

Elite computer pirates plead guilty to bootlegging

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Created 09/03/2005 - 2:24pm

Submitted by srlinuxx on Wednesday 9th of March 2005 02:24:14 PM Filed under [Legal](#) [1]

"Three top members of a global computer piracy network admitted Thursday that they shuttled millions of dollars in computer games, movies and software around the world through a coded system of Web sites and chat rooms."

"The men pleaded guilty in U.S. District court to federal copyright charges, becoming the first Americans convicted in what the Justice Department said was the largest-ever investigation of software piracy."

"All said they made no money off the conspiracy and U.S. Attorney Kevin O'Connor said they considered themselves "the Robin Hoods of cyberspace."

"But investigators said the bootlegged software ended up on the streets of foreign countries, selling for pennies on the dollar."

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