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BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**



Partnering for Success

Canada's Approach to Combating Child Sexual Exploitation on the Internet

April 11, 2011

RDIMS 388214: Same as RDIMS # 405768 without video clips

The Problem



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- Proliferation of child sexual abuse images facilitated through the Internet
- The Internet is always accessible to offenders who want to view or distribute this materials
- Child Sexual Abuse Images: Increasingly younger children and many images depicting extreme sexual assaults against very young children
- Link between viewing/collecting images online and hands-on offending



Spread of Images



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- Broad approach to defining “child pornography”
- Other prohibitions against:
 - the use of the Internet to communicate with a child for the purpose of luring or facilitating the commission of a sexual or abduction offence against that child; and,
 - all forms of sexual contact/touching as well as any invitation to engage in sexual touching whether committed in Canada or committed by Canadians or Canadian residents abroad;
- Internet Service Providers required to report to a designated agency any tips they receive regarding websites where child pornography may be available and to safeguard evidence if they believe such an offence has been committed using an Internet service that they provide.



- National Strategy for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation on the Internet launched in 2004, renewed in 2009
 - Increasing law enforcement capacity to investigate and track down on-line predators
 - Enhancing public education and awareness
 - Supporting further research on child sexual exploitation
- Partners:
 - Public Safety Canada,
 - The Canadian Centre for Child Protection (Cybertip.ca)
 - RCMP National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre
 - Justice Canada



- National Child Exploitation Coordination Center
 - International contact point for cases involving child sexual exploitation
 - Supports law enforcement agencies across Canada:
 - coordination of investigative files
 - provides expertise in victim identification techniques
 - manages multi-jurisdictional cases
 - conducts operationally relevant research
 - offers training specific to online child sexual exploitation investigations
 - manages and provides training for the Child Exploitation Tracking System (CETS)



- The Canadian Centre for Child Protection:
 - Cybertip.ca: Tipline to report suspected cases of child sexual exploitation on the Internet
 - Awareness/Prevention Campaigns
 - Partnerships with Private Sector: Cleanfeed, CCAICE

Why It Works



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- Allows law enforcement agencies to focus on investigations while Cybertip.ca triages complaints (better use of law enforcement resources).
- Allows for public awareness activities and tools to compliment and support law enforcement efforts.
- Positioned to facilitate discussions and solutions with the private sector in a different way than law enforcement agencies (e.g., CCAICE).





Project Salvo

- Largest ever co-ordinated investigation into Internet-facilitated child sexual abuse in the country, with arrests from coast to coast.
- More than 50 individuals have been arrested and face charges that include: sexual assault, sexual interference and possessing, making and distributing child pornography.





- **Prioritizing Targets**
 - The presence of incest materials, grooming materials, child sexual abuse images, and videos.
 - Evaluation of the offenders' online activities and historical download patterns
- **Assumption: Presence of these factors increases the likelihood of identifying a child at risk**



- Media Strategy: Focus on rescuing children in potential sexually abusive environments (not on the number of computers trading images)
- National media attention, with focus on local communities
- Key Partners
 - Police agencies across Canada
 - Canadian Centre for Child Protection
 - Federal Victim's Ombudsman
- Maintained Media Coverage for seven days

Project Salvo: Successful Outcome



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- Law enforcement officials from Canada provided tools and training to Australia's Queensland State Police
 - High risk targets identified
 - Search warrant executed
 - Four child rescued

Partnering Abroad



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- Lasting partnerships and networks
- Value back to municipal/provincial police organizations – bringing back knowledge.
- Value to federal police force – could not have had this level of impact alone.
- Highlighted links between private-public partnership (Cybertip.ca – Teatree Tells)
- Increased awareness in communities across the country (and around the world).

Looking Forward



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- Need to prioritize resources: focus on investigations which may involve contact offences (i.e., focus on rescuing children)
- Continued focus on developing private-public partnerships
- Continued need to keep up with changing technology and capacity for technological support service.

