

Australian convicted in child sex sting using virtual girl

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A computer-generated 10-year-old Filipina called "Sweetie" was used to identify over 1,000 child sex predators around the world. An Australian man has become the first person convicted from the operation, the rights group behind it said

An Australian man caught in a global sting which used a virtual girl to trap child sex predators has become the first person convicted from the operation, the child rights group behind it said Wednesday.

Dutch charitable organisation Terre des Hommes said in November last year it had used a computer-generated Filipina girl—dubbed

"Sweetie"—in Internet chat rooms to ensnare paedophiles.

Over a 10-week period more than 20,000 predators from 71 countries approached the virtual 10-year-old asking for webcam [sex](#) performances and more than 1,000 paedophiles had been identified as a result, it said at the time.

The group has said that several offenders have since been arrested after the information was passed onto police, including in Australia, Poland and the United States.

The Australian is the first person to be convicted in the online sting, Terre des Hommes' Jakarta-based Leny Kling told AFP.

"And we hope that more will follow," she said.

Court officials said 38-year-old Scott Robert Hansen had been sentenced on three charges, including using a carriage service to transmit indecent communications to a person aged under 16, and possessing child exploitation material on Tuesday.

He was also charged with failing to comply with a [sex offenders](#) order.

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