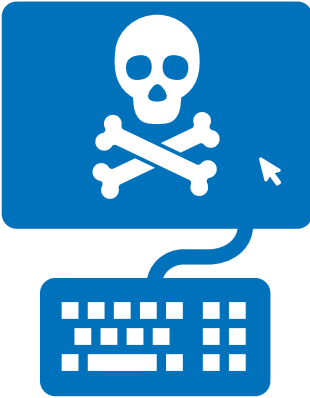


One ACG member had **75,000 counterfeit** products seized during 2014/15, with a retail value of **£2.5 million**

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## What success looks like

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Since June 2014 PIPCU has diverted **11 million** views from pirate websites to official police warning page



**3426**

Since May 2014 PIPCU has protected consumers by suspending **3426 rogue websites** selling fake luxury goods

Between April 2014 and April 2015 there were **4534 notifications** of criminal use on a .uk domain, this resulted in 4513 being suspended



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## What success looks like

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Since the alliance for IP launched the Content Map in 2012 it has received over **100,000 visitors** looking to access digital content

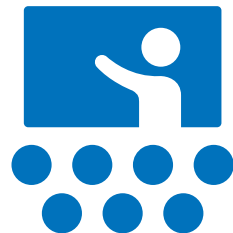


Intentional copying of a design now attracts a maximum sentence up to **10 years imprisonment**



**“Wake up – don’t fake up!”**

The PIPCU consumer awareness campaign received a strong press coverage, in UK and Globally - with over **350 pieces** of media coverage



IPO bespoke training on new designs legislation reached a total of **302** Trading Standards Officers from across the UK

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## What success looks like

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**Operation Jasper** brings together officers from 63 Trading Standards teams, Police Officers, Industry bodies and Government Agencies to tackle **counterfeiting and piracy on social media sites**. It has taken down 4,300 Facebook listings, 20 Facebook profiles, issued over 200 warning letters and delivered 24 cease and desist letters



In 2014 the BPI seized **385,078** CDs and **15,217,916** digital tracks

**379** 

markets and 86 councils are signed up to the **Real Deal Charter** aimed at preventing the sale of counterfeit goods at markets



UK IPO attachés provided advice and support in 2014/15 to over **4,200 businesses** operating or preparing to operate in overseas markets



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This report is a publication of the IP Crime Group

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