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## **POLICE MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **PLAYSTATION PIRATES BUSTED IN ISLAND WIDE OPERATION**

In a co-operative raid with the trade mark holders from Sony Entertainment Inc, Police assisted them in an island wide operation held from 16 Jun - 17 Jun.. The operation which took place from 16 Jun at 2 pm ended at 5 pm the next day.

2 The Police have been working very closely with all brand owners who have a stake to protect their intellectual property rights in Singapore. In Mar 04, SPF's Intellectual Property Rights Branch (IPRB) met up with representatives from Sony Computer Entertainment Inc to work out strategies to combat piracy in Sony Computer Entertainment Inc products, namely Playstation games and consoles. The discussions culminated in an island wide operation that targets 10 locations. Together with Sony's representatives from Japan and their attorneys, police seized nearly 14,000 jackets of Playstation games, 22 controllers and 6 memory cards bearing the Trade Mark and Copyright of Sony Entertainment Inc. The infringing articles are worth a street value of \$140,000.

3 This co-operative approach with the right holders meant that they could target the retail level piracy whilst the Police could concentrate our resources to smash piracy syndicates through Police initiated raids. This symbiotic relationship between the right holders and the Police have ensured that Singapore has been kept out of the US 301 Special Watch list for the last 4 years and Japanese executives had praised Singapore for its enforcement of intellectual property rights during DPM Tony Tan's recent visit to Japan. This dual approach has worked well in our fight against intellectual piracy in Singapore.

4 Senior Assistant Commissioner Ng Seng Liang, Director, Criminal Investigation Department said, "We value the close working relationship that we share with the Right holders. We will continue to leverage upon the co-operative approach to fight retail level piracy whilst the police concentrate on smashing piracy syndicates in Singapore."

5 Persons found guilty of making for sale or hire an infringing copy shall be punished on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 for the article or for each article in respect of which the offence was committed or \$100,000, whichever is the lower, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years or to both.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT  
SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE**

**18 Jun 04 @ 10 am**