Counterfeiting in China

Professor Daniel C.K. Chow The Ohio State University College of Law Columbus, Ohio 43210

May 16, 2005

Overview

- MOST SERIOUS COUNTERFEITING PROBLEM IN WORLD HISTORY
- PRC ESTIMATES PUT COUNTERFEIT TRADE AT \$19-24 BILLION PER YEAR AND 8% OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT
- U.S. INDUSTRY GROUPS ESTIMATE LOSSES IN THE BILLIONS TO TENS OF BILLIONS PER YEAR
- 15-20% OF WELL-KNOWN BRANDS OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS ARE COUNTERFEIT
- DIRECT OR INDIRECT INVOLVEMENT OF GOVERNMENT ENTITIES
- EXPORTS FROM CHINA MAKE THIS A GLOBAL PROBLEM

Origins

- GROWTH OF CHINA'S ECONOMY
- ROLE OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
- PROBLEMS OF POLITICAL AND LEGAL REFORM: LOCAL PROTECTIONISM AND INADEQUATE ENFORCEMENT

Major Distributors and Manufacturers of Counterfeit Goods in China



Harm to U.S. Brands in China

Figure One: Beijing Case Study

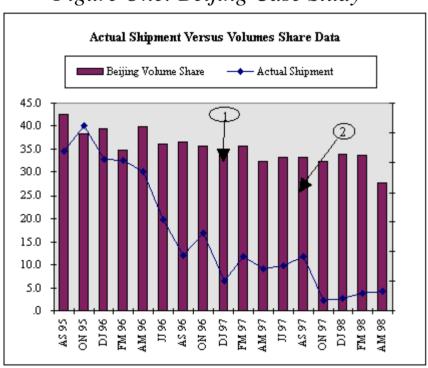
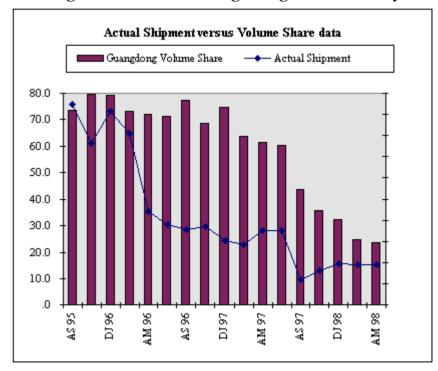


Figure Two: Guangdong Case Study



Administration of Industry and Commerce Trademark Enforcement Activity, 1997-2000

Year	Cases	Avg Fine	Avg Damages	Criminal Prosecutions
1997	15,321	\$679	\$40	57 total or 1 in 268 cases
1998	14,216	\$699	\$41	35 total or 1 in 406 cases
1999	16,938	\$754	\$40	21 total or 1 in 806 cases
2000	22,001	\$794	\$19	45 total or 1 in 489 cases

Source: State Administration of Industry and Commerce Annual Statistics

EXPORTS

- COUNTERFEITS FROM CHINA MAY ACCOUNT FOR 80% OF EXPORTS TO U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES
- COUNTERFEITS FROM CHINA SEIZED BY U.S. CUSTOMS IN 2003 VALUED AT \$62.4 MILLION
- SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN EXPORTS OF COUNTERFEITS FROM CHINA STARTING 2004 BACKED BY SHARP RISE IN 2004 MIDYEAR SEIZURE STATISTICS

Future Trends

- POLITICAL WILL
- WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AND TRIPS