

Real or Fake -- Don't let Counterfeiters Fool You!

Article:

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This article points out that there are a lot of **FAKE** Photography items on the market -- especially brand name items like *memory cards* and *batteries*, and even well known brands of *cameras* as well.

Companies like Sandisk, Canon, Nikon, etc. are fighting back with the assistance of U.S. Customs and eBay, and shutting down sellers on eBay as well as retailers; several hundred last year alone. Most of the products are made offshore, especially Shanghai.

Companies are putting special printing and inks etc, on their packages so retailers and Customs can distinguish the good from the bad. The customer can sometimes tell from small differences in the way the product is made, or appears, and especially with spelling or grammar mistakes on the packages or inserts! Otherwise at first, or a quick glance, they appear to be the genuine article.

Why is this Important ?? Two reasons: firstly some of the money from these items is made by groups who are associated with terrorists, so it is a way to fund their activities. Second, the products are often not what they state they are or faulty. Instead of a 3G card it may only be really 1G. Often they **FAIL** at any given time, many times shortly after use begins or worse, like some lithium rechargeable batteries, they can BURN UP, whether in a camera or charger and do irreparable damage to a camera or other equipment!

So make sure you purchase such items from a good dealer and be wary of fake items so as not to be disappointed or worse, if it ruins something: losing a camera is not worth the difference in cost.