



VILLAGE ROADSHOW

1 February 2019

To: Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

By email: platforminquiry@accc.gov.au

Digital Platforms Inquiry Submission

Village Roadshow is a publicly listed all Australian company with 8,000 employees and we are in the business of cinema, film production and distribution and theme parks. Copyright protection is of the essence in making our film distribution and production activities profitable.

Accordingly, Village Roadshow welcomes the proposed measures to assist a more effective removal of copyright infringing material. We also encourage the ACCC to look at other measure to ensure that Google and Facebook take responsibility for keeping illegal content off their services. For example, Google's search results could easily remove links to websites blocked by Australian courts as well as clean up auto complete which is a fast track, easy way to piracy. Examples of how Google are complicit in enabling piracy are attached.

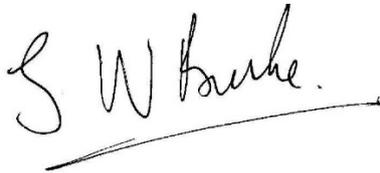
The only winners in the current climate are pirates who are criminals because their business model is totally dependent on scamming and robbing people. They attract people with the promise of free first run movies only then through a multitude of paths to scam and rob them. Whether it by misrepresentation obtaining their contact details or ransomware.

The losers are Australians employed in businesses reliant on copyright. In particular Australian film production and if piracy is not contained with a population of only 25 million our industry will inevitably grind to a halt because it's impossible to compete with stolen goods and free.

The Australian film industry is critical to what we are as Australians. My generation grew up with GALLIPOLI, BREAKER MORANT, NURIEL'S WEDDING and the current crew with RED DOG, HAPPY FEET, HEARTBREAK RIDGE, LADIES IN BLACK and LION. Wondrous Australian films are often more important in shaping our world than even people we meet.

To this end, Village Roadshow since the renaissance of our local industry has been involved in distributing or producing 80 Australian films.

Finally, digital platforms have been practically exempt from meaningful regulation worldwide for the last 20 years. This is no longer justified. Freedom of the internet is like freedom of the highways and just as it is reasonable to have restrictions on drink driving and speeding, the same is the case with copyright theft. Those who cry for freedom of the internet, this is maybe a worthy notion but completely impractical if it is to massively disrupt jobs, taxation and our Australian way of life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G W Burke". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Graham W Burke, AO
Chief Executive Officer