Summary

Intellectual Property Rights and the Internet: Ways of Use and the Range of Protection of the Works

The main scope of this thesis is to analyze the ways how copyrighted works are used in the environment of the Internet and how the works are protected, with emphasis on identifying current problems. I also asses the most common ways of infringement of the intellectual property rights, all this under the Czech act on intellectual property, the EU jurisdiction and also some international treaties.

The thesis consists of seven chapters including the introduction and the summary. In the introduction I mention the variability of the world of computers and Internet in comparison to the conservative world of law and the rising importance of information in today's (information) society. I also state some of the main reasons why I am interested in this topic.

In the second chapter I present the respective sources of law. In the first part of the second chapter there is a brief general overview of the sources, and in the second, more voluminous part I assess the question of the governing law. Apparently, no clear answer to this question can be provided though.

In the third chapter I define some basic terms, in between others data, information and Internet and also the copyrighted work. In the fourth chapter I assess the ways in which the copyrighted works are presented on the Internet. I suppose the most interesting is part four of this chapter, where I discuss the topic of computer programmes.

The most comprehensive chapter follows, focusing on the specific ways of using the copyrighted works on the Internet – how they can be used and which exceptions can be applied. In the last part of chapter five I thoroughly assess two present-day and partly disputable problems – P2P networks type BitTorrent and the intellectual-property-rights aspects of running the Internet search engines.

In the summary I stress the most significant ways of infringement of the intellectual property rights and also underline some discrepancies between the Czech

and EU legislation. I also mention the fact that the given area of law is still under development – as it reflects the current happenings in the society.