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Copyright-based Industries boost Singapore's economy

1. *Singapore 27 July 2004* - Singapore's copyright-based industries contributed significantly to the nation's economy. Preliminary findings of a research study, undertaken by the IP Academy in partnership with the Intellectual Property of Singapore (IPOS), found that in 2001¹, copyright-based industries generated approximately S\$8.6 billion in value-added. This represents 5.6% of Singapore's GDP. These industries also have a strong impact on Singapore's workforce, employing a total of 116,800 persons, equivalent to 5.7% of the total employment.
2. This research project was launched in November 2003, when NUS Consulting was commissioned to conduct the study. It is the first study in the world to adopt a new framework developed by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO). This framework classifies copyright-based industries into four categories, based on the degree of copyright activities in the industries' output of goods or services. These categories are:
 - 1) Core Copyright;
 - 2) Inter-dependent Copyright;
 - 3) Partial Copyright; and
 - 4) Non-dedicated support.
3. Industries falling within the Core Copyright category made the largest contributions, at 2.8% of GDP and 3.5% of total employment. A list of the industries under each category is shown in Annex 1. The economic contribution for value added and employment, of each of these categories is shown in Annex 2, Table 1.
4. "Singapore is pleased to be the pioneer country to adopt WIPO's framework. Recognising the economic spin-offs, it is important that we continue to provide a conducive environment for IP-intensive industries to flourish. Aside from putting in place an internationally benchmarked IP regime, Singapore also needs a prevalent and ingrained culture that respects and rewards creative efforts," said Associate Professor Ho Peng Kee, Senior Minister of State for Law and Home Affairs, who graced the launch of the Anti-Piracy Cinema Trailer today.
5. Speaking on the study, Associate Professor Loy Wee Loon, Deputy Director of the IP Academy, who was on the research team of the study said "By adopting WIPO's framework in this pilot study, Singapore is supporting WIPO's efforts to standardise the measure of copyright's contribution to nation's economies."

¹ Most recent data is only available for year 2001

6. “This study is also the IP Academy’s first research programme, and we hope that its results will be beneficial to Singapore policy-makers, such as IPOS,” Assoc Prof Loy added.
7. Ms Liew Woon Yin, Director-General of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore remarked “We are indeed excited about the study. It has helped to align our definition of creative industries with WIPO’s recommended framework and provide us a clearer reflection of the direct contributions generated by our local copyright creators.”
8. The study also revealed that over a 15-year period (1986 to 2001), the core copyright industries grew strongly, at an annual compound growth rate of 12.8%, in terms of nominal value added. This compares well to the 9.6% annual growth of Singapore’s overall economy, over the same period. Similarly, employment numbers for the core copyright industries grew at an annual compound rate of 6.7%, higher than Singapore’s overall employment at 3.5%. Annex 2, Table 2 reveals details of how the core copyright industries have grown.
9. These results are the preliminary findings of the study and examine the direct impact of the copyright-based industries on the economy. The study will continue for another two more months, as NUS Consulting will be examining the indirect contribution of copyright industries to Singapore’s economy, through the multiplier effect. It will also cover foreign trade in copyright activities. Results of the full study will be released once it is completed.
10. This study reveals that copyright is a powerful economic driver and is growing increasingly relevant. Through this project, the IP Academy and IPOS aim to raise awareness of the growing importance of copyright activities to Singapore’ economic growth and development.

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About the IP Academy

Launched in January 2003, the IP Academy aims to be the focal point for IP education and training in Singapore. In order to broaden and deepen IP capabilities, the IP Academy has adopted two strategies: Education and Research. The Educational charter aims to provide continuing education and life-long learning opportunities for IP professionals, business organisations and research institutes. The Research charter aims to develop depth in IP competencies, enabling Singapore to keep at the forefront of IP developments. Through its programmes and activities, the IP Academy will help build up an environment supportive of the creation, protection and exploitation of IP. More information on the IP Academy can be found at www.ipacademy.edu.sg

About IPOS

The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore or IPOS is the lead government agency that formulates and regulates Intellectual Property (IP) laws, promotes IP awareness and provides the infrastructure to facilitate the greater development of IP in Singapore. With IP fast becoming a critical resource in today's new economy, IPOS's vision is to foster a creative Singapore where ideas and intellectual efforts are valued, developed and exploited. Formerly known as the Registry of Trade Marks and Patents, IPOS was established as a statutory board of the Ministry of Law on 1 April 2001. More information on IPOS can be found on www.ipos.gov.sg

Annex 1

Composition of Singapore's Copyright-based Industries

Core Copyright (9)	Interdependent Copyright (7)	Partial Copyright (10)	Non-Dedicated Support (3)
Software & Databases	TV sets, Radios, VCRS, CD Players, Cassette Players, Electronic Game Equipment & other similar equipment	Apparel, textiles & footwear	General wholesale & retailing
Press & Literature	Computers & Equipment	Jewellery & coins	General Transportation
Music, Theatrical Productions & Operas	Musical Instruments	Other crafts	Telephony & Internet
Advertising Services	Photographic & Cinematographic Instruments	Furniture	
Radio & Television	Photocopiers	Household goods, china & glass	
Visual & Graphic Arts	Blank Recording Material	Wall coverings & carpets	
Motion Picture & Video	Paper	Toys & games	
Photography		Architecture, engineering, surveying	
Copyright Collecting Societies		Interior Design	
		Museums	

* This has been adopted from WIPO's **Guide on Surveying the Economic Contribution of Copyright-based Industries**, Publication No. 893(E), pp75-80.

Annex 2

Table 1. Economic Contribution of Copyright-Based Industries, 2001

	Value Added (\$ million)	Share in GDP	Employment (Number)	Share in Employment
1. Core Copyright	4,310.4	2.8%	72,552	3.5%
2. Interdependent Copyright	2,717.6	1.8%	25,459	1.2%
3. Partial Copyright	136.2	0.1%	3,677	0.2%
4. Non-Dedicated Support	1,481.4	1.0%	15,083	0.7%
Total	8,645.7	5.6%	116,772	5.7%
Singapore Economy	154,078	100%	2,046,700	100%

Table 2. Growth of the Core Copyright Industries, 1986-2001

Industry	Value Added (\$ million)		CAGR 1986- 2001	Employment (Number)		CAGR 1986- 2001
	<i>1986</i>	<i>2001</i>		<i>1986</i>	<i>2001</i>	
1. Core Copyright Industries	710.9	4,310.4	12.8%	27,272	72,552	6.7%
2. Singapore Economy	39,102.5	154,078	9.6%	1,214,400	2,046,700	3.5%
Difference in Growth Rates (1 – 2)	-	-	+3.2% points	-	-	+3.2% points