

Information and Technology Manager

DILIGENCE. CHILD PORNOGRAPHY.

Details Katrine Juel Vidal-Blasco, a systems administrator for Charrieriana Coffee, a large corporation, when installing a new software package on the desktop used by an employee, María- Arántzazu Vang¹, got the message “There is insufficient space to proceed with this update”. Surprised² they fired off an email to Vang letting them know and asking for advice.

As it was out of hours and the installation was deemed urgent³ Vidal-Blasco did not wait for a reply⁴. Vidal-Blasco remotely accessed Vang’s virtual workspace to check that it was not simply a matter of emptying the trash and recovering the space.

What they discovered was a terabyte of space used by a directory called PICTURES. Of course the thumbnails that accompanied the directory made the contents visible: it would have been almost impossible to not see them.

What the PICTURES directory contained shocked Vidal-Blasco: thousands⁵ of pictures of what appeared⁶ to be 3 - 5 year old naked girls: some with masks that hid their faces.

Immediately Vidal-Blasco closed the directory, password protected it so no one else could look at it, and called, Nick Midgley in security and their boss, Mary Bostrom, to report the incident.

The next events happened at dizzying speed. Midgley called the police; within the hour the police went to Vang’s residence and arrested Vang on charges of child pornography; within four hours Bostrom had informed the head of HR Kirsten Popper, the next morning Popper emailed Vang terminating their employment.

Within 24 hours Vang⁷ was released and the charges dropped.

Vang’s Solicitor, Alenka Schroeder, rang Murdoch and demanded that Vang immediately be reinstated with compensation and with an apology from both Vidal-Blasco and Murdoch.

Cast	Role
Mary Bostrom	Vidal-Blasco’s boss
Nick Midgley	Security
Kirsten Popper	Head of HR
Alenka Schroeder	Vang’s solicitor
María- Arántzazu Vang	User
Katrine Juel Vidal-Blasco	Systems administrator
Karl Wahlstrom	Junior systems administrator
Doris Zupančič	Vang’s child

Table 1: I_1 Cast

¹ An unusually quiet worker known for not socialising with workmates and regarded as a bit of loner. Almost nothing was known about them outside work.

² This was the first time since the refurbishment that this had happened.

³ As with all urgent updates this was needed yesterday.

⁴ Staff at Charrieriana Coffee were encouraged to not read their work email when they were not working.

⁵ 163,952 pictures taking up 1.09Tb to be precise.

⁶ Vidal-Blasco did not look too closely at the pictures for fear of being branded a perv.

⁷ A single mother and amateur photographer with a small child, Doris Zupančič, who had a penchant for running around without clothes. Vang stored a back-up, temporarily, on their work computer while the home computer was being replaced. Vang had asked for, and was granted (in an email), permission to do so by a junior systems administrator, Karl Wahlstrom.