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## Sun, Sand and Skinflints: Travel industry worst for Anti-Social Office Behaviour (ASOB)

From stealing company toilet paper to claiming credit for others' hard work, the travel and tourism industry ranks worst for Anti-Social Office Behaviour (ASOB), according to a poll of nearly 4,000 GB workers.

64% of travel and tourism employees claim to have been victim to co-workers' grubby and sometimes even illegal behaviour. Nearly half (44%) say their colleagues take credit for other people's work – and let others take the blame for their own mistakes (44%).

More than one in four (27%) have caught co-workers sampling other people's food from the fridge. A quarter complain their cheapskate colleagues dodge work whip-rounds by conveniently "forgetting" their wallets (23%).

One in five people working in the sector say their co-workers' ASOB has made work a less enjoyable place to be (21%). Some feel they've been passed over for promotion as a direct result of their colleagues' grubby antics with 5% having their ideas pinched and 7% having someone else take the credit for their work.

The survey was commissioned by [knockoffornot.com](http://knockoffornot.com), a website set up to address the nation's Knock-Off Nigels, who download or buy knock-off films and TV shows and engage in other anti-social behaviour which impacts on friends or colleagues.

The research plumbed the darker recesses of GB workplaces to uncover knock-off antics. While travel and tourism ranks worst overall, there are numerous Knock-Off Nigels in other sectors.

**From the illegal:** More than a quarter of those in transportation and distribution complain that colleagues buy knock-off DVDs from traders at work (28%), while IT whiz-kids (those in electronics/ IT/ telecoms) seem to be the biggest culprits for illegal film downloads during office hours (10%).

**To the downright annoying:** Financial and catering workers are worst at caring for colleagues' personal needs; 27% of those in finance, banking and insurance accused colleagues of stealing stationery and 13% of catering, hospitality and fitness & leisure workers have caught co-workers pilfering company loo roll, the highest of all industries surveyed.

It's not all bad, however. Those working in education get top marks for good behaviour – around half (45%) have a squeaky clean report card according to their colleagues.

A spokesperson for [knockoffornot.com](http://knockoffornot.com) said: "Ironically, those working in travel and tourism are probably most in need of a holiday to get away from all the Knock-Off Nigels in their workplace."

ASOB victims keen to get revenge on colleagues with bad desk-side manners should visit [knockoffornot.com](http://knockoffornot.com). The site, which supports the Knock-Off Nigel national TV advertising campaign, houses a viral email that users can tailor to shame their own office Knock-Off Nigels.

## Key statistics

Job sector	Key statistic
Legal	Despite their legal standing, 9% admit to having bought a knock-off DVD from an illegal trader in their workplace - the same as the national average
Banking, Finance and Insurance	One in five complain their colleagues are too careful with their own money, feigning forgotten wallets to dodge work whip-rounds
Civil Service and Government	Administering ideas, 48% of this group has caught a colleague out for taking credit for someone else's work, six per cent above the national average.
Construction and Manual Labour	Constructing their own rules, 27% of this industry has caught a colleague buying a knock-off DVD from a trader at work, nearly double the national average
Medical & Health Services	Nursing an empty stomach, 20% have caught a colleague sampling somebody else's food or drink from the work fridge
Media Marketing PR & Advertising	7% of those involved in the marketing mix have caught a colleague attempting to download films on a work computer from an illegal website
Sales & Retail	Relatively well-behaved, 43% have never caught a colleague out for ASOB. This compares to a 38% national average

The survey, carried out from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2008, asked nearly 4,000 UK employees aged 18+ what grubby, antisocial or knock-off behaviour they and their colleagues get up to in the workplace.

All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 3,915 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken from the 11th to the 16th July 2008. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+). Of these 3,915 adults, 3,777 work or have worked.