

Press Release  
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### Time to Put Stop to an Insidious Industry

For the second time within just one week a man has been sent to jail for 20 months for possession and distributing child sexual abuse images on the internet.

The Department of Internal Affairs has announced today that Leigh Jordens aged 47 had over 42,000 objectionable files on discs including the sexual abuse of girls aged six years and under. Last week Jeremy Bourne aged 27 was convicted and jailed for the same period for possession and distribution of objectionable images of girls between the ages of three and fourteen.

Alan Bell, Director of ECPAT Child Alert sates “This has got to stop. The trading of children as commodities is an evil that should not be tolerated in our society. Every parent and responsible New Zealander must be horrified to read of children who have not yet even finished primary school being raped and abused and having their images splashed across the globe via the internet.”

The Department of Internal Affairs have a Censorship Compliance Unit that constantly monitor the internet and use sophisticated computer forensics to overcome the deliberate efforts of offenders to disguise their illegal activities. ECPAT Child Alert provide a Hotline that is available at no cost to all computer users to report any sites that are suspected of containing illegal child sexual abuse images.

“We are fortunate in New Zealand to have experts such as the Internal Affairs to track down those who choose to offend” says Mr. Bell. “They are among the world’s best and have proven they have the means to bring offenders to justice. However the issue needs the public of New Zealand to be aware of the increasing trade of child sex images and to do all they can to prevent the sexual exploitation of children. Overseas research indicates that public awareness of this the sexual exploitation of children in all forms is in itself a very strong deterrent.”

For further information contact: Alan Bell; Director; ECPAT Child Alert; [office@ecpat.org.nz](mailto:office@ecpat.org.nz)

ECPAT Child Alert is a registered New Zealand NGO working to prevent the sexual exploitation of children through child prostitution, child pornography and child trafficking.