

Kim Dotcom extradition

A New Zealand court has ruled that Kim Dotcom can be extradited to the U.S. to face multiple charges relating to movie and music piracy

Kim Dotcom, 2013



■ **Jan 21, 1974:** Kim Schmitz born in Germany

■ **1990s:** Rises to fame as self-proclaimed internet entrepreneur

■ **1994:** Given two-year suspended sentence in Germany for computer fraud and data espionage

■ **2001-03:** Invests €375,000 in **Letsbuyit.com**. Insider trading inflates share price, giving him €1.5m profit. Given 20-month suspended sentence for embezzlement

MEGAUPLOAD

■ **2005:** Changes name to **Dotcom** and founds file-sharing website **Megaupload.com** in Hong Kong. Soon 150 million subscribers use it to share movies and music

■ **Nov 2010:** Granted residency in New Zealand – rents \$30m mansion near Auckland

■ **Jan 2012:** U.S. shuts down Megaupload and charges Dotcom with copyright infringement and other crimes, claiming he has cost movie studios and record labels \$500m

■ New Zealand police raid his home at request of FBI, confiscating millions of dollars in cash and cars

■ **Mar 2014:** U.S. formally requests extradition of Dotcom

■ **Dec 23, 2015:** Auckland judge rules Dotcom can be sent to U.S. to face charges. Dotcom is appealing