Business Software Alliance
UNITED STATES

● Anti-Piracy   ● Policy   ● Internet Piracy   ● Free Tools   ● Global Library   ● Press Room   ● Report Piracy

Press Room

Search: [   ] ►

Columbus-Area Firm Settles Software Piracy Claim

Mortgage Company Pays Software Watchdog Group $139,000

Washington, DC (03 November 1999) -- The Business Software Alliance (BSA) announced today that Worthington-based Broadview Mortgage Company agreed to pay $139,000 to settle claims related to unlicensed copies of software programs. Currently, Ohio is one of the top ten states for software piracy settlements with the BSA. Nationally, the BSA has collected over $44 million over the last six years.

"Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for good, reputable companies to find themselves with more software programs installed on their computers than they have licenses to support," said Bob Kruger, vice-president of enforcement for the BSA. "Companies should treat software just like any other asset. BSA recommends that all companies and organizations have strong software management policies in place that encourage compliance - including periodic internal audits, guidelines for supervisors and clear procedures for employees."

The unlicensed software at Broadview Mortgage Company was brought to the attention of the BSA by a phone call to its anti-piracy hotline: 1-888-NO-PIRACY. After being contacted by the BSA, Broadview Mortgage Company conducted a self-audit that confirmed there was an insufficient number of licenses for all of the copies of Corel, Microsoft, Novell and Symantec software installed on its computers. Along with the payment, Broadview Mortgage Company will destroy all unlicensed software, purchase replacement software and strengthen its software management policies.

"In late 1996 our IS department was badly under-staffed and we were careless in the management of our software licenses," said Steve K. Hartzler of Broadview Mortgage Company. "While over the years we have expended more than $300,000 for software licenses, our self-audit disclosed unlicensed software, which we have now purchased at a cost of approximately $33,000. We are now taking action to communicate an appropriate software policy and to create a central registry for monitoring our software."

According to a recent study, the U.S. software industry lost nearly $2.9 billion to software piracy in 1998.* This loss has a significant impact on the U.S. economy. It is estimated that software piracy cost the U.S. economy over 109,000 jobs and almost $1 billion in tax revenue for 1998. **

For more information on piracy rates around the world and the impact of software piracy on the U.S. economy contact Jason Penchoff at 202-530-5132 or jasonp@bsa.org. Companies can receive a free "Guide to

Software Management," an employee training video or a software audit tool by contacting BSA at 1-888-NO-PIRACY or visiting the BSA website at www.nopiracy.com.

* "1998 Global Software Piracy Report" conducted by the International Planning and Research Corporation

** "Forecasting a Robust Future" conducted by Nathan Associates

##Since 1988, the Business Software Alliance (BSA) has been the voice of the world's leading Software developers before governments and with consumers in the international marketplace. Its members represent the fastest growing industry in the world. BSA educates computer users on software copyright; advocates public policy that fosters innovation and expands trade opportunities; and fights software piracy. BSA worldwide members include Adobe, Apple, Attachmate, Autodesk, Bentley Systems, Corel Corporation, Lotus Development, Macromedia, Microsoft, Network Associates, Novell, Symantec and Visio. BSA websites: www.bsa.org; www.nopiracy.com.##

For Additional Information:

Jason Penchoff
jasonp@bsa.org
202-530-5132

Cynthia Giorgio
cynthiag@dittusgroup.com
202-298-9055

Business Software Alliance
software@bsa.org
Tel: 1.202.872.5500
Fax: 1.202.872.5501
1150 18th St. NW, Ste 700
Washington, D.C. 20036

Preferences • BSA International • My BSA • About BSA • Site Map   PRIVACY POLICY • CONTACT US • SITE CREDITS