Cyberlaw: Protecting Copyright on the World-Wide Web

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SUBJECT(S): INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW, COPYRIGHT LAW

KEYWORD(S): INTERNET, CYBERLAW

This Article focuses on the growing concern over the advancement in communications technology, particularly the Internet, and the possible ramifications on intellectual property law. The study analyzes how traditional concepts of copyright law are no longer applicable to the Internet and that a new uniform international standard is necessary to prevent copyright infringement. The Author stresses the need for Philippine accession to the WIPO Copyright Treaty and recommends the way in which online copyright may be enforced by domestic courts.

As guidance by which Philippine courts may enforce copyright laws against the Internet setting, the study examines the relatively new jurisprudence from United States cases. These cases recognize the rights of copyright owners over their materials, and even hold liable, in a contributory manner, the Internet service providers and systems operators when an Internet user infringes copyright law. The study concludes by recommending ways and means by which copyright on the Internet may be protected within the framework of existing laws, and through methods not typical to the protection of traditional print, audio, and video media.