Does BitTorrent + Private Trackers = The New Film Archive?

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Dear Valued Verizon Customer,

Verizon has been notified a SECOND TIME that copyrighted content may have been shared using your Internet connection without permission of the copyright owner.

**What does this mean to me?**

Content owners (for example, artists, moviemakers, authors) and their representatives routinely monitor peer-to-peer and file sharing networks to see if their content (like music, movies, and TV shows) is being shared without their permission (without it being paid for). If they notice somebody sharing their content without their permission through a Verizon account, they inform Verizon by sending us a notice along with information about the copyrighted work and the Verizon Internet protocol (IP) address of the computer sharing the content. As the primary account holder, you are responsible for making sure your account is not used for copyright infringement. Sharing content without the copyright owner’s permission is a violation of U.S. copyright laws, and our terms of service and acceptable use policy.

**What was shared and when?**

File Name: MadMen.S07E07.HDTV.x264-LOL.mp4  
Content Title: MAD MEN  
IP Address: 95.250.125.211
Torrent file:
- **announce**: the URL of the tracker
- **info**: nest for the following pairs:
  - **name**: suggested filename where the file is to be saved
  - **piece length**: number of bytes per piece
  - **pieces**: a hash list, i.e., a concatenation of each SHA-1 hash
  - **length**: size of the file in bytes
  - **files**: a list of dictionaries each corresponding to a file
    - **path**: a list of strings corresponding to subdirectory names
    - **length**: size of the file in bytes

Magnet file:
Base32 encoded SHA-1 hash with parameters passed into it:
- **dn** (Display Name), **xl** (eXact Length), **xt** (eXact Topic),
- **as** (Acceptable Source), **xs** (eXact Source), **kt** (Keyword Topic),
- **mt** (Manifest Topic), & **tr** (address TRacker)
Saving: PASSKEEP.ZIP from www.gregorybraun.com

Estimated time left: 23 sec (19.0 KB of 165 KB copied)
Download to: C:\Downloads\PASSKEEP.ZIP
Transfer rate: 6.10 KB/Sec

Close this dialog box when download completes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Storage and Geographic Location</th>
<th>File Fidelity and Data Integrity</th>
<th>Information Security</th>
<th>Metadata</th>
<th>File Formats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - Two complete copies that are not collocated  
  - For data on heterogeneous media (optical discs, hard drives, etc.) get the content off the medium and into your storage system | - Check file fidelity on ingest if it has been provided with the content  
  - Create fidelity info if it wasn’t provided with the content | - Identify who has read, write, move and delete authorization to individual files  
  - Restrict who has those authorizations to individual files | - Inventory of content and its storage location  
  - Ensure backup and non-collocation of inventory | - When you can give input into the creation of digital files encourage use of a limited set of known open formats and codecs |
| Level 1 (Protect your data) | Level 2 (Know your data) | Level 3 (Monitor your data) | Level 4 (Repair your data) | - At least three copies in geographic locations with different disaster threats  
  - Have a comprehensive plan in place that will keep files and metadata on currently accessible media or systems | - At least one copy in a geographic location with a different disaster threat  
  - Obsolescence monitoring process for your storage system(s) and media | - Check fidelity of content at fixed intervals  
  - Maintain logs of fidelity info, supply audit on demand  
  - Ability to detect corrupt data  
  - Ability to check all content | - Check fidelity of all content in response to specific events or activities  
  - Ability to replace/repair corrupted data  
  - Ensure no one person has write access to all copies | - Inventory of file formats in use  
  - Monitor file format obsolescence issues | - Monitor file format migrations, emulation and similar activities as needed | - Store administrative metadata  
  - Store transformative metadata and log events | - Store standard technical and descriptive metadata | - Store standard preservation metadata |
SEEDING: PRIVATE
PRIVATE
PRIVATE
PRIVATE
Tracker vs. Private Tracker

- Tracker keeps track of peers that are currently sharing a torrent
- Invite-only community
- Private digital repositories
- Crowdsourcing and Curation
- Instant, Abundant, Ubiquitous = Democratization
- New Research = New Canon
- Supplements (Replaces?) Archival Research
ARTIST  FAN

Future.
Bittorrent As Preservation of Culture

As announced at ASCII, a torrent has been uploaded containing a backup of the entire archive of sites published and hosted on Geocities. In response to an announcement that Geocities was shutting down and planning to discard it’s database, an Archive team banded together to save this data before it was forever wiped from the interbutts and flushed into the void.

The 641.32 GiB (that’s gibabytes) torrent has been released on The Pirate Bay.
http://thepiratebay.org/torrent/5923737/Geocities – The Torrent

What if the library at Alexandria had been capable of decentralized hosting before it was burned down?

This is another of the many benefits bittorrent offers.

If you run into Stun, buy him a beer for directing me to this.

Tags: ascii, geocities, interbutts, torrent

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One Response to “Bittorrent As Preservation of Culture”

1. Tweets that mention illunatic’s blog » Blog Archive » Bittorrent As Preservation of Culture -- Topsy.com says:
   October 31, 2010 at 5:42 AM

   [...] This post was mentioned on Twitter by emijrp, stun. stun said: #Bittorrent As Preservation of Culture http://bit.ly/aOinil #TPB [...]

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