

# BRISBANE MAN SENTENCED OVER FAKE DVD IMPORTS

The sentencing of a Brisbane man to nine months in jail on charges relating to counterfeit digital versatile discs (DVDs) was the first sentencing of an Australian to a jail term for offences under the *Copyright Act 1968*.

Sydney Grant Priscott, 53, was sentenced in the Brisbane Magistrates Court to nine months imprisonment, a recognisance of \$1500 and five years conditional good behaviour after being found guilty of 28 charges relating to importing, possessing and exposing for sale counterfeit DVDs.

The investigation started in 2003 when Customs officers at air cargo in Brisbane detected approximately 800 counterfeit DVDs concealed in a shipment of audio speaker stands.

The shipment had been sent from Malaysia to a false address in the Brisbane suburb of Salisbury.

Customs officers and Federal agents executed a search warrant at an address in Coopers Plains and uncovered further DVDs.

After his court appearance, witnesses advised police that the man was continuing to sell DVDs at the Eumundi Pavilion Markets.

A search warrant was executed at a market stall where further counterfeit DVDs were seized.

"The sentence handed down by the court is the first time that an Australian has received a prison term for offences against the Copyright Act," the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Chris Ellison, said.

"This sends a clear message that attempts to flout Australia's copyright laws will be detected and punished.

"I congratulate the Customs and AFP officers involved in this case for their diligence and hard work in uncovering these offences and assisting in this landmark case."