

# THE PYRAMID OF INTERNET PIRACY

## SUPPLIERS

The primary source of newly released pirated movies come from thieves who camcord films in theaters. Illegally recorded movies are then sold to "Replicators" who rapidly produce millions of pirated DVDs and to "Release Groups" who distribute them around the world through computer servers known as "Topsites".



## RELEASE GROUPS / TOP SITES

"Release Groups" are individuals who obtain pirated content from suppliers and are the first source of piracy on the Internet. Release groups put pirated movies onto clusters of high speed computers known as "Topsites." The extraordinary speed and power of a Topsite triggers the avalanche that is global Internet piracy.

## FACILITATORS

Facilitators act as Internet directories, or search engines, to coordinate the mass downloading and exchange of pirated content between downloaders.



## FILE SHARERS / DOWNLOADERS

A downloader transfers illegal copies of movies from the Internet to his or her computer. The peer-to-peer software commonly used by downloaders enables them to instantly share their content with other downloaders which greatly accelerates the global spread of pirated movies.

