

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NINTENDO APPLAUDS THE SPANISH COURT'S DECISION AGAINST GAME COPIERS

Spain Joins Other Countries in the Fight against Video Game Piracy

MADRID, Spain, Oct. 26, 2010 – Nintendo welcomes the first criminal court ruling in Spain against importers and sellers of so-called "game copiers/game loaders" for the Nintendo handheld consoles. These devices are commonly known in Spain as "R4 cards". This decision is final, consequence of a trial hearing and cannot be appealed.

A Criminal Court of Palma de Mallorca issued its decision today announcing its strong support against the distribution of these "game copiers" and convicted a Spanish company for importing and selling the illegal devices. The Court ordered the business owner to a 6-month jail sentence, imposed a heavy fine and is required to pay financial damages.

The Court's decision follows a criminal investigation performed by the Spanish customs and police against the defendant, who was importing the illegal devices from China. Based on evidence uncovered, the defendant was responsible for the distribution of hundreds of the illegal "game copiers"

"Piracy is the biggest threat for the creativity in this industry. This sentence supposes a great step forward for both the ones who make videogames and the ones who really enjoy with videogames," said Rafael Martínez, deputy managing director of Nintendo Iberica. "This is a critical decision in the support for intellectual property protection. It is the first one concerning "R4 cards" and, most importantly, is crystal clear recognizing the crime and issuing a prison sentence, which cannot be appealed. We are thrilled to see Spain joining a list of other EU countries such as the UK, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, and Belgium with similar favorable court decisions."

The sale of "game copiers/game loaders" is particularly harmful to the developers and publishers of video games because the devices are intended to de-activate and overcome the anti-piracy technology embedded in the Nintendo's hardware systems. The devices allow users to play illegal copies of Nintendo games downloaded from the Internet.

“Spain continues to be one of the top EU countries with the highest number of illegal games downloaded via the Internet. Many consumers had not realized the illicit nature of game copiers until this decision”, says Rafael Martínez.

Based on this positive court decision, Nintendo intends to continue its collaboration with the Spanish Courts, Public Prosecutors and Law enforcement authorities to support efforts to fight piracy and take firm steps in preventing the proliferation of the "game copiers/game loaders" in Spain and around the world.

In addition to Europe, other favorable court decisions against sellers of game copiers have also been issued in the United States, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Nintendo supports all criminal enforcement and legal actions against Internet piracy and since 2009 had seized over 500,000 "game copiers/game loaders" on a global scale. Nintendo initiates these actions not only on its own behalf, but also on behalf of over 1,400 video game-development companies that depend on legitimate sales of games for their survival.

For more information, visit Nintendo's anti-piracy site at ap.nintendo.com.

###