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Will online distribution of movies create problems for Singapore?

It has been reported that Hollywood studios will start selling digital versions of films such as *Brokeback Mountain* and *King Kong* on the internet through a website *Movielink*.

This move is a small step towards full digital distribution of movies over the internet and its rationale is to combat global movie piracy.

I have some questions on the impact of this move in Singapore, which currently has the world's largest internet penetration and eventually the fastest inland broadband speed.

There are many Singaporeans who are working in the movie trade and movie-rental business. Will the online distribution cause job losses?

Another concern is censorship. How will the Media Development Authority solve the problem of minors downloading prohibited movies into their PCs or 3G phones?

Is it more effective to rationalise our censorship laws with the rest of the world as this technology is an unstoppable leveller?

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