

**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION
INTERPOL**



Operation Jupiter III - South America

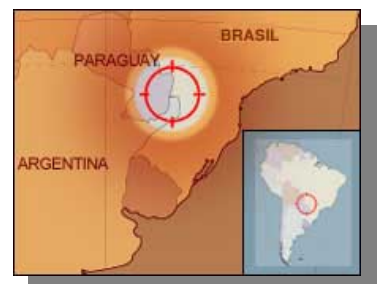
**INTERPOL Intellectual Property Crimes Unit
Sub-regional Bureau for South America**

Intellectual property (IP) crime is a generic term used to describe a wide range of counterfeiting and piracy offences. INTERPOL contributes actively to the collective effort to combat transnational and organized intellectual property crime by facilitating and supporting cross-border operational partnerships. A key project in this area is Operation Jupiter, set up to target IP criminal activities in specific regions.

Operation Jupiter – South America focuses on enhancing partnership and prevention in the tri-border area of South America: Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay. Organized crime groups involved in IP crime typically engage in cross border activities, and the tri-border area represents a particularly challenging environment for law enforcement. Further to the success of the different Operation Jupiter actions in South America, it is now being expanded to other INTERPOL regions, with the hope of wider cross-industry support for the initiative.

Led by the Intellectual Property Crimes Unit (IPCU) and the International Intellectual Property Crime Action Group (IIPCAG), both based at the INTERPOL General Secretariat, Operation Jupiter is also partnered by the World Customs Organization (WCO).

Operation Jupiter – South America was carried out between November 2004 and April 2005 as a pilot to study best operational practice in the area, concentrating the operational efforts of law enforcement agencies, police and customs authorities. Its success lay in the excellent response from the private sector (pharmaceutical, audiovisual and tobacco) and their willingness to work jointly with these police and customs agencies.



Tri Border Area

Following the positive results, Operation Jupiter II was implemented between September and December 2006, which this time included the ports of Iquique, Chile and Montevideo, Uruguay.



Participation from the public and private sectors was also expanded, through the contribution of public prosecutors and representatives of designer brand goods, such as clothing and other luxury articles.

Operation Jupiter III

The success of this activity led to the planning of Operation Jupiter III, with the joint operational assistance of police and customs services from the five countries involved: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay.

In preparation, the INTERPOL Co-ordination Team — consisting of officers from the Intellectual Property Crime Unit (IPCU) and the Sub-Regional Bureau for South America — spent two weeks in August and September 2007 visiting the National Chiefs of Police and Directors of Customs in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay, briefing them on the successful outcome of Operation Jupiter II.

Operation Jupiter III – South America ran between 1 October and 31 December 2007, during which period the participating agencies collaborated successfully, communicating the results of their operations in real time for analytical development at local and regional level, requesting information from the INTERPOL databases and, in turn, recording information in those databases.

The following are examples of the activities undertaken and seizures made:

Argentina

- Several search warrants were carried out simultaneously in the market named 'La Salada,' well known as a main centre for the sale of counterfeit goods, where one million CDs and DVDs, 8,638,000 film and music sleeve jackets, plus 273 burners were seized. Ten people were also arrested. The total value of goods seized in this operation was USD 42,583,653.
- A seizure of 5,250 pieces of counterfeited brand clothes, valued at USD 3,300,000 was made. These goods had Ciudad del Este, Paraguay as the destination.
- A large quantity of machinery intended for the manufacture of counterfeit clothing was discovered, together with 35,570 items of counterfeited clothing of different brands. The organizations involved in this crime used workers of different nationalities, such as Bolivian, Paraguayan and Peruvian nationals so, for this reason, the National Directorate for Migration participated actively in this operation.

Brazil

- Operation 'Seven Errors' detected criminal organizations headed by Lebanese nationals involved in the illegal trade of computer equipment.
- Operation 'Ceres' disrupted four organizations devoted to the smuggling of pesticides, cigarettes, tyres and electronics. Work on this operation generated the issue of 76 search

warrants and 60 arrest warrants, all of which were carried out in the States of Matto Grosso de Sul, Parana and Sao Paulo.

- Operation "H Hour" seized one ton of counterfeit watches.
- 39 tons of various Chinese goods were seized.
- 973.5 kg marihuana; 2.35 kg crack, weapons and 1,704 cartridges of different calibres were seized over several operations.
- In the framework of the "National Anti-Piracy Day" 1,929 tons of seized counterfeit goods were destroyed.

Chile

- 443 pieces of designer-brand clothing, with an approximate value of USD 30,000 were seized. This counterfeit merchandise was of Argentine origin, demonstrating regional links to this crime.
- 2,784 counterfeited books were seized, valued at USD 55,680
- 6,264 counterfeited vodka bottles were seized, at a value of USD 10,638.

Paraguay

- Seizures of 188,200 counterfeit CDs and DVDs, plus 2,733,700 sleeve jackets for their commercialization were made during a series of operations. An important part of the production of these goods was managed by the so-called 'Ciudad del Este Piracy Cartel', directed by Lebanese nationals already identified in Operation Jupiter II.
- 23,000 units of counterfeit medicines for the treatment of erectile dysfunction were seized. These medicines were owned by a Syrian national, who was arrested.

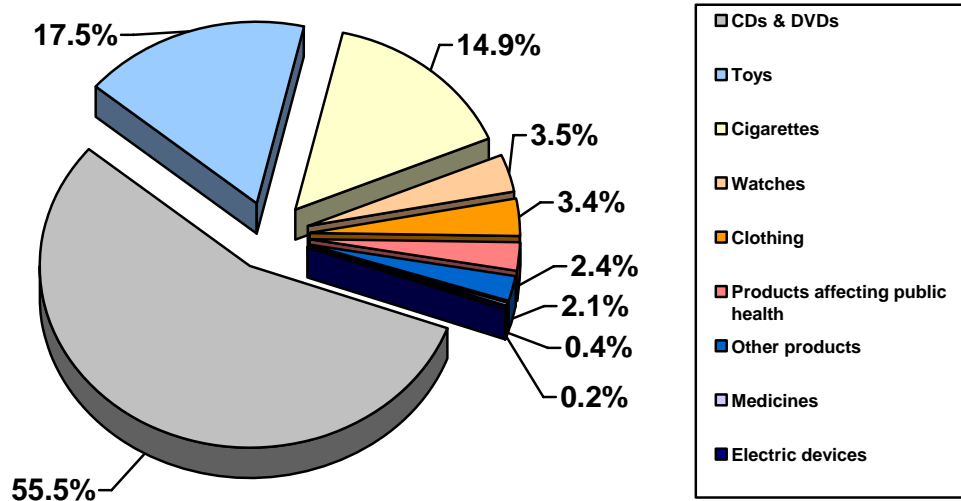
Uruguay

- Three containers of counterfeit merchandise (including brand clothes, watches, luxury accessories and computers equipment) were made in various operations carried out at the port of Montevideo, with a value of USD 1,670,000
- A total of 167,920 counterfeit watches were seized over the duration of Operation Jupiter III.
- 23,400 ecstasy units were seized, with a value of USD 800,000.

During Operation Jupiter a total of 134 criminal procedures were undertaken against organizations involved in Intellectual Property Crime resulting in the seizure of counterfeited products valued at USD 115,817,945 and the arrest of 185 people.

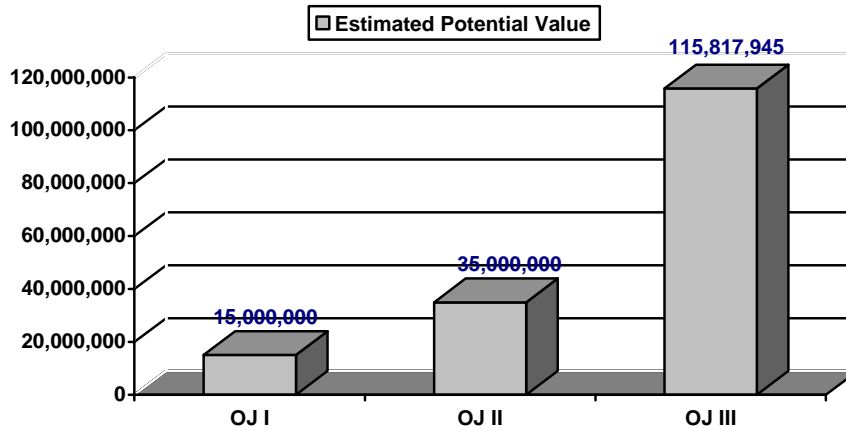
Comparative Tables

1. Main products seized during Operation Jupiter III.



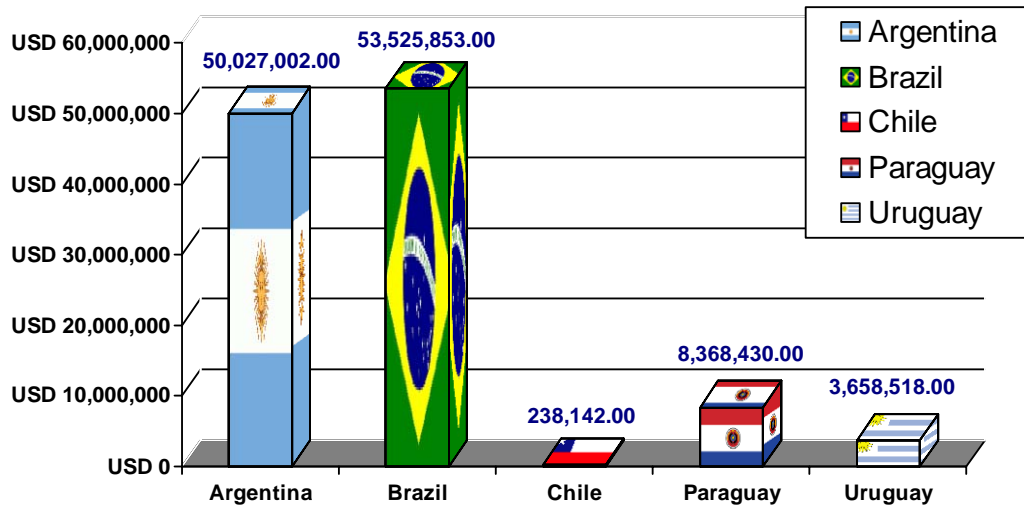
The above chart shows that the main volume of seizures is linked to CD and DVD duplication, followed by toys then cigarette smuggling. Also, the number of counterfeit designer-brand watches is similar to the number of counterfeit designer-brand clothing items and luxury articles.

2. Comparative table of estimated seizure value (USD) against previous Operation Jupiter seizures.



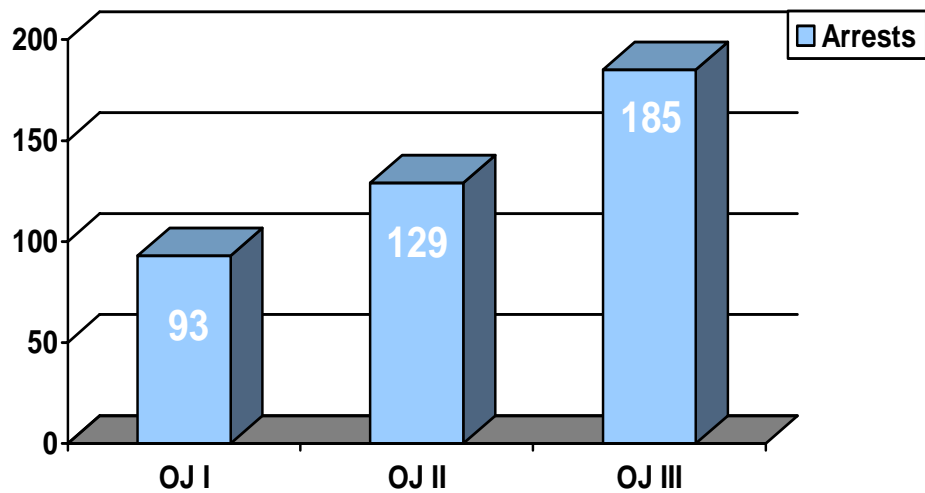
Though the increase in value of seizures is remarkable, it is important to stress that the numbers illustrated correspond only to the information supplied by the participating authorities, where an estimate of the seizure value is included. In cases where this information has not been provided, INTERPOL has not added an estimate. The final amounts could therefore be even greater than those stated in this table.

3. Details of seizures per country for the duration of Operation Jupiter III.



The above chart does not suggest a comparison of results per country, as the size of markets, the number of agencies with active participation and other factors have to be taken into consideration. The purpose of the chart is to illustrate the distribution of regional activity against piracy and counterfeiting during Operation Jupiter III.

4. Number of arrests per country during Operation Jupiter III.



Another relevant aspect of the results obtained during Operation Jupiter is the number of persons arrested for being involved in intellectual property crime. This information considers only initial criminal procedures undertaken, with the full outcome being unknown. It is therefore important that participating countries carry out a follow-up of the cases to establish what legal and criminal action has been taken and to determine the outcome for the criminals involved.