

Name: Edward Matakonis

Class of works: I am writing in support of Class #2 (DVD Region Coding):
Audiovisual works stored on Digital Versatile Disks ("DVDs") that are not
available in Region 1 DVD format and access to which is prevented by
technological measures.

Summary:

Disc name: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

I would like an exemption from copy protection in order to play the Sony DVD
"Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" on my computer.

My wife knows how sentimental I am about the old animated tv special, "Rudolph
the Red-Nosed Reindeer," so she purchased a DVD of same for me for Christmas
of 2002. Well, I was excited upon opening it, and I rushed to the computer to
check it out. I put the DVD in my DVD drive, waited for something to happen,
but nothing ever did. I manually opened various programs capable of playing
video(WinDVD, DivX players, Windows Media Player, RealPlayer) but nothing
happened. I opened Windows Explorer to see what was on the disk, but it does
not even register that there is anything in there. So, a Christmas dream was
destroyed; I am glad this was not purchased for a child ("We can't watch
Rudolph, honey--the man who made the DVD thought we were going to steal it, so
he made it so we can't watch it!"). Oh, by the way--I checked at Sony's
website about the copy-protection and they more or less said, "if you're
attempting to play this on a computer and it won't play, too bad." They
offered no remedy nor refund for non-playback of this product. This sort of
ignorance cannot serve an already-besieged industry in a good way.