

NOTES

INTERNET FILE-SHARING: SWEDISH PIRATES CHALLENGE THE U.S.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Peer-to-peer file-sharing poses a significant challenge to the enforcement of copyright laws. The music industry's battle against the sharing of music files over the Internet has been widely publicized and debated ever since the emergence of Napster in the late 1990s. Technological advances, such as BitTorrent¹ networking, now also make it fast and easy to swap movies, TV shows, software, and video games for free over the Internet. As a result, file-sharing has become a concern for broad segments of the entertainment and media industries, and the television and movie industries now face the same threat as the music industry did when Napster emerged. Recognizing the danger that online piracy poses

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¹ See Part II for a discussion of BitTorrent technology.