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The Fake and the Fatal: The Consequences of Counterfeiting

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Oral Presentation O6.1

THE FAKE AND THE FATAL: THE CONSEQUENCES OF COUNTERFEITING

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Counterfeiting is a problem that extends far beyond pirated CDs and replica designer handbags. In actuality, counterfeiting is an ever-increasing phenomenon that costs the U.S. hundreds of billions of dollars each year, puts jobs and consumer safety at risk, and has links to global organized crime and terrorist organizations. Any product or idea can be counterfeited, including circuit breakers, prescription drugs, and even Harry Potter books. This presentation will examine counterfeiting from an economic, legal, and social perspective, and not only describe the negative impact of counterfeiting, but also suggest measures that can be taken to mitigate or eliminate these problems.