

Napster denies fault in piracy case

■ In response to the copyright suit filed by Metallica, the MP3 site claims no responsibility

By Rebecca Newell
Oregon Daily Emerald

Despite being attacked by advocates of the music industry, as well as unhappy banned consumers, Napster is holding strong in their position that they are not breaking copyright laws.

On Tuesday, July 11, Metallica drummer Lars Ulrich stood before



a Senate committee, calling for a stop to Internet music "piracy". As the spokesperson for Metallica, which is suing Napster, as well as others in the major music industry, Ulrich called for government intervention to resolve the problem.

"I don't think there is a way this can be worked out without your involvement," Ulrich said, addressing the Senate. "Napster hijacked our music without asking."

Napster has quickly gained popularity in the last year by providing online surfers the ability to freely trade or download MP3 files, which compress music from compact discs into computer files.

Metallica stepped into the fight after the group heard an unreleased work-in-progress for the soundtrack of Mission Impossible 2, and the leak was traced back to Napster. Rapper Dr. Dre has joined Metallica as the most vocal representatives from the music industry, which is demanding action.

Despite the opposition and after a New York federal judge's ruling that the company was breaking copyright law, Napster is standing its ground that it's in the right.

"I think we must let the market work and let history be our guide in not squashing this technology this soon," Hank Barry said. Barry, CEO of Napster, has noted that the company is working out copyright complaints with radio, television and satellite TV organizations.

After the April 28 court ruling, Napster made an attempt to appease the Recording Industry Association of America and opponents such as Metallica, by requesting the band to provide a list of the names of Napster users who have committed copyright infringements.

With the names from that list, Napster has banned over 300,000 users. 30,000 of those users are now appealing the court ruling, an option given to them by Napster. Nonetheless, Napster's actions are not a solution, according to groups supporting the Downloadable Music Awareness Project.

A partner in DMA, Michael Robb of Cognicity, noted that a balance needs to be struck between the wide-open MP3 access that Napster provides, and the encrypted formats that music groups such as Metallica are pushing for.

According to Paul Anthony, CEO and founder of DMA and Rumblefish Records, DMA's goal is to educate consumers, rather than saying what is right or wrong. By putting it in perspective, DMA believes they can convince fans that by providing music for free, they are affecting the future music industry negatively.

"We make money by selling intellectual property. Just because you can't put it in a box doesn't mean it's not worth something," Anthony said.

Cognicity, a leading audio watermarking provider, is working on technology that will solve many of the concerns of content owners and organizations including the Artists Coalition Against Piracy and the RIAA. Cognicity, which is located in Minneapolis, Minn., has created AudioKey MP3 tMark V.1.0, a tool which will protect record labels, artists and music providers from piracy.

AudioKey is the online music industry's first transactional watermarking solution for MP3 music downloads, and embeds unique watermarks into digital audio files in real-time, as the file is being downloaded. With this technology, content owners can fingerprint music and identify those who abuse content distribution rights.

"The real-time process is very fast and will not impact the consumer download time," said Michael Fitts, president of Indigo Global Distribution. "We believe this approach will help keep the honest people honest."

With further dispute on the horizon between Napster and the music industry, Anthony concluded that while Napster's technology is amazing, they aren't taking responsibility for their actions. But technological progress like Cognicity's AudioKey will force them to do just that.

"The fans want the music, and we're trying to give it to them," Anthony said.

The Associated Press contributed to this article.

Quicker response could save lives

■ A newly released study suggests calling for help in the crucial minutes after a heart attack could help prevent needless deaths

By Dulcie Feng
for the Emerald

The Rapid Early Action for Coronary Treatment (REACT) study released July 4 found that most heart attack patients don't call 911 emergency services when they feel discomfort in their chest.

That trend seems to be changing.

Gary Young, medical director of the emergency department at the Sacred Heart Medical Center, said emergency calls from heart attack patients have doubled since the study was released.

"Every day [before the study was released] we got about 10 patients with chest pain, and last week we got close to 20," Young said.

The study was conducted between April 1996 and August 1997, and its primary goal was to reduce patient delay from the time of the first heart attack symptoms to time of treatment in the emergency department. Oregon Health Sciences University was one of the Northwest sites for the study.

Jerris Hedges, chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine in OHSU, said Eugene and Springfield were chosen in the study because they represent middle American communities. They are not too large like Portland, but they're big enough to have the advantages of news me-

dia, Hedges said.

OHSU has worked with community groups to educate people in the study area. The researchers worked with doctors, nurses, emergency service groups, patients with no heart disease and those high-risk, heart attack patients in McKenzie Willamette Hospital and Sacred Heart Medical Center to enforce awareness of heart attacks and the appropriate response to them.

The REACT study also encourages patients to go to hospitals quickly and call for ambulances rather than driving themselves to the hospital. Hedges suggests patients should take nitroglycerine or aspirin when they start to feel discomfort. The major symptoms of heart attacks include trouble breathing, upset stomach and pressure, tightness and heaviness in the chest.

"When the discomfort doesn't go away in 15 minutes, they should go to the hospital," Hedges said.

Hedges said an ambulance usually takes 5 to 6 minutes, maybe up to 10 to 12 minutes, on average to reach patients.

"If the ambulance gets to you, you've got a paramedic team that can deliver medicine and oxygen, and if you go into cardiac arrest they can defibrillate you," he said. "So essentially, it's like bringing the hospital to the patient."

In addition, Hedges suggests patients should not call their doctors before they go to the hospital because calling doctors and waiting for their calls wastes crucial treatment time.

"Even if you would reach the doctor quickly in the office, they would only re-enforce the same message," Hedges said. "So it is unnecessary to even make the call."

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute sponsored the REACT study. Jeffrey Cutler, director of the clinical applications and prevention program at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute in Washington, D.C., said the most dangerous part of a heart attack is the first few hours.

The purpose of "our research program here is to conduct the study both to see if people could be educated in such a way that they would respond more quickly and get to the hospital, as well as to find out if a community education program would put into a place and carry out the emergency department overwhelmed by many people," Cutler said.

The Springfield Fire Department has decided to move forward with the REACT findings. Jean Loun, an SFD spokesperson and a former REACT organizer in Eugene, said there is no question that education about symptoms help people to know that they are having heart attacks and to act fast.

"We just want to reach more and more people," Loun said.

Eugene resident Donna Jean Fox, 66, said that when her husband had a heart attack they called an ambulance within 15 minutes and that call saved her husband's life.

"Don't let it go longer than 15 minutes," Fox said. "Don't hesitate to call 911."



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