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Current Developments of Copyright

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Abstract

The copyright law always keeps pace with the development of technology. Copyright owner's interest and the public's interest have been in tension since the origin of copyright. How to balance copyright owners against the public is the essential issue in the digital age.

This article indicates the developments of copyright from 2003 to 2004. The topics include the recent legislature in the U.S.A, the European Union and Taiwan, and new cases about copyright term, substantial similarity, P2P file-sharing, the levy system, challenges of DMCA, hyperlink and pop-up ads. This article is to strike a balance between copyright and the public domain for the purpose of copyright—to promote the progress of the culture and arts.

Keywords: copyright, public domain, Internet