

Press Cuttings

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SOFTWARE

Practices hit in piracy swoop

'One in five' pieces of software in London is pirated, according to the BSA

Architects across London have been caught out following a two-month clampdown by the Business Software Alliance (BSA) on pirated software in the capital.

Among them was West End-based Archetype Associates, which has agreed to stump up £10,000 after underlicensed copies of Adobe Photoshop and Autodesk AutoCAD were found on seven of its computers.

According to the BSA, one

in five pieces of software in the capital is pirated. Sources have told the AJ that 'software piracy was rife' and on the increase due to more people setting up on their own.

The BSA also reported an eight per cent rise in 'leads' provided to the association, which offers payments for information on practices using pirated products.

'Software piracy is a major problem in London,' said Alyna Cope, spokesperson for BSA's UK

Country Committee. 'Following our campaign, enforcement action will be taken against non-compliant businesses.'

Masoud Parvardin of Archetype Associates said: 'We took these allegations very seriously and conducted a full audit into computer use. It was subsequently discovered some of our contractors, all of whom are either abroad or in liquidation, had been misusing software.'

Richard Waite