

# Novalogic Attempt To Copyright F-22

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This is a mildly interesting Air Force property copyright issue.

A game company called Novalogic was apparently trying to obtain from Lockheed Martin and the US Air Force exclusive rights to the F-22 Raptor name, images and publicly released data. This would, in effect, give them sole rights to developing a flight/combat simulator for the aircraft. Lockheed Martin's lawyers sent a "cease and desist" letter to Imagic, another game company with an F-22 sim in development.

Apparently the issue has been resolved, with Lockheed Martin stating that they "they have no intention now or in the future to exclusively license names, likenesses, or other materials related to the F-22 Raptor or any of their other planes."

The Air Force's response is pretty interesting. Quoting from an article on the Imagic Website:

"The name F-22 Raptor, as it relates to the plane, we believe should be in the public domain -- along with images of it," Air Force spokesman Lt. Col. Napoleon Byars said in an interview. "We want the public to know about this nation's assets."

Soooooooo... I assume that this means that the term "assets" extends to facilities as well as aircraft and ordinance. That would mean that the word "Area 51" could never be copyrighted by any one company.

If wonder if the Air Force feels that "assets" currently in development are "in the public domain". :-)

The Imagic page documenting the case is at:

[HTTP://www.imagicgames.com/wwwboard.dir/wwwboard-f22-forum.html](http://www.imagicgames.com/wwwboard.dir/wwwboard-f22-forum.html)

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