

The Link Newsletter

AutoUpdate

Here's some really good news for those who have had to send out patches due to Windows or hardware changes: CD-Cops now has an AutoUpdate feature.

If needed, CD-Cops can automatically get an update via the internet without manually sending patches out to customers. Even products that run from CD or DVD with no files on the hard disk, can be updated.

Microsoft Vista

Link is part of the Vista beta-testing team, and we test our products against each new beta version. So protections made now should work with the final version of Vista. If Vista changes before its final release, the AutoUpdate will take care of protection updates with no load on the customer's hotline.

XP-64 / Vista-64.

There still aren't too many of these out in the world, but you can count on seeing them more and more. CD-Cops can now in a secure way handle 64-bit operating systems which no longer run 16-bit code. For security reasons we kept 16-bit code in our 32-bit CD-Cops, as few modern hackers have tools for this. Thanks to a newly developed code-security technique, CD-Cops will now only use 16-bit security when applicable.



European Currency

Starting August first, all of our prices will be expressed in Euros. Figures from the existing pricelist are kept and with the current exchange rates this is a 20% increase. However our prices have not been adjusted for many years, and this change merely reflects the current problems the USD currency experiences.

All existing agreements and ones from June and July will be handled according to the current prices. The new pricelist is already on our homepage, and as a new feature you can now get the EUR figures converted to the most common currencies.

Multi-Disc

Sometimes a customer wants CD-Cops to recognize several different discs. This most commonly happens when selling an update to end-users that might have 4 or 5 different older versions, often protected with a competing protection system. Even in such cases, we can normally apply our CD-Cops recognition techniques to existing media.

UniCops Development.

UniCops is the name of a combination of several Cops products, renewed and combined. The name stands for Unified Cops.

The new UniCops gives our customers the ability to easily mix the following protection features:

- Locking to CD or DVD
- Locking to a specific machine
- Online verification
- Fixed expiry
- Relative expiry
- Locking to a network server
- Handling a group of products through a single registration

UniCops makes it possible to apply protection once and get both single user, machine-locking and network protection in the same file.

One distribution CD with only one protected file can cover all three needs.

It is also possible to distribute over the web and eliminate the distribution CD - like the present WebCops.

Additional modules for UniCops are a DVD-ROM protection module, Cops Crypto for data protection and a NetCops module for simultaneous users in a network environment.

A development agreement has been signed with one of our oldest customers, and UniCops is scheduled to be delivered medio August.

Progress for this product can be monitored on www.UniCops.com.



Cops Crypto in Explosive Expansion.

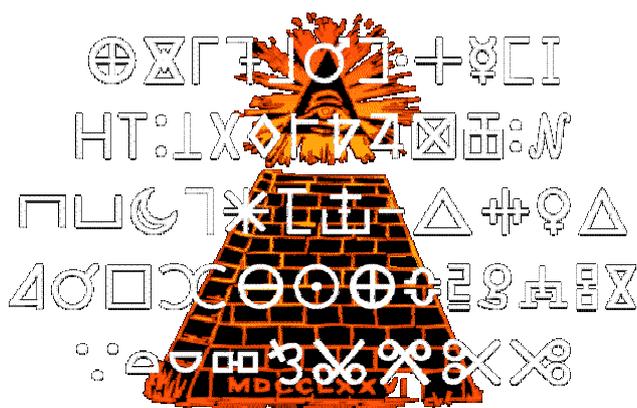
Data protection is becoming more and more popular. In the last year, we have had a large number of new customers for the protection of PDF documents, Shockwave, XLS and PowerPoint applications, as well as others.

Cops Crypto can be configured in many ways, including the disabling of:

- Clipboard
- Print Screen
- Print to File
- Save As
- Save as Text.
- Send Email

Cops Crypto is constantly being improved to handle all sorts of hyperlinks and data formats. Practically all data types can be protected - but only for the popular Windows/PC platform.

Cops Crypto can be combined with media-locking (CD/CDR/DVD-Cops) as well as with machine-locking using WebCops.



Multi-Code (CDR-Cops).

Now here's a really useful feature for those of you who are using CDR-Cops together with the CodeFree option. In the past, we relied on the fact that a spindle of CDRs would contain discs having the same characteristics. So you could burn one CDR, measure it, and use the same code for 100 discs.

However sometimes a spindle can do strange things. Characteristics can change somewhere in the middle, and we have even seen an example of a mixed spindle – two different batches shuffled together. So, out of 100 discs, 50 had to be thrown away.

To take care of these rare but extremely frustrating occurrences, the new CDR-Cops can handle several different codes at once.

Mini-CD protection

After several inquiries, we have made a special CD-Cops version for Mini-CDs (capacity 180 MB). Pricing, security and functionality is as with CD-Cops

CodeFree

Even though a CD-Cops end-user only has to enter a code once, some customers don't want their end-users to have to enter a code at all. CD-Cops and CDR-Cops have the option of embedding the code on the CD itself.

In the case of CD-Cops, the CDROM factory must produce a single glass master and then produce at least one CDROM. This CDROM is then measured, and the extracted code is patched into the ISO image.

Then, using the same machinery, a second glass master is made, and a second batch of discs is stamped out. The technique is based on the fact that the same machine, on the same day, will produce discs that have the same characteristics.

In the case of CDR-Cops, one disc is burned and measured. The extracted code is patched into the ISO image, and the rest of the CDRs are burned using this patched image.

As a new feature, after each burn, CDR-Cops verifies that the disc matches the embedded code.

Unusual products

We have customers who asked for (and got) versions of CD-Cops and DVD-Cops for Linux and WebCops for Mac/Intosh. We have just delivered a "live CDR" protection during boot of a stand-alone Linux.