

The Great IDEA

An Omni Legal Group Publication



Do Great Ideas Grow on Trees?

11.10.10

COPYRIGHTS

How to Protect your Original Works from Copycats

11.10.10

TRADEMARKS

Making sure others don't Freeride on your Goodwill

11.17.10

PATENTS

How you can Secure your Ideas

11.24.10

LimeWire found Liable for Copyright Infringement

Popular file sharing software LimeWire was in litigation over four years before it was shutdown on November 6. If you try to access it now, all you will find is a banner that reads: "This is an official notice that LimeWire is under a court-ordered injunction to stop distributing and supporting its file-sharing software. Downloading or sharing copyrighted content without authorization is illegal."

The lawsuit, which was brought in a New York district court, was filed by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). The plaintiffs claimed the site was in violation of United States copyright law because it allowed some LimeWire users to download copyrighted content without permission of the copyright holders.

Copyrights protect original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium. These works are varied and may be visual (as in a painting) and they may be a composition of music. Copyright law protects a wide array of original works.

It is difficult to discern any effect this decision will have on the music industry. While there are many other sites that allow file sharing, LimeWire is by far the most popular. At one point it was installed on over 36% of all PCs in the United States.



Omni Legal Group - Helpful Advice at Affordable Prices

At the Omni legal group we strive to give useful advice our customers can afford. Don't be fooled into thinking legal advice is unattainable at a budget.

Please contact us to schedule a free consultation at (310) 276- OMNI.