



ALLIANCE

FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Alliance Responds to Government Action on Copyright

17 October 2012 – In response to the changes announced this morning to the way the Intellectual Property Office delivers services, Susie Winter, Director General of the Alliance for Intellectual Property said:

“The actions announced today by Vince Cable are a positive step towards promoting and protecting our intellectual property, which is vital for UK economic growth and jobs. We welcome the Secretary of State’s comments on the value of intellectual property, be that to fashion, music, writing or design, and the recognition that IP is central to the future of our economy. Faster trade mark registrations, a dedicated IP Crime Unit and a consumer awareness campaign are all critical to creating the right framework for UK companies to grow and succeed. We urge the government not to undermine such important initiatives by implementing wider changes to IP law which weaken rights and threaten growth”.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE

Established in 1998, the Alliance for Intellectual Property is a UK-based coalition of trade associations and enforcement organisations with an interest in ensuring intellectual property rights receive the protection they need and deserve. With a combined turnover of over £250 billion, our members include representatives of the audiovisual, music, games and business software, and sports industries, branded manufactured goods, publishers, retailers and designers.

The Alliance is concerned with ensuring that intellectual property rights are valued in the UK and that a robust, efficient legislative and regulatory regime exists, which enables these rights to be properly protected. Our members work closely with trading standards and local police forces to reduce the harm caused by intellectual property crime in local communities and to ensure that legitimate businesses and traders are able to operate fairly.

We work closely with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Intellectual Property Office to raise awareness of the harm caused by IP theft. We, and many of our members, are also participants in the IP Crime Group, which facilitates cross departmental dialogue and joint working amongst the relevant enforcement bodies and organisations.

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