

Press Release
For Immediate Release
June 24, 2005

Embroidery Software Protection Coalition
“Randy Botts guilty of 1 count of copyright infringement”

Kansas City, MO- On January 27, 2005, Randy Botts had pled guilty to 1 count of copyright infringement. The Court found that Mr. Botts had copied, distributed and sold counterfeit embroidery designs and software owned by Great Notions. Great Notions is a leading member of the Embroidery Software Protection Coalition (ESPC) which is an organization created to educate and fight counterfeit and pirated embroidery designs and software.

Yesterday, the U.S. District Court sentenced Randy Andy Botts to imprisonment for the term of 12 months and 1 day. Upon release from confinement, Mr. Botts shall be on supervised release for a period of 3 years.

Gary Gardner, President of Great Notions said in a recent interview, “The ESPC has undertaken a major campaign in a fight for survival in a world that has counterfeiters and pirates at every turn. People have turned a blind eye to what is clearly pirated sales and copyright infringement of the ESPC members’ Embroidery Software and Designs. In order for us to overcome this enemy, we must all pull together and fight against the pirates. If consumers would not purchase the counterfeit designs then the pirates would disappear. The ESPC and its members are taking an active role to locate and prosecute any persons connected to the counterfeiting of embroidery designs and software.”

The Embroidery Software Protection Coalition is made up of 7 leading embroidery supply companies, including Cactus Punch, OESD, Bernina, VSM Group (branded Pfaff, Viking, White), Tacony (branded Amazing Designs, Baby Lock, Elna, Origins), Pulse Microsystems, and is led by Dallas corporation, Great Notions.

For more information relating to the ESPC, pirates or counterfeit designs and software contact the ESPC at www.embroideryprotection.org