

New Web Piracy Arrest as Site Founder Is Denied Bail

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THE HAGUE, Netherlands — An Estonian citizen was arrested by Dutch police at the request of American authorities investigating the file-sharing Web site Megaupload, a prosecutor's office spokeswoman said Wednesday.

Also Wednesday, a New Zealand judge denied Kim Dotcom, the Megaupload founder, bail following his arrest last week on American accusations of copyright infringement.

The prosecutor's office spokeswoman, Marieke van der Molen, declined to release the name of the latest man arrested in line with Dutch privacy rules, but a United States Justice Department official identified him as software programmer Andrus Nomm, 32, a citizen of Estonia and a resident of both Turkey and Estonia.

Ms. Van der Molen said the suspect was arrested last Friday and appeared on Monday before a judge, who ordered him detained for 60 days pending an American extradition request.

Judge David McNaughton in Auckland denied Mr. Dotcom bail pending a hearing Feb. 22 on his possible extradition to face trial in the United States, saying Mr. Dotcom poses a flight risk. Mr. Dotcom, 38, insisted he was innocent and posed no flight risk.

New Zealand police arrested three other Megaupload employees last week on American accusations that they facilitated millions of illegal downloads of films, music and other content, costing copyright holders at least \$500 million in lost revenue. Judge McNaughton was expected to make bail rulings on the three later this week or early next week.