

13th July, 2013

Dear Cybdyn,

RE: Cybdyn Systems - New Menu Cease and Desist

I write in respect to your email communication sent 12th July 2023. Firstly, I will assume this is Matthew Read who I am responding to. I will also assume that is the same individual who is responsible for the YouTube account, Cybdyn Systems. Upon looking up your details I will also assume, based on the entry for your "company status" on the ABN register (ABN 50 877 507 103 - <https://www.abr.business.gov.au>) that Matthew Read and Cybdyn Systems are one and the same.

I say "company status", I use that term loosely. I think we should be clear, the record states you are an "Individual/Sole Trader", and from here on in I will address you as such.

Also, in respect to clarity: I personally am not a customer of you - Matthew Read, stylized as "Cybdyn Systems". I have not entered into any agreements, written, financial or otherwise and as such am not bound by any terms set out by Cybdyn Systems.

Before we get into the details of your email - which I will confess I found highly amusing and to a degree, patronising - I wish to discuss the matter of which I find myself receiving said email.

The problem arises when the email address the communication was sent to is considered.

That address is private, and not published anywhere. In addition, it is also not an email address used to have previously communicated with yourself. Which begs the question, how was that email address obtained? It is not linked to the YouTube account in which you saw the video you refer to, nor posted publicly anywhere, as this Google search can attest: <https://www.google.com/search?>

When I consider where that email address has been used previously, maybe held in a database perhaps? And who may have access to said database? It becomes quite clear. I believe that you have obtained my personal details from a banned account held on <http://www.psxdev.net>.

Communication regarding the matter will be sent to the administrator of <http://www.psxdev.net/> which will need to be read, understood and replied to in the time frame outlined in said communication. That is a separate matter and will not be referred to from here on in.

Now that part is out of the way, let's get down to business. Let's not fuck about: you know who I am Matt, you banned me from [psxdev.net](http://www.psxdev.net) forums, think I get a cheeky mention on a post on there (fake news), we have had a conversation on discord in the past. Lets not hide behind the royal "we" fam, Cybdyn Systems = Matt.

First, a few details you may not really know or understand, but it turns out I didn't reverse engineer your product. In fact, I never bought your product, nor have I ever downloaded anything from your website. I bought a different product from yours, made by one of your competitors on AliExpress.

Funny thing - it turns out that the UART on the Atmel ARM on these devices is a little.. chatty shall we say? For someone like me, it really does help me understand how the device is controlled and it's pretty verbose - quite interesting!

In addition, I used a logic analyser hooked on the CD-ROM bus using the very simple breakout board that I have plenty of, and I started looking at the input and output of the device I bought from your rival. From here,

I managed to see the very simple protocol used by their device to communicate with the main CPU of the console. Since it's not obfuscated nor encrypted, it was child's play to understand.

Now, this specific method of reverse engineering is called Black Box Reverse Engineering, which, as it turns out, is legal here where I live in the UK! Isn't this amazing? For the sake of being completely clear, this is in contrast to White Box Reverse Engineering, which requires opening the software into a disassembler and looking at how it works from the inside. This absolutely isn't necessary here with how the device I got from AliExpress works.

I understand however that you're making it sound like your own device uses the same protocol as theirs, and as a result, the menu I made for those devices also would work on yours? If that's the case, please let me know, since I do not own one of your devices to test. I'd be delighted to hear that it's compatible!

When I said earlier I found your email patronising - lets clear that up. I quote

"As mentioned in the YouTube comment, if there is any problem with our genuine menu, we'd be happy to listen to your feedback and potentially work with you to improve on it in order to speed up the boot times so you as a consumer are completely satisfied with our product. In order to currently speed up the menu boot times however you need to disable all background music, wallpaper & alphabetical sorting. This is clearly explained in the Systems Manual. You can also use Quick Start when selecting a game in order to skip more data loading events in the menu."

Firstly, yes I am a consumer but to be clear, I am not a customer of yours so you should feel no need for me to be satisfied. Secondly, you are telling me to change some options in the menu to speed things up? Mate, I am basically playing Galaxian on the Ridge Racer intro whilst your product and software has just shown a game list. No menu option is going to fix that.

The software in the video which you commented on, which was also kinda cute and a bit patronising lol, if anything shows the product in a good light. If your device is compatible with this competing device, then this menu sounds like it's better than yours? Faster, with Memory Card Pro support, etc. Isn't it exciting?!

Speaking of your device, let us talk about that for a while shall we. Starting with the Cybdyn experience. Again, not a customer myself but I do see messages posted by you on forums, socials and also the odd cheeky screenshot from the Discord. You can be a totally salty shit you know. Haha fuck man I even remember when you were that cheeky little shit on AssemblerGames (sup Haunted!).

Sorry I digress.. back to my point.. you closed them all down. Bit gaslighty do you not think? Trying to erase shit from history? I mean you did History at school right? That shit doesn't end well historically. Again, being honest, you really don't have a fucking scoobies (clue) about how to engage with your customer base. Your customers are really pissed off at the fact that you can't even release a firmware since 2020. You ban people for complaining, you get pissy when people simply ask when they are going to receive their order. Mate, it's not like they aren't patient, some of these people have waited a long time, years even!

My point is, the way you conduct yourself publicly (bit of a twat at times), the way you are leading your existing customer base along, moving deadlines and delivering nothing other than some pissy narrative is the reason your business feels harmed.

Cybdyn having issues is down to nobody else but you, Matthew Read. A simple google search can find a myriad of posts and reasons why people shouldn't buy your product, and why they should buy a competing product. Perhaps you would do well to look at the way the creators of other such devices conduct themselves, you might learn something?

Maybe then, people wouldn't give a fuck about saving \$10 on going to AliExpress or whatever, because they would support you. Why anyone would support your device based on what can be witnessed publicly I have no idea.

Then, you have the fucking audacity to write *“Now, we don't mind if you use your custom menu for yourself and only yourself for your own personal use as your main argument is that you seem to not like the fact that the genuine menu is a little slow to boot up, but if you plan to release your work publicly we ask you to cease and desist effective immediately. If you ignore this cease and desist, legal action will be taken against you for compensation for damages which you will be liable for to our company as any of our devices we find running your software break copyright and intellectual property trademark law. If we find someone else has a copy of your source code, you will also be liable for damage”*

Firstly, you do not have any fucking intellectual property. You have no patents filed (I checked), no copyright entries filed (I checked). You do have a trademark for “Cybdyn Systems” (I checked), and that is all I can find in the Australian registers for Patents and Trademarks. Nothing in the video you refer to violates that trademark. And even if you did, this menu I made does not violate your copyright. It contains no portion of code written by you, and it was made without looking at code written by you. My legal counsel told me you don't have standing on the matter. Oh shit yeah, did I mention that? More on that at the end..

Another thing tickled me. It has been reported that your code actually uses the official PsyQ Development kit. I haven't actually confirmed this myself, as I have no desire or need to look at anything you have written to validate that.

I mean for fucks sake Matthew, you are emulating Sony proprietary hardware, the mechacon of the console, where the copy protection resides, effectively bypassing it and circumventing it, contrary to your outrageous claim on your website. Your psxdev.net website hosts Sony technical documents which are marked confidential as well as official software development kits. You also produce a commercial copy protection circumventing product for that same platform and you are talking to me about IP theft and legalities? You do see the comedy value in that right?

Anyway, again I am going off on a tangent, sorry. Just a bit frustrating.. I really have better shit to do than have to respond to dumb shit like this. Let's wrap this up..

I have no interest in your supposed “intellectual property”. In addition, I have no interest in what is contained in the ARM or the SPI flash, or in anything else you may have written or produced for that matter - which, again, I can't be sure about, since I didn't buy one of your products and haven't looked at one. My interest alone is learning about hardware, and improving something out there which has obvious flaws.

If this software happens to run on your hardware in a similar manner, it merely shows how some of the shortcomings in the menu for your device could be overcome using a different approach. Maybe the current slowing of sales performance and your obvious frustration would be better targeted at the actual root causes of the apparent harm to your business you complain about :

- 1.You, Matthew, yourself - and your customer service. You have one SKU.. you should be looking after it and its users rather than alienating them.
- 2.Chip shortage - I hear you brother
- 3.You have competition on the market, none of which experience issues a or b.

However, your product has one USP.. it retains the drive. Considering that, do you not think if you actually maintained your product and engaged with your customers people might be more forgiving of points b and c and see you as a viable option?

Anyway, I only have a few things left to say.

Firstly, I have sought legal advice before responding. And secondly, don't try to make me out to be a bad person. I am a person of principle and if anything I feel deep sorrow for your product and its owners given the lack of updates for such a long time. Not only that, the blatant false statement plastered across its packaging "Ultimate PlayStation Development Tool". Since it contains no development features whatsoever, I am surprised nobody sued you for false advertising yet.

It's fucking damn shame that you don't use the energy expended on attempting to silence your critics on developing your product further!

Anyway look, I'll be reasonable, and if you want to, I'll give you this code, entirely free. All you need to do is do right by your customers and give them the update you have dangled in their faces.

If you release a new firmware for your device within the next month, along with the features you have promised (I don't expect miracles), and with this menu as an option for your users, then I won't release it myself and keep it private!

Finally, I am not the only person out there working on a menu, I know of one other.. using psn00b sdk by all accounts. Fuck that's gotta sting man, you and lameguy are pretty tight right?

Like I said, I am reasonable. Month from now let's call it 14th August.. How does that sound?

Best Regards

danhans