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16 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

17  
18 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
19 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

20 WESTERN DIVISION

21 **CV08-06412**

**S/O AJWX**

22 UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS  
PRODUCTIONS LLLP, UNIVERSAL  
23 CITY STUDIOS LLLP, PARAMOUNT  
PICTURES CORPORATION,  
24 TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM  
CORPORATION, SONY PICTURES  
25 TELEVISION INC., COLUMBIA  
PICTURES INDUSTRIES, INC., SONY  
26 PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT INC.,  
DISNEY ENTERPRISES, INC., WALT  
27 DISNEY PICTURES and WARNER  
BROS. ENTERTAINMENT INC.,

28 Plaintiffs,

CASE NO.

**DECLARATION OF DR. ALAN E.  
BELL IN SUPPORT OF EX PARTE  
APPLICATION OF PLAINTIFFS  
FOR TEMPORARY  
RESTRAINING ORDER AND  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE:  
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION  
THEREOF**

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vs.  
REALNETWORKS, INC. and  
REALNETWORKS HOME  
ENTERTAINMENT, INC.,  
Defendants.



## DVD TECHNOLOGY

1  
2 4. The term “DVD” describes a high-capacity optical, digital storage  
3 medium, as well as a family of “standards” that describe how to store and read  
4 content on DVD discs.

5 5. In its most common deployment for motion pictures, a DVD will hold  
6 approximately nine gigabytes (9GB) of data.

7 6. Because of their storage capacity, DVDs are able to store the digital  
8 content that comprises a full-length motion picture. Subject to the security and  
9 encryption restrictions discussed below, DVDs are viewable either on a television  
10 equipped with a standalone DVD player or on a computer with a DVD drive and  
11 specialized playback software, known as DVD player software. DVDs have  
12 become very popular for the private home viewing of recorded motion pictures.

13 7. Motion pictures and other video content placed on DVDs are stored in a  
14 digital format. Unlike with analog formats, such as a VCR tape, the quality of  
15 content that is copied in a digital format does not generally degrade. Absent some  
16 form of encryption or other protection, digital DVD content is vulnerable to  
17 unauthorized copying.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF CSS

18  
19 8. The DVD format was first completed in early 1995 but, because of  
20 concerns about unauthorized reproduction, each individual motion picture studio  
21 was unwilling to release films in digital format before an access-control and copy-  
22 protection system was available that would protect the digital movie content against  
23 unauthorized copying and distribution. To that end, the Copy Protection Technical  
24 Working Group (CPTWG) was formed, and the companies participated in meetings  
25 held from 1995 until November 1996. Representatives of the consumer electronics  
26 and information technology industries also participated in these meetings — which  
27 grew to include more than 120 people — with the goal of finding a content-  
28 protection system that provided effective protection for content-owners’ works, was

1 reasonably feasible to implement in both computers and consumer electronics, and  
2 could be adopted as a standard across all three industries.

3 9. Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd. and Toshiba Corporation  
4 ultimately developed a system of authentication, encryption, and other  
5 technological restrictions, which became known as “CSS” (which stands for  
6 “Content Scrambling System”). The CSS copy protection system was adopted as  
7 the standard for video protection on DVDs and has been widely adopted by  
8 manufacturers of consumer electronics and computer devices. Since its launch,  
9 CSS has been used to protect billions of DVDs worldwide.

10 10. CSS technology — including associated intellectual property and  
11 technical specifications — is licensed to hardware and software manufacturers by  
12 an organization known as the DVD Copy Control Association (“DVDCCA”).  
13 DVDCCA evolved out of the Copy Protection Technical Working Group which  
14 developed CSS, and now DVDCCA controls all licensing of CSS technology and  
15 issues licenses to manufacture CSS-compliant devices. CSS has been licensed to  
16 hundreds of DVD player manufacturers (both hardware and software) and DVD  
17 content distributors in the United States and around the world.

### 18 **THE PURPOSES AND OPERATION OF CSS**

19 11. The purpose of the CSS copy protection system is to protect the  
20 contents of a DVD both from unauthorized access and from consumer copying.  
21 The mechanics of CSS differ slightly depending on whether the playback  
22 environment is a stand-alone DVD player or a personal computer. Because  
23 RealDVD operates in the personal computer environment, I will limit my  
24 discussion to CSS as it operates in the personal computer environment.

25 12. In the personal computer environment, DVDs are viewed using software  
26 players, like Windows Media Player. Manufacturers of software DVD players  
27 register with the DVD CCA in categories that correspond to the various parts of the  
28 CSS copy protection system that a software player has to interact with.

1           13. To protect DVD content, CSS relies on an integrated system of access  
2 “locks,” encryption technology, and hardware and software restrictions. These  
3 restrictions provide multiple levels of protection against unauthorized consumer  
4 access and copying:

5           a. First, CSS provides for a “locking” mechanism whereby a  
6 computer’s DVD drive will not allow access to the CSS-protected content on  
7 a DVD disc unless and until the DVD drive successfully engages in an  
8 “authentication” process confirming that the requesting program (i.e., player)  
9 is a compliant player and will properly protect the DVD digital content as it  
10 accesses and decrypts that content for the purpose of playback. If the  
11 requesting software cannot successfully authenticate itself (using a secret  
12 manufacturer’s identification and algorithm licensed exclusively by the  
13 DVDCCA), the contents of the DVD will not be released by the drive or be  
14 transmitted to the computer for processing by the software program. This  
15 means that the software program will not be able to “read” the CSS-protected  
16 data — whether for purposes of playing the DVD, copying it, or otherwise.

17           b. Second, CSS uses encryption technology to selectively encrypt or  
18 “scramble” a substantial portion of the digital data that makes up each frame  
19 of a DVD video stream. The encryption of the DVD data is a level of  
20 security above and beyond the access control described above.

21           c. Third, even if a drive can be tricked into unlocking and transferring  
22 the encrypted digital contents, the presence of the CSS encryption prevents  
23 successful playback of the movie content. Successful playback of the CSS  
24 encrypted content requires that the content first be decrypted. Authorized  
25 decryption or “descrambling” requires multiple levels of “keys”. To decrypt  
26 a CSS-encrypted DVD, a DVDCCA-licensed player must ultimately obtain  
27 the “content key.” On CSS-encrypted DVDs, the content key information is  
28 itself protected by encryption and then located within a secure area of the

1 DVD called the “lead-in area.” DVD drives do not permit any software other  
2 than a licensed DVDCCA player that can successfully complete the  
3 authentication process to have access to data in the “lead-in area.” Thus,  
4 even if a software program might somehow succeed in reading and copying  
5 all of the encrypted video files off of a DVD to a hard-drive, that software  
6 program could not read or copy the “content key” necessary to decrypt those  
7 files. The resulting copy of the encrypted movie data thus could not later be  
8 successfully decrypted and played.

9 d. Fourth, the content key is *itself* encrypted or scrambled. To use  
10 the content key to decrypt the movie, a special “player manufacturer key” is  
11 required that is made available only to legitimate players by the DVDCCA.  
12 An authorized player will store its secret player manufacturer’s key  
13 somewhere within its own software code, in a manner that hides or  
14 obfuscates the value of the secret key and prevents its being easily  
15 discovered.

16 e. Fifth, DVD drives capable of writing to blank recordable DVDs  
17 are not capable of writing to the “lead-in” area of a writable DVD. And  
18 commercially-available blank DVDs are specifically designed such that the  
19 “lead-in” area is not recordable. Thus, unless this protection is somehow  
20 defeated, it is impossible for a consumer to duplicate a CSS-encrypted DVD  
21 onto a new recordable DVD; that DVD will lack the necessary “content key”  
22 and other information contained in the “lead-in” area, and thus the CSS-  
23 protected movie cannot be decrypted or played. This technology, again,  
24 provides a further level of protection against unauthorized copying.

25 f. Sixth, content-owners can indicate directly on their DVDs that no  
26 copies are permitted to be made, using a standardized code called CGMS-D  
27 (“Copy Generation Management System – Digital”). This standard is  
28 incorporated into the CSS copy protection specifications. Under this

1 standard, a movie studio can signal on a DVD that it is to never be copied, by  
2 assigning a value of “1,1” to two bits of data in a particular location as  
3 specified by the DVD format. All DVDCCA compliant consumer electronic  
4 DVD players and DVD software players for computers must comply with  
5 CGMS-D signals, and upon reading a signal of “1,1” are instructed to  
6 “CopyNever,” and thus permit no copies to be made of the content.

7 g. Finally, in order to coordinate all of the above protection  
8 mechanisms, the DVDCCA grants licensees only limited authorization to use  
9 the “player keys” and specifications necessary to decrypt CSS. Each  
10 participant in the CSS system — disc manufacturers, studios, manufacturers  
11 of DVD drives, developers of DVD player software, etc. — gets only the  
12 information, including the confidential and the highly confidential  
13 information, it needs to accomplish its part of the system. Furthermore, the  
14 DVDCCA license does not grant licensed DVD players authority to permit  
15 the making of permanent, viewable copies of DVD content by accessing the  
16 encrypted video files and the “content key” from a CSS-encoded DVD. To  
17 the contrary, the license spells out in great detail numerous precautions to  
18 prevent copying, such as prohibiting unprotected (e.g., digital content that is  
19 not protected by encryption) digital “output” to a television that could be  
20 captured and copied. In addition the DVDCCA requires that CSS technology  
21 be maintained as confidential or highly confidential. These controls are  
22 intended to enhance the security of CSS and ensure that DVD player  
23 technology is used only to enable viewing — and not copying — of DVDs.

#### 24 **DEFENDANTS’ REALDVD DVD-COPYING SOFTWARE**

25 14. “RealDVD” is a software program that allows for the making of  
26 permanent, playable copies of CSS-protected DVD content onto a personal  
27 computer or portable hard-drive. I have personal knowledge of the operation of  
28



1 RealDVD from having purchased and downloaded the software onto my personal  
2 computer, and having used the software on multiple occasions to copy DVDs.

3 15. RealDVD was briefly available online for download during the first  
4 days of September, 2008. I downloaded a copy during that time period.

5 16. Through operation of the RealDVD software itself, I observed that it  
6 permits users to “Play,” “Save,” or “Play and Save” a DVD inserted into the disc  
7 drive of a personal computer. If the user chooses either of the latter two options,  
8 RealDVD will make a copy of the entire contents of a DVD onto the PC hard drive.  
9 After the “save” operation is complete, the DVD drive ejects the disc, which may  
10 then be removed. I further observed that even after the DVD disc is removed from  
11 the drive, the RealDVD software allows me to playback the saved copy. The  
12 playback of the saved copy appears identical in all respects including menus,  
13 settings, and picture quality as if playback were being made directly from the disc  
14 that was previously present in the drive during the “save” process. Since the disc is  
15 not present in the drive, the copy that was “saved” appears to be a bit-for-bit copy  
16 of the entire contents of the CSS encrypted disc, together with whatever data is  
17 necessary for successful and complete playback—including the necessary  
18 encryption keys.

19 17. Based on my own observations of the RealDVD software, it appears to  
20 bypass multiple important technological restrictions imposed by CSS by  
21 (a) allowing the creation of permanent playable and viewable copies of any DVD  
22 placed in the drive, and (b) playing those copies even when there is no DVD drive  
23 attached to the computer with which to initiate and successfully complete the player  
24 authentication process.

25 18. Ordinarily, a consumer wishing to copy a CSS-protected DVD using an  
26 unlicensed program capable of copying DVDs would not be able to “unlock” a  
27 DVD drive containing CSS-protected data with that program, and thus not be able  
28 to access the contents of a protected DVD. However, RealDVD uses the

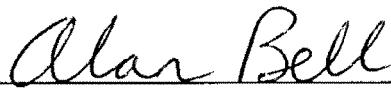
1 authentication protocols it obtained by becoming a licensee of CSS, thus enabling a  
2 consumer to make a copy of the protected movie content. RealDVD, by virtue of  
3 knowing the authentication protocols is able to “unlock” the DVD drive, and access  
4 the full CSS protected content.

5 19. Ordinarily, a consumer who succeeded, by using an unlicensed  
6 program, in gaining unauthorized access only to the CSS encrypted content  
7 without first successfully completing the required authentication process with the  
8 drive would still be faced with the further technical challenge of causing the drive  
9 to provide access to the protected “content key” contained in the lead-in area of the  
10 DVD. This is because drives also do not normally permit software from accessing  
11 the lead-in area without first successfully completing the authentication process.  
12 Without further effort to defeat the method by which the drive limits access to the  
13 protected content key, any copies made of the video files on the DVD would remain  
14 encrypted and thus be unplayable. As a licensed DVD player, RealDVD, however,  
15 is able to successfully complete the authentication process and is then granted  
16 access to data in the “lead-in area” of a protected DVD. As described previously,  
17 such access is normally granted only to authorized players as determined by the  
18 successful outcome of the authentication process, so that programs, which may  
19 include unauthorized “copy” functions, will be unable to produce a decryptable and  
20 playable copy of a DVD. RealDVD, however, uses the authentication information  
21 it obtained from DVD CCA to authenticate and then access the lead-in area and  
22 transfer the key data to a user’s hard drive along with the CSS protected content.

23 20. Ordinarily, a DVD marked with the “NeverCopy” signal would not be  
24 copied, as the relevant hardware and software would abide by the expressed intent  
25 of the content-owner. RealDVD ignores this code, and thus permits users to make  
26 persistent, playable copies of DVD marked in such a way as to be specifically  
27 unauthorized for copying.  
28

1           21. Finally, RealDVD does not appear to engage in any authentication with  
2 the DVD drive before permitting users to play the previously copied CSS-protected  
3 files. By eliminating the DVD drive's role in authentication of the player software,  
4 each time it plays a movie it has previous copied, the RealDVD program bypasses  
5 entirely the authentication or "locking" mechanisms designed to control  
6 unauthorized access to protected DVDs. RealDVD can be used to create perfect  
7 playable copies of protected DVDs on the computer system's hard disk drive.  
8 RealDVD will play back these copies even when the DVD drive is disconnected  
9 from the computer and thus does not initiate or complete the authentication process  
10 that is an important element of the CSS system of protection.

11  
12           I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the  
13 foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this 29th day of September, 2008.

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15           

16           Dr. Alan E. Bell  
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