

Meta Data and the California Attorney General

An article in Wired News indicates that the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) is writing policy for the California Attorney General. The article is about peer-to-peer file sharing, but the fifth and sixth paragraphs make a potentially embarrassing revelation about the origin of the document obtained by Wired News. Those paragraphs are quoted for your convenience:

"However, the metadata associated with the Microsoft Word document indicates it was either drafted or reviewed by a senior vice president of the Motion Picture Association of America. According to this metadata (automatically generated by the Word application), the document's author or editor is "stevensonv." (The metadata of a document is viewable through the File menu under Properties.)"

"Sources tell Wired News that the draft letter's authorship is attributed to Vans Stevenson, the MPAA's senior vice president for state legislative affairs. MPAA representatives have issued similar criticisms of P2P technology in the past. Stevenson could not be reached for comment."

You can obtain a full copy of the article at:

Jardin, Xenii, "P2P in the Legal Crosshairs," Wired News, 15 March 2004.
http://www.wired.com/news/digiwood/0,1412,62665,00.html?tw=newsletter_topstories_html

Our EDS Program Manager and lead engineer will be in the Washington DC area on 5-9 April 2004 for a review of our Electronic Document Security program, and to look for additional sponsorship. We have some funding to support our research, but we still don't have the funding to build our proposed solution. If you would like to meet with him to get more information on Electronic Document Security or to discuss our EDS Program, please give me a call at (256) 971-7851 or send me an email to rhackett@stg.srs.com.

Please feel free to forward this message to other Government personnel you believe would benefit from this information.

This newsletter is dedicated to raising awareness about the Desktop Publishing Threat to Information Security and to disseminating information that will help mitigate these risks. Our newsletter is published aperiodically when there is news to report. We will not clutter your inbox with idle chatter when there is nothing significant or useful to say. This newsletter is available free of charge to Government personnel and to certain contractors responsible for the generation and protection of National Security Information. Contractor subscriptions are at the discretion of SRS Technologies.

Suggestions and comments are always welcome. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please e-mail us and we will gladly remove you from the list. All EDS related correspondence should be sent to rhackett@stg.srs.com.

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