

## **Autodata halts another rogue seller**

Europe's leading technical data supplier, Autodata, has struck again in its campaign to reduce cases of Intellectual Property (IP) crime.

The Maidenhead-based company reached an out-of-court settlement with a pirate seller of its highly technical products, which are painstakingly updated to make sure workshop repairs are safe and exactly as manufacturers specify.

Autodata was alerted to the activities of an unauthorised supplier by one of its customers in the London area. It responded by instigating a covert enquiry by its IP team, which carried out test purchases of the software being sold illegally.

A spokesperson for Autodata said: "This result followed several reports we received from customers concerned about the approaches they are receiving from counterfeit software sellers. We continue to work closely with Trading Standards to highlight the issues and concerns that good garages have with this activity.

Anybody considering making counterfeit copies of our software, and particularly those who then attempt to sell these out-of-date examples, should be aware of the danger this poses to the public and that the heavy hand of the law is on the side of the IP rights holder."

In this case, the vendor had moved to another part of the country in an attempt to escape prosecution, but evidence was gathered and his operation traced to a new residence. When approached with the evidence against him, he was confronted with settling against damages or facing court action.

Autodata continues to act on all reports it receives as well as carrying out its own investigations, and now operates an email address [iprights@autodata.ltd.uk](mailto:iprights@autodata.ltd.uk) and phone number, 01628 688222, where any concerns or reports can be made anonymously to Autodata.