

[Advanced search](#)

- Our websites:
- [Digital Manga](#)
- |
- [DMP Books](#)
- |
- [Junemanga](#)
- |
- [DokiDoki](#)
- |
- [eManga](#)
- |
- [Pop Japan Travel](#)

- [Board index](#) < [Digital Manga Guild](#) < [The Guild Guide](#)
- [Change font size](#)
- [Print view](#)

- [FAQ](#)
- [Register](#)
- [Login](#)

[Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

[Post a reply](#)

25 posts • [Page 1 of 3](#) • [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

[Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Russesa](#) » Sat Mar 03, 2012 12:09 am

The thing I've been dreading has happened, and I got assigned to a couple of titles with scanlations floating around. I'm kind of a non-confrontational person, and I'm betting a lot of other internet folks are too. Does anyone want to write up a primer or offer some tips on writing polite take-down requests? Advice on dealing with the different players (scanlation groups, file hosts, blog hosts, and *gulp* manga aggregators) would be appreciated as well.

I reviewed the DMG webcast from [12-16-2011: Protect Your Work!](#) The discussion lasts from about 13:30 to 18:00, and is mostly very general instructions. Heavily paraphrased:

Ben from then (lol 😊) says to approach uploaders as fellow fans. "Hey, we all love this mangaka, so let's see that they get some compensation for their work." Give out links to the legit release. Really publicize the heck out of the releases.*

Guild members can't send formal Cease and Desist letters because we don't have the legal authority/rights to the titles. If infringement persists, contact DMG and they'll do what they can.

*What if we're contacting people about books that DMG hasn't released yet? Should we wait until the legit version is available?

Group: Sinister Hands ([Twitter](#), [Blog](#))

Group is complete!

[How to edit posts in the DMG forum](#)

[DMG member accounts on Twitter](#)

[Russesa](#)

Posts: 22

Joined: Mon Jan 31, 2011 8:31 pm

Location: NorCal

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣by [payang](#) » Sat Mar 03, 2012 9:22 am

From what I know, scanlation groups will be very cooperative toward requests to remove files and/or stop distribution of their licensed materials. They're generally very supportive of the manga-ka and will even advertise for you.

It's the other communities/forums/blogs/etc that also hosts the files that's going to be a little harder to deal with. I would assume most would also be willing, but there are those who won't give two cents unless you're the legal rights holder. In which case, I'm not too sure how to go about that.

You could always just be like...

Hello,

I'm -your name-, a DMG localizer. I would like to ask that you cease distribution of -title here with author-, as the title will soon be released by the DMG. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Your Name

I don't think it has to be very long, just make sure you're kind of nice about it cause I know some people tend to get very defensive when they aren't asked nicely.

"Jump start my heart and wake the sleeper inside" -Ignition (by TobyMac)



[payang](#)

Posts: 33

Joined: Fri Sep 17, 2010 10:52 am

Location: USA

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [hanged_man](#) » Sat Mar 03, 2012 2:16 pm

Ben and Payang are right, the best way to go about it is nicely. If you ask for cooperation, you're likely to get it. Dealing with scanlation groups or individuals is always easier, but with file hosting/sharing sites there's also usually a way to report if something/someone is sharing copyrighted material. It's better to contact that person, though, so they don't just turn around and upload it again or somewhere else. If someone is aggressive or noncompliant in response, especially if it's a prolific problem, that's when it's time to contact someone in DMG. We are at a disadvantage as localizers because we aren't the rights holders, and this is an issue on sites like Youtube that won't acknowledge copyright claims from anyone other than the rights holder. In that case, you should go directly to Ben.

There's also not a reason to wait until the title is released. Just contacting someone to say it's been licensed is usually enough, and in that case you should be able to ask them to take care of it by a projected release date. When it does come out, consider sending them links to outlets it's available for purchase (lots of scanlation groups like the rep of going legal when it's an option).

wer keine fremdsprache kennt, weiß nichts von seiner eigenen. [goethe]



[hanged_man](#)

Posts: 11

Joined: Sun Oct 02, 2011 1:08 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sun Mar 04, 2012 8:26 am

Actually, as a member of the Guild, I have sent file sharing sites, blog hosts, etc as DMG has asked us to help combat the piracy by sending C and D's, that means they HAVE given us permission to request on their behalf.

The result was not only did filesharing sites take down where fans had uploaded files they had DL elsewhere, but Google removed search results to aggregators and such so that search results show only the legal listings. And yes, it is best to ask scanlators and bloggers and the like to take down the links and files themselves politely and informally first. But don't be afraid to go further if you get ignored by anyone you contact. DMG asked us to send C and d req, and the polite thing Ben suggested is fine for an informal req but is in no way legally inforceable using that language, but since they have given permission AND requested we actually send a C and Ds for our titles, you can do so to the blog host, filesharing site, server host, etc. If a formal DMCA

gets ignored or challenged by these, then ultimately DMP who has to decide how to take it further since the issued DMCA was on their behalf, and you'll have to let them know so they can decide what to do. And that's the crux of it. YOU are not the rights holder but you ARE the production partner DMP have given permission to send down take down requests/notices on their behalf for the titles you work on. And DMCA allows for that as an option. Anyways, good luck with the take down requests. Chasing down the files and getting them removed is time consuming, which is why DMP asked us to help out and do it as we find them (they are a small company after all and this sort of thing can take many many man hours) but it is possible to get results. Note I give DMI's info as well as mine..that is because if they choose to, they may contact DMI to verify they wish to have the files removed and are the rights holders and that you are who you say you are (the DMG person contracted for that title). The DMCA may have been filed by me, but it is DMI who is the claimant...I merely did it on their behalf after they they asked us to send out C and D's for our titles to help combat piracy. Basically...the form states DMI did not allow this distribution, want it down, and told us it was ok to ask for it removed on their behalf and that DMI is the rights holder who is defending their rights. Nothing scary. And sorry for the waffle.

Sample of one I sent to a certain file sharing site:

Identify yourself as either: a) The owner of a copyrighted work(s), or b) A person authorized to act on behalf of the owner of an exclusive right that is allegedly infringed. Include a physical or electronic signature: I am Kimiko Kotani (note I use my working name as that is what I am known by and work under, and which appears in the DMG edition), the contracted production partner for Hana no Mizo Shiru (English title: Only the Flower Knows) with Digital Manga Guild, an imprint of Digital Manga Inc

2. Identification of the material that is claimed to be infringing or to be the subject of infringing activity and that is to be removed or access to which is to be disabled, and information reasonably sufficient to permit the service provider to locate the material. Please provide us with at minimum a URL to each work that is claimed to be infringing: Hana no Mizo Shiru has been licensed by Digital Manga Guild and is for sale under the English language title Only the Flower Knows. You may view the legal editions here:(link here to Emanga.com edition, Amazon ed. and B and N ed.)

The infringing material is located at : [http://www.4shared.com/zip/Y5zsu0e7/han ... hap_7.html](http://www.4shared.com/zip/Y5zsu0e7/han...hap_7.html)
[http://www.4shared.com/zip/L_bMmaT9/Onl ... ana_no.htm](http://www.4shared.com/zip/L_bMmaT9/Onl...ana_no.htm) [http://www.4shared.com/zip/ZoHxayP6/Onl ... ana_no.htm](http://www.4shared.com/zip/ZoHxayP6/Onl...ana_no.htm) [http://www.4shared.com/zip/J9m_8sJP/Onl ... ana_no.htm](http://www.4shared.com/zip/J9m_8sJP/Onl...ana_no.htm)

(links left in so you can see they were indeed removed after the site received this)

3.Information reasonably sufficient to permit the service provider to contact the complaining party, such as an address, telephone number, and, if available, an electronic mail address at which the complaining party may be contacted:

You may contact me at (my email addy for Kimiko Kotani) or DMI directly at

Digital Manga Inc

1487 West 178th Street, Suite 300

Gardena, CA 90248

(tel): 310.817.8010

(tel): 866.680.1589

(fax): 310.817.8018

4.Statement that the complaining party has a good faith belief that use of the material in the manner complained of is not authorized by the copyright owner, its agent, or the law: I do so state. This material is under English language license to Digital Manga Inc. under the Digital Manga Guild imprint. Only DMI and it's retail partners are permitted to distribute this property. This is an unauthorized distribution by members of the fan community and we request its removal.

5. A statement that the information in the notification is accurate and, under penalty of perjury, that the complaining party is authorized to act on behalf of the owner of an exclusive right that is allegedly infringed: As one of the legally contracted production partners working for the Digital Manga Guild on this title, I hereby state all information contained herein is accurate.

Signed,

(name here)

(group name)

Digital Manga Guild, an imprint of DMI

(date)

(and in case you're wondering, the wording is one the DMCA puts out..you use it just like that as its the req. formula)

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sun Mar 04, 2012 8:43 am

And payang is right...even after release, if its a scan group or other fan, ask politely first. MOST reacted positively when asked nicely, and as astounding as it may seem to some, not all were aware the title was out and that it had a region free format available via Emanga. I got several responses where they took the files down and emailed or msged me back letting me know they'd just went and bought it (one thing digi is fab for...instant gratification!). Being nice helps fans connect positively, and so they should be given that opportunity. Some don't care or just want a freebie, or are underage and can't buy, and those are the ones that tend to ignore you. But after asking nicely, it's not like they didn't know they were not supposed to be sharing and that further action was likely.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

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[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣by [TropicanaTina](#) » Sun Mar 04, 2012 7:48 pm

I feel kind of torn about the experience of hunting down scanlations. For one, it just takes way too much work and time, which is only compounded on the time and work spent actually localizing the book, and it remains to be seen if the compensation will be worth putting even more hours into each book. And once it's out there, I feel like it'll basically ALWAYS be out there. It's just a losing battle. I have spent a bit of time dealing with scanlations, though. One title I worked on has been scanlated in full for years, another had only the first couple chapters scanlated and then apparently abandoned. I haven't even bothered with the latter, but I did contact several sites over the former, with mixed results. I find that going straight to the scanlators with a friendly message is easy, but among the countless aggregators, some just flat-out ignored my email and others claimed to cooperate but, upon further inspection, they only removed the main listing of links and the files could still be found by going to them directly, an easy task with a simple Google search.

Editor of Koi-Koi

http://twitter.com/#!/DMG_KoiKoi

[TropicanaTina](#)

Posts: 17

Joined: Tue May 31, 2011 10:30 am

Location: USA

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣by [Shroud](#) » Mon Mar 05, 2012 2:13 am

It does take alot of time, but I can tell you it pays off. My sales rankings have climbed a few spots each, which means people gave in and bought, when previously they nosedived after scan teams released the remainder of the manga after a years long hiatus from working on it. Literally sitting and watching the file sharing sites for uploads as they occur and getting them removed immediately led to fewer people uploading, and indeed, many telling requesters "it's licensed and out, so buy it". THAT shift in attitude towards sharing a licensed title is worth every penny IMO, and bound to have long term effects. Aggregators are a real nuisance, yes. Removing their Google results from images and search though means that when people search, reviews and legal listings come up, which benefits us. Is it worth it? Seeing as we continue to get royalties on a title for its lifetime of years, yes, I think it does.

Group: Kawaii Neko
Group status: it's always been complete
Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253
Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am
Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣by [Shroud](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 2:47 am

I just exchanged emails with Dangerous Pleasure, and received a complaint from them that DMG members have been emailing them and being extremely rude. I have no idea what's been sent to them and they failed to elaborate, but I do ask that my fellow DMGers remember that they represent the DMG and its members, and any rudeness makes all look less than well. As they felt free to share the entirety of my email to Aarinfantasy regarding my takedown request, I'm going to quote directly as well in reciprocation so that their feelings on how they see themselves as being treated are seen as they wish all DMG members to stop the behaviour:

From: Dangerous Pleasure (dp_scanlations@y....)

Sent: 10 March 2012 02:43:26

To: kimikokotani@l...)

Thank you for contacting us with regards to your new license, however these emails are unnessessary as DP Scanlations's licensing policy is that once a project is officially licensed the files will be removed before the release post of the week following the announcement.

Also, I would like to take this time to note that I do not appreciate the aggressiveness that is in every email that comes from DMG. We have been in contact with multiple publishers regarding licenses, including your parent group DMP, and not a single one treats us with the disrespect and unprofessionalism that DMG does.

I realize that DMG is fighting an uphill battle, but I also know that DMP reached out to scanlators in order to create DMG. To blame DMG's shortcomings on scanlators when the very people who help make up DMG come from that background is very disconcerting, as it reflection poorly not only on DMG, but also on us as yaoi readers.

Please feel free to continue sending us licensing announcements, however if the announcement hasn't been made publically yet these emails will be posted as citation.

Scry

Now I do see that they are refusing to cease distribution of licensed titles UNTIL DMP make an announcement with an actual release date, and I am all to aware that they broke their own rule when it came to Aiso tsukashi and did a mass release a month after it was for sale. they did however go to Aarinfantasy and

second my request (already granted) that Takaga Koi daro be noted as licensed and the files to stop being shared there, so they met me halfway. They have NOT noted it nor other titles listed as in production as licensed nor have they disabled the files on their own filesharing locker site. How much of this is due to their policy and how they wish to implement in regards to DMG or because they feel slighted and /or threatned by wording in emails from DMGers, I have no idea. I don't even know what the wording on those emails actually were to make any personal judgement on what was said. I'm just passing their request along for people to please be polite when sending emails to people regarding file shares.

If they refuse, I think it best to not argue, as it is pointless and just makes us look rude and unprofessional, and simply deal then directly with the actual file hosts. They tend to get the material removed within hours. Anyways, I've passed their message to DMG members along, and said my piece.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

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[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣by [HiroPon](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 11:34 am

Thanks for sharing this information, Shroud. As you have mentioned, this is a delicate situation and it really depends on a case-by-case scenario. Some sites are really good about taking down content in accordance to the publication schedule but others are not as cooperative. I believe it's best to first send a respectful request e-mail before sending out an upfront & abrupt warning demanding them to take immediate action.

☆HiroPon☆

[HiroPon](#)

Posts: 32

Joined: Fri Dec 02, 2011 10:57 am

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣by [Shroud](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 12:35 pm

Thanks, Hiropon. The scanlator in question emailed me again, and it seems the "aggression" is the act of asking them to remove the scans and inferring or stating they are repsonsible for the files being shared...

They also state it is DMP's fault they continue to do share, as DMP has not issued an official licensing announcing for all teh titles DMG is going to be doing, and that as they are doing illegal activity anyway, adhering to legal request is of no interest to them other than they will take after official release, though again, this IS the group that scanlated Aiso tsukasi (Tired of waiting for Love) a full month AFTER release (and knowing about it by their own public posting announcing their release). So, until and/or unless DMP makes formal license announcements of DMG titles, or they see live release, they will not co-operate. That means if you want the files down before then, you'll have to ask the filesharing site it is on by reporting the file.

Aarinfantasy, however, if asked nicely, when a group received their schedule A and publicly announces they have begun work on a title, WILL mark it as licensed and remove dl links from the Aarinfantasy listing. They did so for me when I asked yesterday.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Next](#) Display posts from previous: Sort by

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25 posts • [Page 1 of 3](#) • [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

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- [Digital Manga](#)
- |
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- |
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- |
- [DokiDoki](#)
- |
- [eManga](#)
- |
- [Pop Japan Travel](#)

- [Board index](#) < [Digital Manga Guild](#) < [The Guild Guide](#)
- [Change font size](#)
- [Print view](#)

- [FAQ](#)
- [Register](#)
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[Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

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| | |
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| <input type="text" value="Search this topic..."/> | <input type="button" value="Search"/> |
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25 posts • [Page 2 of 3](#) • [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Scryren](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 1:50 pm

That's not even close to what I said, and neither is what you claimed I said in your previous post. Please stop putting words in my mouth.

This is the exact reply I send you:

The very email in the beginning of this conversation is the aggressiveness I am describing. It is completely unnecessary to accuse any scanlation group of a business's shortcomings while informing them of a license and you have done so in detail twice now.

With regards for Takaga being licensed months ago, the informality of how DMG announces their licenses is the exact reason groups continue to work on DMG projects. The twitter post you mention is from August 2011, seven months ago, and is not a licensing announcement but a response to the question of whether or not DMG is "planning on releasing" two different titles. The twitter post does not state that DMG has acquired the licensing rights to either of these, only that DMG is in the process of acquiring the rights.

Working to acquire the rights is not a finalized deal and DMG, or any other publisher, cannot expect scanlators to drop every project that a publisher is looking into. Not only do most publishers keep that information internal, but the NA publisher might not necessarily get the license.

With regards to giving us time to remove licenses as a courtesy to comply with NA laws, you are forgetting that the very nature of scanlations is illegal. If complying with IP laws was on our list of priorities we wouldn't be scanlating. I'm assuming you are one of the DMG members that hasn't worked in a scanlation group before you joined DMG or you would know that there is no reason to contact the major groups about removing licensed files because it is part of all major group's policies to remove licensed projects and we feel very strongly about that. Once a manga is licensed, our job is done--the scanlation is no longer needed.

However, I am not the internet police; it is not my responsibility to enforce a publisher's intellectual property rights, nor do I have the legal rights to. If DMG chooses to license a title that has been completely scanlated for over 500 days, and wants to spend their resources combing through every LJ, forum and blog that doesn't adhere to removing licensed projects, that is DMG's choice. DMG will not get sympathy from me over low sales because they are choosing to do digital releases of manga that have been scanlated for years, and I know others feel the same way.

To reiterate, do not accuse us of your company's shortcomings. Not only is it unprofessional, but is unnecessary for your reason of contacting us. You are writing us to let us know about a licensing announcement that we missed, please keep it to that.

[End of email]

I can't believe I have to come into DMP's official forums to defend myself against one of their employees.



[Scryren](#)

Posts: 6

Joined: Sat Mar 10, 2012 1:45 pm

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 4:02 pm

My first post quotes your entire email. if anyone wants to see it, I'll be happy to fwd the entire thing. As for the second post I made... You state that the opening of my email is the very aggressiveness you are complaining of that you get from DMGers as a whole, which was a telling you who I was, asking you to stop distribution as it's now under production, etc. You also state DMG's lack of formal announcements is why you feel you can scanlate titles as you believe they might only be under negotiations and not firm, despite informal tweets and the like that they are. You also state that contacting you ourselves will be only taken as a citation, and not fact, as DMP have not made formal announcements. You also state that once a title is licensed and released, your job is done, and you stop sharing, yet... YOU DID NOT for Aiso tsukashi, which you do not

dispute. I hope you can see why folks take a personal issue , as those two things contradict each other. You previously stated one action, then did another, yet still claim to stick to the 1st. You also do not dispute that what you are doing is completely illegal.

I do thank you for being willing to share your email to me to provide clarification to everyone, as I'm sure it helped clear up your group's stance. I was loathe to do so as past the part where you have a message that pertains to actions of DMGers as a group, I did not feel comfortable sharing a personal communication without permission. If I have misunderstood anything, I do apologize.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Scryren](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 7:24 pm

You keep leaving out the part where you accused us of directly causing Aiso's sales to drop and the emotional distress it personally caused you and your paycheck, both which had no purpose in a C&D notice no matter how informal it is.

When you send out C&D's on behalf of a company, you are representing them and your behavior in both the emails to my group and the posts in this thread reflects horribly on DMG's reputation.

It's come to my attention through the feedback we have received on our site that this is how you treat everyone you C&D and furthers my belief that I made the right choice in choosing to no longer announce DMG's licenses on our site.

Your infatuation with the time it took us to learn about Aiso's license has completely blinded you from how we've handled licenses in the previous six years and how we handled Yume's licensing just this last week.

You also seem to have a problem with groups checking our facts before we react to licensing news. I believe doing our homework is fully justified. As an example, Anime News Network is a very reputable source but they reported the wrong manga because they got their information from a con blogger who posted the wrong cover image. To this day AarinFantasy still list Zenbu Ore no Mono as licensed by Kitty Media. Zenbu Ore no Mono doesn't even translate to I Want to Be Naughty.

This is why it is extremely valuable to us and other scanlation groups that publisher put out a press release for the licenses they've acquired--there is nothing more solidifying than seeing the cover and the title on the NA

publisher's news page.

Despite what you may think Shroud, we take licenses very seriously. Do not mistake our unwillingness to drop a title without a press release as malice, especially when this very forum announced Kimi de Oboreta Ato before it was finalized, and in the end, DMP never got the license.



[Scryren](#)

Posts: 6

Joined: Sat Mar 10, 2012 1:45 pm

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Scryren](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 8:00 pm

Very cute, Shroud. You do know that pretending to be the copyright owner of every single one of our releases hosted on Mediafire is purgery right?



[Scryren](#)

Posts: 6

Joined: Sat Mar 10, 2012 1:45 pm

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Russesa](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 11:18 pm

...I see this thread has both served its purpose and failed at it, as this was the kind of animosity I was hoping to learn how to avoid. I ask that the two of you settle your specific complaints elsewhere, if the discussion must be continued at all. I expect any further conversation in *this* thread to be civil, leading in the direction of a compromise. Directed barbs and jabs are *not* welcome.

I think we can all agree that treating one another with respect and dignity should be the standard.

Group: Sinister Hands ([Twitter](#), [Blog](#))

Group is complete!

[How to edit posts in the DMG forum](#)

[DMG member accounts on Twitter](#)

[Russesa](#)

Posts: 22

Joined: Mon Jan 31, 2011 8:31 pm

Location: NorCal

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 11:29 pm

I never pretended that. The key legal statement is " that the complaining party is authorized to act on behalf of the owner of an exclusive right that is allegedly infringed. " DMP gave us the right to request the take downs.

As for how long it took you to learn of the license..that does not alter the fact that you still relased it knowingly AFTER license and release. As for referencing the fact it affects sales and sales provide the livelihood of those in the publishing business, it does have relevance. This fact has been repeated again and again and again in articles to do with scanlations of licensed titles ad nauseum. It's not just MY paycheck..it's EVERYONE's, incl. the mangaka. The one whose work is being promoted. Asking someone to respect that is not unprofessional...it is fairly standard. Look at the front of nearly EVERY ebook produced by many small press these days, and you'll see the same plea "Please don't share..this is the livelihood of...". As for how I treat people, I have been polite. People with fingers caught in metaphorical cookie jars may not always like it when they get caught, or find their files are gone, but then, as you point out...the content is illegal and they do not work for, with, or represent the copyright owners in anyway.

And yes, Russea is right. The animosity is palpable. Checking my email, I kina see why she is so angry. I complained to MF about DMG stuff. mediafire however has seemingly looked at the DP acct and suspended the entire thing for illegal content that had nothing to do with my takedown request. That issue is between DP and Mediafire. I'm talking about it.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

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[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 11:31 pm

I hate not being able to edit posts. last sentence should read "I'm DONE talking about it."

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

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[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Scryren](#) » Sat Mar 10, 2012 11:46 pm

Takaga was removed from our Mediafire account almost ten hours ago. What exactly did you file a DMCA notice on? DMP does not have the legal authority over any of the 170 series in our Mediafire account and therefore cannot give you permission to file a DMCA on their behalf. Just because you work for one publishing company does not give you carte blanche to represent all of them.

As you were the one who filed the DMCA notice, I suggest you do the right thing and take responsibility for your actions.



[Scryren](#)

Posts: 6

Joined: Sat Mar 10, 2012 1:45 pm

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sun Mar 11, 2012 12:07 am

I filed for Takaga...not just the file I'd listed that had been in your acct, but files of it uploaded by others. I have NO idea why they lumped your other removals with my request, but as they did, I am enquiring with them about it. if they did so after seeing the other copyrighted material present in your folder, they need to give the proper reason and not attach it to my complaint.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

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[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sun Mar 11, 2012 12:22 am

Actaually, since MF emailed me about each title as if they were part of my complaint, I have sent them an email enquiring why the titles were added to my complaint as they were not listed in my takedown request. I have asked them to contact you to explain why they did so, as looking at my complaint will clearly show those were NOT in it. I also asked that they correct their files as to why they removed them, as I was NOT the complainant.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

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[PreviousNext](#) Display posts from previous: Sort by

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25 posts • [Page 2 of 3](#) • [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

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| |
|---|
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- [Board index](#) < [Digital Manga Guild](#) < [The Guild Guide](#)
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29 posts • [Page 3 of 3](#) • [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Scryren](#) » Sun Mar 11, 2012 12:31 am

Thank you, I really do appreciate you looking into this.

I don't have access to the email address that our Mediafire account was registered under. The staff member that created it is on extended hiatus so the only information available to me is the public DMCA violation window that tells me it was submitted by DMG over the phone.

I had switched the account's email address over to one of mine in hopes of getting of the one take down emails, but I haven't yet. I'll keep an eye out for any emails regarding your request to them and keep you updated.



[Scryren](#)

Posts: 6

Joined: Sat Mar 10, 2012 1:45 pm

- [Website](#)

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣ by [TropicanaTina](#) » Sun Mar 11, 2012 12:58 am

Well, I can back up Shroud in that Dangerous Pleasure did not remove Love and Trap/Koi to Wana when it was licensed and assigned nor even when it was released. It wasn't removed until after release, not until I personally sent an email to them. I had no difficulty with that, though. I don't know if my message was interpreted as aggressive, but, if I remember correctly, I believe the message I sent was largely a copy-and-paste of a statement that Digital Manga themselves suggested that we use.

Another thing that's mistaken, and this is rather tangential, is this whole idea that the Guild is nothing but a collection of scanlators. I'm not saying anything bad about scanlators, but this idea, which I've seen stated on many sites, is a little irksome because I feel it diminishes the legitimacy and professionalism of the Guild. These are not localizations produced by scanlators or fans (that is, they shouldn't be called "fan localizations" more so than, say, any Digital Manga in-house production deserves to be called, even though Digital Manga employees are certainly fans of manga too). These are official, professional localizations and should be recognized as such. There are many people in the Guild who have never been involved in scanlation. There are DMGers who have done professional freelance work in these fields before joining the Guild. And even if one built their skills via scanlation, once they're under contract with Digital Manga, they deserve to now be recognized as professional localizers.

Editor of Koi-Koi

http://twitter.com/#!/DMG_KoiKoi

[TropicanaTina](#)

Posts: 17

Joined: Tue May 31, 2011 10:30 am

Location: USA

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

▣ by [Scryren](#) » Sun Mar 11, 2012 1:42 am

Hi Koi Koi, as I stated in my reply to you last November, I didn't recognize Koi to Wana as one of our releases, or I would've pulled when I saw it was available on DMI's blog. I still don't remember this project, but

it was released in it's entirety during a Christmas batch so I'm not surprised it doesn't stand out to me. Emailing us about it being released is completely acceptable and it was appreciated.

But this has happened twice now with DMG and it only proves my point that you guys needs to do a better job at announcing your licenses. While I may have not recognized it as one of our projects, I have a 60 member team behind me and no one said anything about Koi to Wana.



[Scryren](#)

Posts: 6

Joined: Sat Mar 10, 2012 1:45 pm

- [Website](#)

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[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [TropicanaTina](#) » Sun Mar 11, 2012 2:08 am

I think the localizers themselves are doing about as well as they can in that regard, what with announcements on Twitter, Facebook, blogs, etc., but, yeah, I think we'd all like to see Digital Manga doing a bit more, which hopefully will occur soon since everything is an ongoing, evolving process at this point. I definitely think the romanized titles should be included with the translated titles since so often fans stick with the romanized titles for identification. If someone was to do a Google search for "Koi to Wana", they wouldn't even get a shopping link to eManga, Amazon, or Barnes & Noble as a result. At the most, in relation to the official release, they'd might come across Koi-Koi's Twitter and a link to the topic on here in which our bundle was announced. Speaking of that topic, that isn't even updated these days, so outside of various group pages, there isn't any way of knowing about upcoming DMG titles. In the early days of DMG releases, when it was a slow trickle, Digital Manga announced the release of each title on the main page, but that too has stopped (understandably so with the flood of titles), and I'm not sure if the "digital round-up" updates are mentioning every single release. That's a tricky matter itself, though, since there's no consistency in the platform releases. Sometimes eManga was first, sometimes Kindle or Nook, and there can be huge gaps too (it's been well over a month since the Kindle/Nook release and Koi-Koi's Welcome to SMC still hasn't appeared on eManga).

If you're interested, Digital Manga's Guild video conference this Friday is an overview of how the Guild has been going and a discussion of where it's going in the future. It's open to the public, so you could weigh in on how Guild members have been representing the company with their C&D messages, if you'd like.

Editor of Koi-Koi

http://twitter.com/#!/DMG_KoiKoi

[TropicanaTina](#)

Posts: 17

Joined: Tue May 31, 2011 10:30 am

Location: USA

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Shroud](#) » Sun Mar 11, 2012 4:14 am

If I get a direct reply with any information, I'll be sure to fwd it on to you. It is quite out of order for media Fire to misrepresent file suspension reasons. File owners definitely deserve to know the exact nature of who/what/when/why. And as I was not the complainant for those 100 odd titles, it was definitely remiss to send me emails with details of these files relating to your account.

Rest assured, I have never, and would never, ever act on behalf of a rights holder without permission. And I certainly did not intend to come across as aggressive. Email and short PMs and the like are not perfect communication instruments, be any means. And having to try to use unambiguous language for legal clarity often makes one come across as terse. That is far from the intention. As heated as this has gotten in parts, I do think it's been helpful to both sides to have this open and honest dialogue. Hopefully this will enable both sides to come to some sort of mutual agreeable arrangement.

Group: Kawaii Neko

Group status: it's always been complete

Not taking applications



[Shroud](#)

Posts: 253

Joined: Wed Mar 17, 2010 10:03 am

Location: NW England

- [Website](#)

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[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [chirechan](#) » Mon Mar 12, 2012 6:34 am

Not to further hijack Russesa's thread, but this issue of C&D has picked up notice outside this forum.

I think it might be in DMP's best interest to print an official stance on this topic so that their rationalization might be heard. Right now, there are just comments in the forum and whatever was said during video conferences.

[chirechan](#)

Posts: 21

Joined: Sun Dec 05, 2010 7:44 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [hanged man](#) » Mon Mar 12, 2012 10:15 am

Ideally, SOP for the issue should be included in the localizer guidelines.
wer keine fremdsprache kennt, weiß nichts von seiner eigenen. [goethe]



[hanged man](#)

Posts: 12

Joined: Sun Oct 02, 2011 1:08 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [kozato](#) » Mon Mar 12, 2012 11:48 am

For clarification: I'm responsible for announcing each digital title on Facebook and Twitter as it appears on Nook/Kindle. Every DMG title is posted there, usually twice: once when it's released on an e-reader, and once when it's released on eManga.

Digital round up posts, which are posted every week on Friday, reflect all digitally released titles for that week. I've been working to incorporate Japanese titles into new licensing posts, and will be doing likewise for DMG release posts to prevent further confusion.

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dmi social networking & marketing bro



[kozato](#)

Posts: 13

Joined: Fri Dec 02, 2011 12:51 pm

[Top](#)

[Re: Dealing with scanlations of your titles](#)

by [Ben Applegate](#) » Mon Mar 12, 2012 12:11 pm

I'm glad to see everyone has calmed down. It is very difficult to detect the emotional tone of an e-mail or forum post, and it is always better to assume the best of intentions rather than rush to get offended. As a

reader, translator and editor of manga and as a writer, I have personal ethical objections to scanlations, but I do recognize that most scanlators mean well and are motivated by the same love for the medium as me. Many scanlators are professionals who scanlate in their off hours, just as many DMGers are not scanlators but professionals with day jobs in these fields. The two groups are not monolithic, and I hope that everyone will avoid making generalizations. It's wrong to think of all scanlators as nothing but common criminals. It's also wrong to suggest that one should prefer scanlations to buying DMG localizations (which, unlike scanlations, put money in manga artists' pockets and actually fund new manga).

This is obviously an issue we at DMP need to address in greater detail, so I will send out a notice about it in the DMG newsletter this Wednesday and spend some time on it at the BIG 2011 WRAP-UP WEBCAST this Friday. As someone else mentioned, everyone with any interest in DMG is welcome to join us on our livestream channel (<http://www.livestream.com/dmguild>) on this Friday at 3 p.m. PST for the webcast - that includes Scryen and anyone else concerned about this.

[Ben Applegate](#)

Posts: 40

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 9:34 am

[Top](#)

[Previous](#) Display posts from previous: Sort by

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29 posts • [Page 3 of 3](#) • [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)

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