



**INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER**  
the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine

# **Information Technology**

## **E-Government**

## **E-Commerce**

**March 2007**



**IMPLEMENTING THE  
CHILDREN'S ONLINE PRIVACY  
PROTECTION ACT**  
A Report to Congress  
Federal Trade Commission  
February 2007

In a report to Congress, the Federal Trade Commission says the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), and the Commission's COPPA Rule, have been effective in protecting the privacy and security of young children online without unduly burdening Web site operators. The report does not recommend any changes to COPPA or to the Commission's Rule, but does note that, because widespread age verification technology is not available, age falsification remains a risk on general audience Web sites not intended for children's use. The report also identifies social networking sites and mobile Internet access as new and emerging issues in children's online privacy.

Implementing the  
**Children's Online Privacy  
Protection Act**

A Report to Congress

Federal Trade Commission  
February 2007

[http://www.ftc.gov/reports/coppa/07COPPA\\_Report\\_to\\_Congress.pdf](http://www.ftc.gov/reports/coppa/07COPPA_Report_to_Congress.pdf)

**INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION ..... 6**

**GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ..... 6**

**PROSECUTING COMPUTER CRIMES: A MANUAL ..... 6**  
    U.S. Department of Justice. Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section. Criminal Division  
    February 2007.....6

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS: ISSUES RELATED TO THE STRUCTURE AND FUNDING OF PUBLIC  
    TELEVISION ..... 6**  
    General Accountability Office (GAO). Web posted February 20, 2007. 07AD345 .....6

**REPORT ON PHISING: A REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY  
    PREPAREDNESS CANADA AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES ..... 7**  
    Binational Working Group on Cross-Border Mass Marketing Fraud  
    Web posted November 24, 2006. 07AD164.....7

**DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT: BOOSTING ECONOMIES WITH LOW-COST LAPTOPS, CELL PHONES  
    AND OTHER TECHNOLOGIES, with Shalini Venturelli. Department of State. Webchat, 16 November  
    2006 ..... 7**

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CRITICAL IN DEVELOPMENT, EXPERT SAYS. HEAD OF  
    GEEKCORPS, AN NGO, DISCUSSES MAKING TECHNOLOGY MORE ACCESSIBLE ..... 7**  
    By Mary L. Specht, Washington File Staff Writer. Department of State. 25 October 2006.....7

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IDENTITY THEFT RELATED DATA BREACH NOTIFICATION.  
    MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES ..... 8**  
    Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) September 20, 2006.  
    07AD016 .....8

**COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE BY STUDENTS IN 2003. .... 9**  
    Matthew DeBell and Chris Chapman  
    United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. September 2006.  
    06AD401 .....9

**INFORMATION SECURITY: COORDINATION OF FEDERAL CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH AND  
    DEVELOPMENT ..... 9**  
    United States Government Accountability Office (GAO). September 29, 2006. 07AD102.....9

**CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS (HEARINGS, REPORTS, ETC.) ..... 10**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AMENDMENTS: 109TH CONGRESS ..... 10**  
    Harold C. Relyea  
    Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service. Updated September 22, 2006. 07AD061 .....10

**THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ..... 11**

**WIKIS, WEBS, AND NETWORKS: CREATING CONNECTIONS FOR CONFLICT-PRONE  
    SETTINGS ..... 11**  
    Rebecca Linder  
    Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Web-posted October 15, 2006. 07AD075 .....11

**SUMMIT OF EDUCATIONAL GAMES: HARNESSING THE POWER OF VIDEO GAMES FOR  
    LEARNING ..... 11**  
    Federation of American Scientists (FAS); Entertainment Software Association (ESA); National Science  
    Foundation (NSF). October 17, 2006. 07AD071 .....11

**ONLINE HEALTH SEARCH 2006. .... 12**  
    Susannah Fox  
    Pew Internet & American Life Project. October 29, 2006. 07AD104.....12

INFORMATION ECONOMY REPORT 2006: THE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) November 16, 2006. 07AD137 .....	12
THE MYTH OF NETWORK NEUTRALITY AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO ABOUT IT Robert Hahn, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Economic Studies; Robert E. Litan, Senior Fellow Economic Studies AEI-Brookings Joint Center Working Paper No. RP06-33, November 2006 .....	13
COMPETITION AND ANTITRUST LAW CAN PROTECT THE INTERNET Robert Hahn, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Economic Studies; Robert E. Litan, Senior Fellow, Economic Studies, Global Economy and Development Brookings Institution. Published in <i>The Hill</i> , October 03, 2006.....	14
FOREIGN INFLUENCE ON SOFTWARE: RISKS AND RECOURSE. A Report of the CSIS Technology and Public Policy Program James A. Lewis Center for Strategic and International Studies. March 2007 .....	14
CYREN CALL AND SIREN CALLS: SPECTRUM ALLOCATION FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS by James L. Gattuso Heritage Foundation. WebMemo #1346 February 6, 2007.....	15
NO TV LEFT BEHIND: DIGITAL TRANSITION SUBSIDIES FOR BASEMENT TELEVISIONS? by James L. Gattuso Heritage Foundation. WebMemo #1340 February 5, 2007.....	15
ACCELERATING THE GLOBALIZATION OF AMERICA: THE ROLE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Catherine L. Mann, assisted by Jacob Funk Kirkegaard Institute for International Economics. June 2006 • 256 pp. ISBN paper 0-88132-390-X.....	16
WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS John Horrigan PEW Internet & American Life Project, Memo 2/25/2007.....	16
TAGGING Lee Rainie PEW Internet & American Life Project, Memo 1/31/2007.....	16
SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES AND TEENS: AN OVERVIEW Amanda Lenhart, Mary Madden PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 1/7/2007.....	17
INTERNET USERS IN SEARCH OF A HOME Deborah Fallows PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 12/13/2006.....	17
VIRTUAL TOURS Xingpu Yuan, Mary Madden PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 11/27/2006.....	17
PODCAST DOWNLOADING Mary Madden PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 11/22/2006.....	18
THE INTERNET AS A RESOURCE FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT SCIENCE John Horrigan PEW Internet & American Life Project. Report, 11/20/2006.....	18

RFID IN THE RETAIL SECTOR: A METHODOLOGY FOR ANALYSIS OF POLICY PROPOSALS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR PRIVACY, ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY AND SECURITY By: Gordon Bitko RAND. Dissertation. February 2007 .....	18
YOUTH, ICTS AND DEVELOPMENT David J. McKenzie The World Bank .....	19
ICT & GENDER EQUALITY The World Bank. Gender and Development Group. October 2006.....	19
THE AUDIENCE FOR POLITICAL BLOGS: NEW RESEARCH ON BLOG READERSHIP Joseph Graf GW Institute for Politics, Democracy & the Internet (IPDI), October 2006.....	20
THE EXPANDING DIGITAL UNIVERSE: A FORECAST OF WORLDWIDE INFORMATION GROWTH THROUGH 2010 IDC white paper—Sponsored by EMC. March 2007 .....	20
<b>E-GOVERNMENT &amp; E-COMMERCE .....</b>	<b>21</b>
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS .....	21
PROTECTING PERSONAL INFORMATION: A GUIDE FOR BUSINESS Federal Trade Commission, March 2007 .....	21
OMB FY2006 E-GOVERNMENT ACT REPORT U.S. Office of Management and Budget.....	22
2006 E-GOVERNMENT REPORT National Science Foundation, October 20, 2006.....	22
DIGITAL COMMUNITIES .....	22
CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS (HEARINGS, REPORTS, ETC.) .....	23
COMBATING PRETEXTING: H.R. 936, PREVENTION OF FRAUDULENT ACCESS TO PHONE RECORDS ACT Prepared Statement of the Federal Trade Commission before the Committee on Energy and Commerce. United States House of Representatives. March 9, 2007 .....	23
THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.....	24
2007 WORLD E-GOVERNMENT RANKING Waseda University (Tokyo) <i>eGovBlog</i> 2006 .....	24
ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN BE ASSISTED BY M & E SYSTEM Nimit Leelasorn DGC. March 17, 2007 .....	24
DIGITAL PROSPERITY: UNDERSTANDING THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REVOLUTION Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, March 13, 2007.....	25
IS CITIZEN-CENTRIC THE SAME AS CUSTOMER-CENTRIC? .....	25

Neil McDonald  
 Prepared for the eGovernment unit, DG Information Society and Media  
 European Commission Think Paper 5: Birmingham, England, 24th October 2006.....25

EGOVERNMENT STRATEGY ACROSS EUROPE - A BRICOLAGE RESPONDING TO SOCIETAL  
 CHALLENGES  
 Michael Blakemore  
 Think Paper 4: Prepared for the eGovernment unit, DG Information Society and Media, European  
 Commission. 15th November 2006 .....26

ARE YOU READY FOR THE CHARGEBACK CHALLENGE?  
 By Matt Jackson  
*E-Commerce*, March 12, 2007 .....26

LEARN HOW TO AVOID ONLINE FRAUD DURING NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION  
 WEEK (FEB. 4-10)  
 The Business Software Alliance Offers Online Shopping Tips and Other Resources to Help Consumers  
 Avoid Software Piracy .....27

ELECTION NEWSHOUNDS SPEAK UP: NEWSPAPER, TV AND INTERNET FANS TELL HOW  
 AND WHY THEY DIFFER  
 Deborah Fallows  
 PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 2/6/2007.....27

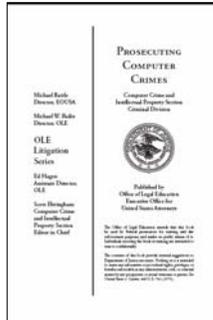
ELECTION 2006 ONLINE  
 Lee Rainie, John Horrigan  
 PEW Internet & American Life Project. Report, 1/17/2007 .....28

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

### GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

#### **PROSECUTING COMPUTER CRIMES: A MANUAL**

**U.S. Department of Justice. Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section. Criminal Division  
February 2007**



"This manual examines the federal laws that relate to computer crimes. Our focus is on those crimes that use or target computer networks, which we interchangeably refer to as "computer crime," "cybercrime," and "network crime." Examples of computer crime include computer intrusions, denial of service attacks, viruses, and worms. We make no attempt to cover issues of state law and do not cover every type of crime related to computers, such as child pornography or phishing.

(...)

This manual is intended as assistance, not authority. The research, analysis, and conclusions herein reflect current thinking on difficult and dynamic areas of the law; they do not represent the official position of the Department of Justice or any other agency. This manual has no regulatory effect, confers no rights or remedies, and does not have the force of law or a U.S. Department of Justice directive."

Index: <http://www.cybercrime.gov/ccmanual/index.html>

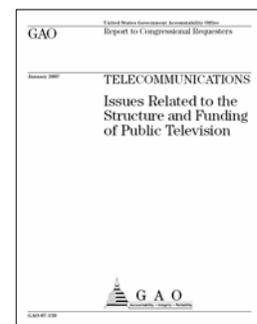
Complete Text: <http://www.cybercrime.gov/ccmanual/ccmanual.pdf>

#### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS: ISSUES RELATED TO THE STRUCTURE AND FUNDING OF PUBLIC TELEVISION**

**General Accountability Office (GAO). Web posted February 20, 2007. 07AD345**

"This report reviews (1) the organizational structure of public television, (2) the programming and other services that public television provides, (3) the current funding sources for public television, (4) the extent to which public television stations are increasing their nonfederal funding sources and developing new sources of nonfederal support, and (5) the extent to which public television benefits financially from business ventures associated with programming and how this compares with commercial broadcasters."

Full Text: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07150.pdf> [pdf format, 79 pages]



**REPORT ON PHISHING: A REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CANADA AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES**

**Binational Working Group on Cross-Border Mass Marketing Fraud  
Web posted November 24, 2006. 07AD164**

Phishing refers to luring techniques used by thieves to fish for personal information of Internet users through e-mails and websites that have been designed to look like well-known, legitimate and trusted businesses. In May 2006, over 20,000 individual phishing complaints were reported with an estimated loss in the billions of dollars worldwide. The objective of this report is to define the nature, scope, and impact of phishing and its evolving techniques and to identify current and promising approaches to combat it.



Full Report: [http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/report\\_on\\_phishing.pdf](http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/report_on_phishing.pdf) [pdf format, 23 pages]

**DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT: BOOSTING ECONOMIES WITH LOW-COST LAPTOPS, CELL PHONES AND OTHER TECHNOLOGIES**

**Shalini Venturelli**

**Department of State. Webchat, 16 November 2006**

A \$100 laptop might make the Internet accessible to millions of schoolchildren in developing countries; Africa is emerging as the fastest-growing market for mobile phones. Shalini Venturelli, associate professor at American University's School of International Service, answered questions on how these and other developments in information technology will revolutionize how people in developing nations build a workforce and do business.

Shalini Venturelli, an expert on Internet regulation and international policy, has conducted research on the social, cultural, political and economic challenges of global communications, including the development of information technology networks and the Internet. She is director and associate professor of international communications at the School of International Service at American University in Washington.

View Webchat Transcript:

[http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/USINFO/Products/Webchats/venturelli\\_16\\_nov\\_2006.html](http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/USINFO/Products/Webchats/venturelli_16_nov_2006.html)

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CRITICAL IN DEVELOPMENT, EXPERT SAYS. HEAD OF GEEKCORPS, AN NGO, DISCUSSES MAKING TECHNOLOGY MORE ACCESSIBLE**

**By Mary L. Specht, Washington File Staff Writer. Department of State. 25 October 2006**

Wayan Vota, director of Geekcorps, a nonprofit that helps make technology accessible to lesser developed countries. (IESC photo) Washington – Greater use of information technology is the quickest way to boost developing economies, such as those in Africa, technology expert Wayan Vota said in an online discussion October 25.

“Technology is the fastest medium to increase economic outputs of a business or a country,” said Vota, director of Geekcorps, a division of International Executive Service Corps (IESC), a not-for-profit economic development firm. “A cell phone is a great leap over no phone or a land line. A computer is much more powerful than a calculator or paper notebooks. And the Internet ... that is a resource we are only beginning to leverage.”

<http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=October&x=20061025152640lmthceps0.72427>



**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IDENTITY THEFT RELATED DATA BREACH NOTIFICATION. MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES**

**Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)  
September 20, 2006. 07AD016**

The President’s Identity Theft Task Force (“Task Force”) was established by Executive Order 13402 on May 10, 2006. (See E.O 13402 at: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-4552.pdf>.) The Task Force has considered the steps that a U.S. Government department or agency should take in responding to a theft, loss, or unauthorized acquisition of personal information that poses a risk of subsequent identity theft.



The main Task Force recommendations are the following:

- \* Agencies should identify a core response group in the event of a data breach. The group should include the CIO, chief legal officer, chief privacy officer, the inspector general, and a senior management official.
- \* If an incident occurs, the core response group should do a risk analysis to determine whether the incident poses problems related to ID theft. The response group should consider how easy or difficult it would be for an unauthorized person to access the personal data; how the data was lost; the ability of the agency to mitigate the theft; and any evidence that the lost data is being used to commit identity theft.
- \* If the response group determines there is risk, the agency should tailor its response to the nature and scope of the risk presented. Agencies should consider using technology to analyze whether the data loss appears to result in an identity theft. Agencies also should consider providing credit monitoring services at the government's expense.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy2006/task\\_force\\_theft\\_memo.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy2006/task_force_theft_memo.pdf) [pdf format, 11 pages]

**COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE BY STUDENTS IN 2003.****Matthew DeBell and Chris Chapman****United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)  
September 2006. 06AD401**

This report examines the use of computers and the Internet by U.S. children enrolled in nursery school, and students in kindergarten through grade 12. It examines the overall rate of use (the percentage of individuals in the population who are users); the ways in which students use the technologies; where the use occurs (home, school, and other locations); and the relationships of computer and Internet use to demographic and socioeconomic characteristics such as students' age, race and ethnicity, and their parents' education and family income.

The following are some of the report's salient findings:

\* Computer and Internet use by students is widespread and begins at an early age. About nine in ten students use computers, and more than half use the Internet. Computer use is more common at lower grade levels than Internet use, but by grades 9-12 more than three quarters of youth are online.

\* Children and adolescents commonly use computers for playing games, completing school assignments, word processing, e-mail, and connecting to the Internet. Online, the most frequent activities are school work, e-mail, games, and finding news and product information.

\* Schools appear to help narrow computer-use disparities among different types of students. Differences in the rates of computer use are smaller at school than they are at home, when considering such characteristics as race and ethnicity, family income, and parental education.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2006/2006065.pdf> [pdf format, 72 pages]

**INFORMATION SECURITY: COORDINATION OF FEDERAL CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT****United States Government Accountability Office (GAO). September 29, 2006. 07AD102**

Federal law and policy call for critical infrastructure protection activities to enhance the cyber and physical security of the infrastructures that are essential to national security, national economic security, and national public health and safety. These activities include building public-private partnerships, identifying critical infrastructure sectors, identifying federal agencies to work with the sectors to coordinate efforts to strengthen the security of critical infrastructures, and research and development (R&D) of cyber security tools and techniques. GAO was asked to identify the 1) federal entities involved in cyber security (R&D); 2) actions taken to improve oversight and coordination of federal cyber security R&D, including developing a federal research agenda; and 3) methods used for technology transfer at agencies with significant activities in this area. To do this, GAO examined relevant laws, policies, budget documents, plans, and reports.



GAO finds that federal entities have taken several important steps to improve the oversight and coordination of federal cyber security R&D. Actions taken to facilitate oversight and coordination of cyber security research include 1) chartering an interagency working group to focus on this type of research, 2) publishing a federal plan for cyber security and information

assurance that is to provide baseline information and a framework for planning and conducting this research, 3) reporting budget information for cyber security research separately from other types of research, and 4) developing and maintaining government-wide repositories of information on R&D projects. However, says GAO, a federal cyber security research agenda has not been developed, as recommended in the National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace. Furthermore, the government-wide repositories are incomplete and not fully populated, in part because OMB has not issued guidance to ensure that agencies provide all information required for the repositories. As a result, key information needed for the effective oversight and coordination of cyber security research activities is not readily available.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06811.pdf> [pdf format, 34 pages]

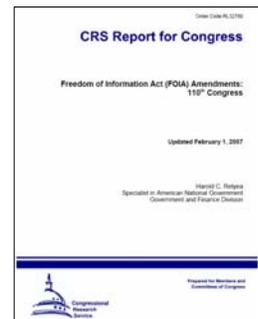
## CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS (HEARINGS, REPORTS, ETC.)

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AMENDMENTS: 109TH CONGRESS**

**Harold C. Relyea**

**Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service. Updated September 22, 2006.  
07AD061**

Often referred to as the embodiment of “the people’s right to know” about the activities and operations of government, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) statutorily established a premise of presumptive public access to information held by the federal departments and agencies. Enacted in 1966 to replace the ineffective public information section of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), the FOIA allows any person — individual or corporate, regardless of citizenship — to request, without explanation or justification, existing, identifiable, unpublished agency records on any topic.



The response to a request may involve a few sheets of paper, several linear feet of records, or perhaps information in an electronic format. Such responses require staff time, search and duplication efforts, and other resource commitments. Agency information management professionals must efficiently and economically service FOIA requests, doing so, of late, in the sensitized homeland security environment. Requesters must be satisfied through timely supply, brokerage, or explanation. Simultaneously, agency FOIA costs must be kept reasonable. The perception that these conditions are not operative can result in proposed new corrective amendments to the statute. Legislation proposed in the 109th Congress includes S. 394, the OPEN Government Act, introduced by Senator John Cornyn with Senator Patrick Leahy, and H.R. 867, the House companion, introduced by Representative Lamar Smith. Also of interest is S. 589, sponsored by Senator Cornyn with Senator Leahy, which would create a temporary commission to examine and to make recommendations concerning FOIA request processing delays. The companion bill, H.R.1620, was offered by Representative Brad Sherman. This report examines these and other efforts to amend the FOIA Act.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/secretcy/RL32780.pdf>

## THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### WIKIS, WEBS, AND NETWORKS: CREATING CONNECTIONS FOR CONFLICT-PRONE SETTINGS

Rebecca Linder

Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Web-posted October 15, 2006. 07AD075

Despite the importance of international interventions in conflict-prone settings, the record of success is mixed, and international actors struggle to establish minimum security and to reconstruct state institutions in conflict-prone settings. The ultimate goal of enhanced connectivity is to enable local populations to prevent and mitigate conflict and help rebuild their country. Technological innovations have fundamentally altered the information landscape just as developments in social network theory have changed how people connect and socialize. Taken together, these advancements have the potential to transform work in conflict-prone settings; however, according to the author, they have not yet been fully incorporated into policy and practice. She categorizes specific barriers to effective communication and offers recommendations for using technology to improve communication. The report is intended for civilians as well as the military, the public and private sectors, and Americans as well as international and national actors.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material.]

[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/061018\\_pcr\\_creatingconnections.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/061018_pcr_creatingconnections.pdf) [pdf format, 61 pages]

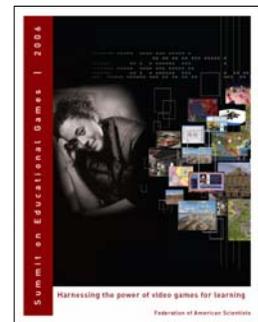
### SUMMIT OF EDUCATIONAL GAMES: HARNESSING THE POWER OF VIDEO GAMES FOR LEARNING

Federation of American Scientists (FAS); Entertainment Software Association (ESA); National Science Foundation (NSF). October 17, 2006. 07AD071

The Federation of American Scientists, the Entertainment Software Association, and the National Science Foundation convened a National Summit on Educational Games on October 25, 2005, in Washington, DC. The Summit brought together nearly 100 experts to discuss ways to accelerate the development, commercialization, and deployment of new generation games for learning.

Among the findings of the experts are the following:

- Many video games require players to master skills in demand by today's employers.
- There are several attributes of games that would be useful for application in learning. These include contextual bridging (i.e., closing the gap between what is learned in theory and its use); high time-on-task; motivation and goal orientation, even after failure; providing learners with cues, hints, and partial solutions to keep them progressing through learning; personalization of learning; and infinite patience.
- There are differences between games for education and games for entertainment. This means that developers of an educational game must target the desired learning outcome,



and then design a game to achieve that target. Educational games must be built on the science of learning.

- A robust program of research and experimentation is needed to enhance development of educational games by stimulating transfer of the art and technologies of video games to education and learning systems.

<http://fas.org/gamesummit/Resources/Summit%20on%20Educational%20Games.pdf> [pdf format, 53 pages]

### **ONLINE HEALTH SEARCH 2006.**

**Susannah Fox**

**Pew Internet & American Life Project. October 29, 2006. 07AD104**

According to this new report, eighty percent of U.S. internet users, or roughly 113 million adults, have searched for information on at least one of the seventeen health topics listed in the study. Most internet users start at a general search engine when researching health and medical advice online. Certain groups of internet users are the most likely to have sought health information online: women, internet users younger than 65, college graduates, those with more online experience, and those with broadband access at home.

Fifteen percent of online health information seekers say they “always” check the source and date of the health information they find online, while another 10 percent say they do so “most of the time.” Three-quarters say they check the source and date “only sometimes,” “hardly ever,” or “never,” which translates to about 85 million Americans gathering health advice online without consistently examining the quality indicators of the information they find. Most health seekers are pleased about what they find online, but some are frustrated or confused. Among the internet users who say their last search had any kind of impact:

- Fifty-eight percent say the information they found in their last search affected a decision about how to treat an illness or condition.
- Fifty-five percent say the information changed their overall approach to maintaining their health or the health of someone they help take care of.
- Fifty-four percent say the information led them to ask a doctor new questions or to get a second opinion from another doctor.

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Online\\_Health\\_2006.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Online_Health_2006.pdf) [pdf format, 22 pages]

### **INFORMATION ECONOMY REPORT 2006: THE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE**

**United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
November 16, 2006. 07AD137**

This report emphasizes the role of governments in ensuring the development of policies that encourage competition and innovation in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector. According to the report, governments can play a major part in helping developing and transition countries establish and



expand ICT networks that in turn stimulate economic growth and help domestic businesses compete internationally.

Currently 44% of developing and transition countries have national plans for fostering their information societies, and 20% are developing such plans. However, the report says, few of the countries that have such plans monitor and evaluate how effective they are.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material.]

<http://www.unctad.org/Templates/Download.asp?docid=7576&lang=1&intItemID=3991>  
[pdf format, 346 pages]

## **THE MYTH OF NETWORK NEUTRALITY AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO ABOUT IT**

**Robert Hahn, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Economic Studies; Robert E. Litan, Senior Fellow Economic Studies AEI-Brookings Joint Center Working Paper No. RP06-33, November 2006**



A quarter century ago, there was a very influential paper that shaped thinking on how best to design what we now call the Internet. The article offered a design principle called "end-to-end." The idea was to keep the inner part of a computer network as simple as possible and allow the "intelligence" to reside at the edges of the network closer to the end user.

Proponents of this grand design have pushed for net neutrality legislation, which would discourage access providers from placing any intelligence in the inner part of the network. Their ideal of a "dumb network" would be achieved by preventing access providers from charging content providers for prioritized delivery and other quality enhancements made possible by placing intelligence at the center of the network.

This essay examines the merits of the end-to-end argument as it relates to the net neutrality debate. First, we review the evidence on the current status of the Internet, concluding that all bits of information are not treated equally from an economic standpoint. Second, we demonstrate that because consumers and business place a premium on speed and reliability for certain kinds of Internet services, network owners and specialized service providers have responded with customized offerings. Third, we consider our findings in the context of the current legislative proposals involving net neutrality. Fourth, we consider some of the problems with regulating prices and quality of service, which is essentially what the net neutrality proponents propose. Our principle conclusions are that the end-to-end principle does not make sense from an economic perspective and that further regulation of the Internet is not warranted at this point in time.

View Full Paper (PDF—124kb): <http://www.brook.edu/views/papers/litan/200611.pdf>

**COMPETITION AND ANTITRUST LAW CAN PROTECT THE INTERNET**  
**Robert Hahn, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Economic Studies; Robert E. Litan, Senior Fellow, Economic Studies, Global Economy and Development**  
**Brookings Institution. Published in *The Hill*, October 03, 2006**

If you doubt the effectiveness of simple slogans, the current debate over net neutrality should change your mind. As the heat of the rhetoric rises, the quality of the information has declined.

The "net neutrality" controversy centers on whether firms providing higher speed broadband should be allowed to charge both the content providers and consumers for faster, more reliable service—pitting Silicon Valley firms like Google and eBay against the telecommunications and cable industries (which rarely find themselves on the same side, this being a notable exception).

On examination, however, one truth is clear—while both sides are prone to hyperbole and exaggeration, net neutrality enthusiasts are also just plain wrong. And the error is dangerous. If the net neutrality proponents prevail, it is less likely that phone and cable companies that operate most of the Internet pipes will have sufficient economic incentives to build needed new capacity.

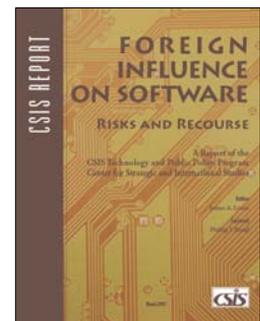
Net neutrality enthusiasts believe that if Internet service providers are allowed to charge content providers like CNN.com, they will block web sites for their own private gain—thus crippling the Internet. Those opposing net neutrality assert the opposite—that pricing freedom is the key to Internet innovation and the deployment of the expanded networks needed to handle rapidly growing Internet traffic.

The fact is, pricing freedom is a key to the success of the Internet. And, existing government oversight, including antitrust authority, is sufficient to rein in any potential anticompetitive behavior in those unlikely circumstances where market forces fail.

<http://www.brook.edu/views/op-ed/litan/20061003.htm>

**FOREIGN INFLUENCE ON SOFTWARE: RISKS AND RECOURSE. A Report of the CSIS Technology and Public Policy Program**  
**James A. Lewis**  
**Center for Strategic and International Studies. March 2007**

Globalization drives change. The immense economic transition that comes with globalization has brought an unprecedented prosperity to the world. The United States is among the chief beneficiaries. However, America and other countries have learned that with the benefits come new risks. Nations face different and unexpected threats to their safety. Opponents will look to the immense global economic machine created for commerce to find new ways to attack. Creating policies that can maintain economic opportunity while managing new risks is one of the most complex challenges that governments face today. This report looks at one new set of risks created by changes in how companies write software and considers how best to mitigate that risk.



[http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070307\\_foreign\\_software.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/070307_foreign_software.pdf)

## **CYREN CALL AND SIREN CALLS: SPECTRUM ALLOCATION FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

by **James L. Gattuso**

**Heritage Foundation. WebMemo #1346 February 6, 2007**



Many argue that Washington needs to provide more radio spectrum for emergency service providers such as police and fire departments. Last week, Senator John McCain endorsed an idea put forth by Morgan O'Brien, a wireless industry pioneer and founder of a new company called Cyren Call, to set aside billions of dollars worth of spectrum now used for television for public safety agencies.[1] Certainly, public safety communication capabilities need improvement, but a better solution would be to make more effective use of existing resources. The Federal Communications Commission took an important step in this direction last month when it reformed overly restrictive rules on certain public safety frequencies. That FCC action shows that solutions to America's public safety woes do not necessarily lie in ever more spending and resource allocations but in better use of resources now being wasted.

[http://www.heritage.org/Research/Regulation/upload/wm\\_1346.pdf](http://www.heritage.org/Research/Regulation/upload/wm_1346.pdf)

## **NO TV LEFT BEHIND: DIGITAL TRANSITION SUBSIDIES FOR BASEMENT TELEVISIONS?**

by **James L. Gattuso**

**Heritage Foundation. WebMemo #1340 February 5, 2007**



Remember that old television in your basement, the one you bought when "Cheers" was the top sitcom? It might soon be eligible for federal aid to ensure that it works in the digital era. Within a few weeks, the Department of Commerce is expected to release rules for the TV subsidy program mandated by Congress in 2005. Reversing an earlier proposal, the program reportedly will allow households that subscribe to cable TV to receive federal support, at a potential cost to taxpayers of hundreds of millions of dollars.[1] This would be a mistake. Subsidizing broadcast reception for anyone makes little sense: There is no right to television. It makes even less sense to subsidize reception for cable households, whose access to programming is not threatened by the switchover to digital broadcasting. For the sake of taxpayers, the Bush Administration should decline to subsidize basement TVs.

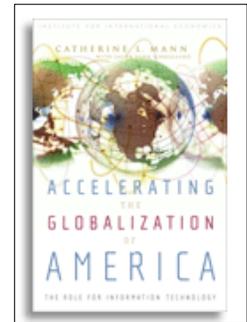
[http://www.heritage.org/Research/Regulation/upload/wm\\_1340.pdf](http://www.heritage.org/Research/Regulation/upload/wm_1340.pdf)

## ACCELERATING THE GLOBALIZATION OF AMERICA: THE ROLE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Catherine L. Mann, assisted by Jacob Funk Kirkegaard**

**Institute for International Economics. June 2006 • 256 pp. ISBN paper 0-88132-390-X**

Information technology (IT) was key to the superior overall macroeconomic performance of the United States in the 1990s—high productivity, high growth, low inflation, and low unemployment. But IT also played a role in increasing earnings dispersion in the labor market—greatly rewarding workers with high education and skills. This US performance did not happen in a global vacuum. Globalization of US IT firms promoted deeper integration of IT throughout the US economy, which in turn promoted more extensive globalization in other sectors of the US economy and labor market. How will the increasingly globalized IT industry affect US long-term growth, intermediate macro performance, and disparities in the US labor market? What policies are needed to ensure that the United States remains first in innovation, business transformation, and education and skills, which are prerequisites for US economic leadership in the 21st century? This book traces the globalization of the IT industry, its diffusion into the US economy, and the prospects and implications of more extensive technology-enabled globalization of products and services.



<http://bookstore.petersoninstitute.org/book-store/3900.html>

## WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

**John Horrigan**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project, Memo 2/25/2007**

Some 34% of internet users have logged onto the internet using a wireless connection either around the house, at their workplace, or some place else. In other words, one-third of internet users, either with a laptop computer, a handheld personal digital assistant (PDA), or cell phone, have surfed the internet or checked email using means such as WiFi broadband or cell phone networks.



[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Wireless.Use.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Wireless.Use.pdf)

## TAGGING

**Lee Rainie**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project, Memo 1/31/2007**

Just as the internet allows users to create and share their own media, it is also enabling them to organize digital material their own way, rather than relying on pre-existing formats of classifying information.

A December 2006 survey has found that 28% of internet users have tagged or categorized content online such as photos, news stories or blog posts. On a typical day online, 7% of internet users say they tag or categorize online



content.

The report features an interview with David Weinberger, a prominent blogger and fellow at Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Tagging.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Tagging.pdf)

**SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES AND TEENS: AN OVERVIEW**

**Amanda Lenhart, Mary Madden**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 1/7/2007**

A social networking site is an online place where a user can create a profile and build a personal network that connects him or her to other users. In the past five years, such sites have rocketed from a niche activity into a phenomenon that engages tens of millions of internet users. More than half (55%) of all online American youths ages 12-17 use online social networking sites, according to a new national survey of teenagers conducted by the Pew Internet & American Life Project.



The survey also finds that older teens, particularly girls, are more likely to use these sites. For girls, social networking sites are primarily places to reinforce pre-existing friendships; for boys, the networks also provide opportunities for flirting and making new friends.

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_SNS\\_Data\\_Memo\\_Jan\\_2007.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_SNS_Data_Memo_Jan_2007.pdf)

**INTERNET USERS IN SEARCH OF A HOME**

**Deborah Fallows**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 12/13/2006**

The number of internet users who go online to look for information about a place to live has grown steadily over the past six years. Now, nearly two in five adult internet users in the U.S. (39%) have done this, up from 34% in 2004 and 27% in 2000. Fully half of internet users ages 18 to 29 have looked for housing information online.



[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Place\\_to\\_Live\\_2006.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Place_to_Live_2006.pdf)

**VIRTUAL TOURS**

**Xingpu Yuan, Mary Madden**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 11/27/2006**

As of August 2006, just over half of American adult internet users (51%) have taken virtual tours of another location online, up from 45% in a previous Pew Internet & American Life Project survey in November 2004. That translates to about 72 million people who have taken advantage of the internet to explore other areas, a 33% increase over 2004 when an estimated 54 million did so.



On a typical day, more than five million people are taking virtual tours in cyberspace, up from roughly two million in 2004.

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Virtual\\_Tours\\_2006.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Virtual_Tours_2006.pdf)

**PODCAST DOWNLOADING**

**Mary Madden**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 11/22/2006**

Some 12% of internet users say they have downloaded a podcast so they can listen to it or view it at a later time. However, few internet users are downloading podcasts with great frequency; just 1% report downloading a podcast on a typical day.

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Podcasting.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Podcasting.pdf)



**THE INTERNET AS A RESOURCE FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT SCIENCE**

**John Horrigan**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project. Report, 11/20/2006**

Fully 87% of online users have at one time used the internet to carry out research on a scientific topic or concept and 40 million adults use the internet as their primary source of news and information about science.

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Exploratorium\\_Science.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Exploratorium_Science.pdf)



**RFID IN THE RETAIL SECTOR: A METHODOLOGY FOR ANALYSIS OF POLICY PROPOSALS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR PRIVACY, ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY AND SECURITY**

**By: Gordon Bitko**

**RAND. Dissertation. February 2007**

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) is a low cost and potentially covert method of remotely retrieving stored information. Broad recent growth of RFID applications, especially in the retail sector, has raised several specific privacy and data protection concerns derived from the potential that RFID offers for surreptitious monitoring and the linking of personal and obscure or private information into large databases. The result of these concerns has been an active policy debate, with legislative proposals at the U.S. state and federal levels, as well as in Europe. The author first constructs a qualitative framework for analyzing these policies, which provides a description of the key stakeholders in the debate and the issues concerning each. He then develops a simple economic model showing that all the assessed policies involve substantial tradeoffs in firms' and individual behaviors and that a true understanding of uncertainties such as market structure



and individual preferences about privacy is critical in assessing the impact of any policy.

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/rgs\\_dissertations/2007/RAND\\_RGSD209.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/rgs_dissertations/2007/RAND_RGSD209.pdf)

## **YOUTH, ICTS AND DEVELOPMENT**

**David J. McKenzie**

**The World Bank**

The first few years of the new millennium saw extremely rapid increases in internet, mobile phone, and computer use in developing countries. Between 2000 and 2003, the developing world gained more than one-quarter of a billion internet users and almost half a billion mobile phones. These new technologies are growing much faster than older information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as television, radio, mainline telephones, and newspapers (definition 1 and table 1). Mobile phones have overtaken mainline phones in coverage in many parts of the world, and there are more internet users per 1,000 people than there are daily newspapers purchased in every region except South Asia. Even so, internet use remains low in poorer developing countries, and radios and televisions are much more prevalent.

The image shows the cover of a report titled 'YOUTH, ICTS AND DEVELOPMENT'. It features a table with columns for 'Region', 'Year', and 'Value'. The table lists data for various regions including Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, and South Asia. The values represent different indicators related to ICT usage and development. The report is published by The World Bank.

[http://iris37.worldbank.org/domdoc/PRD/Other/PRDDContainer.nsf/All+Documents/85256D2400766CC785257298005AA016/\\$File/Youth\\_ICTs\\_Development.pdf](http://iris37.worldbank.org/domdoc/PRD/Other/PRDDContainer.nsf/All+Documents/85256D2400766CC785257298005AA016/$File/Youth_ICTs_Development.pdf)

## **ICT & GENDER EQUALITY**

**The World Bank. Gender and Development Group. October 2006.**

Equitable access to information and communication technologies can be an important tool for empowering women. Women and men have different needs and constraints when accessing and using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). In many societies, women's and men's access to and use of technology are rooted in behavioral, cultural, and religious traditions:



- Cultural and social attitudes are often unfavorable to women's participation in the fields of science and technology, which limits their opportunities in the area of ICT.
- Women are often financially dependent on men or do not have control over economic resources, which makes accessing ICT services more difficult.
- Allocation of resources for education and training often favors boys and men.
- In some societies, women's seclusion from the public arena makes access to community telecenters difficult.

Unless explicit measures are taken to address the constraints women face, advances in ICT may increase gender disparities and their potential impact will be reduced.

Gender-responsive ICT can make technologies, from telephones to computers, available to more people and offer ways for both women and men to access information and markets, and participate in new income generating activities. When ICT policies and programs recognize the different constraints women and men face, ICT will contribute to reducing women's

burden of labor in time consuming tasks, provide income generating activities, and provide an important source of employment in both ICT and other fields.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGENDER/Resources/GenderICTBriefingNoteOct06.pdf>

## **THE AUDIENCE FOR POLITICAL BLOGS: NEW RESEARCH ON BLOG READERSHIP**

**Joseph Graf**

**GW Institute for Politics, Democracy & the Internet (IPDI), October 2006**

Political blogs have barnstormed into American politics. In just a few years they have become a finger in the eye of the mainstream media and a closely watched forum of political debate. Political blogs have exposed lapses in mainstream media coverage, chastened reporters with the fear of an angry online response to sensitive stories, and at times set the media agenda. Political blogs have also been influential in raising money for political candidates and pushing select races into the national spotlight.



An overload of bandwidth has been spent talking about blogs but little research. The ephemeral nature of electronic communication makes tracing content like finding a needle in an Internet-sized haystack. Studying the audience for blogs is scattershot, generally confined to online surveys from specific blogs. Tracking down blog readers by other means is hard because, relatively speaking, there are so few. Telephone survey researchers have to call a dozen people before they reach one who reads a blog regularly. And then, you have found a blog reader, not necessarily someone who reads political blogs.

This project of the Institute for Politics, Democracy & the Internet (IPDI) focuses on the audience for political blogs. There is a lot of conjecture about that group but not much careful consideration.

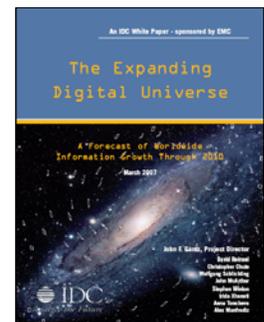
<http://www.ipdi.org/UploadedFiles/The%20Audience%20for%20Political%20Blogs.pdf>

## **THE EXPANDING DIGITAL UNIVERSE: A FORECAST OF WORLDWIDE INFORMATION GROWTH THROUGH 2010**

**IDC white paper—Sponsored by EMC. March 2007**

In this detailed white paper, IDC researches and analyzes the impact of ever-increasing amounts of digital information generated worldwide. It defines the digital universe and forecasts its growth to an incredible 988 exabytes (or 988 billion gigabytes) in the year 2010.

Get a clear picture of what this expanding universe means to you and your organization. Find out what's driving growth—from files and e-mail to voice data and images. And learn about strategies for managing the rapidly expanding digital universe.



Summary:

[http://www.emc.com/about/destination/digital\\_universe/pdf/Expanding\\_Digital\\_Universe\\_Executive\\_Summary\\_022507.pdf](http://www.emc.com/about/destination/digital_universe/pdf/Expanding_Digital_Universe_Executive_Summary_022507.pdf)

Full document:

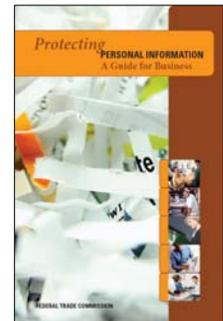
[http://www.emc.com/about/destination/digital\\_universe/pdf/Expanding\\_Digital\\_Universe\\_IDC\\_WhitePaper\\_022507.pdf](http://www.emc.com/about/destination/digital_universe/pdf/Expanding_Digital_Universe_IDC_WhitePaper_022507.pdf)

## E-GOVERNMENT & E-COMMERCE

### GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

#### **PROTECTING PERSONAL INFORMATION: A GUIDE FOR BUSINESS Federal Trade Commission, March 2007**

The Federal Trade Commission is offering a new guide for businesses with practical suggestions on safeguarding sensitive data. The 24-page brochure can help businesses of all sizes protect their customers' and employees' personal information. FTC Chairman Deborah Platt Majoras unveiled the guide today at the Privacy Summit of the International Association of Privacy Professionals in Washington, DC, where she received the Privacy Leadership Award on behalf of the agency.



“Information security cannot be an afterthought for businesses,” said Majoras. “Consumers expect and deserve to have their sensitive personal information kept secure.”

The guide is built around five simple phrases:

**TAKE STOCK.** Know what personal information you have in your files and on your computers.

**SCALE DOWN.** Keep only what you need for business.

**LOCK IT.** Protect the information you keep.

**PITCH IT.** Properly dispose of what you no longer need.

**PLAN AHEAD.** Create a plan to respond to security incidents.

The plain-language guide includes checklists to get businesses thinking about the kind of data they collect, how they store it, and who they share it with. It offers solutions for determining what needs to be kept, how to secure it, what to get rid of, and how to properly dispose of it. The guide also instructs businesses in the basics of creating a plan for dealing with a security breach, in the event one does occur.

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/business/privacy/bus69.pdf>

## OMB FY2006 E-GOVERNMENT ACT REPORT

### U.S. Office of Management and Budget

One of the key steps forward for E-Gov at OMB was the launch of the Expectmore.gov website. ExpectMore.gov, launched by OMB in February 2006, promotes accountability and transparency by posting candid information about federal programs that are successful and programs that fall short, and in both cases, what the government is doing to improve performance each year. ExpectMore.gov contains detailed information about the performance of nearly 800 Federal programs. Visitors to the site can search for programs of interest by topic, agency, and performance level. By making candid assessment of programs more accessible to the public, ExpectMore.gov raises awareness of what Federal programs are doing to improve. ExpectMore.gov was designed for the citizen to easily find information about their federal programs and learn how their tax dollars are spent. An editorial in the September/October 2006 issue of Government Leader called ExpectMore.gov "one of the most intriguing, if not significant, management experiments to come out of government in many years. ExpectMore.gov deserves credit for opening a new chapter on governance in the Internet Age."

#### In addition, in FY2006, OMB

- Signed an MOU with GSA for USAServices email misdirects, to supplement the service for misdirected phone calls that was already in place
- Opened discussions with GoLearn as a possible provider for training content and management
- Committed to an FY07 Q3 date for implementation of E-Rulemaking at OMB
- Extended OMB's capability to securely collect and analyze agency information using the Internet

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/organization/fy2006\\_e-gov\\_act\\_rpt.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/organization/fy2006_e-gov_act_rpt.pdf)

ExpectMore.gov: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/>

## 2006 E-GOVERNMENT REPORT

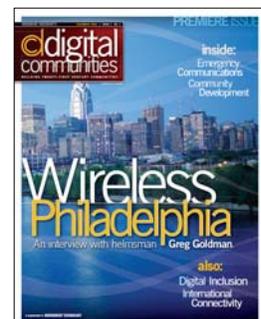
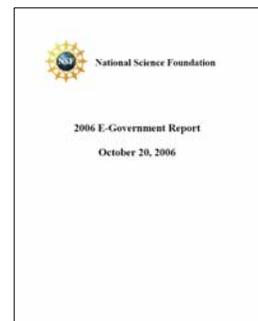
### National Science Foundation, October 20, 2006

NSF continues to serve as a leader and innovator in government-wide efforts to automate and streamline end-to-end grants management activities, enhancing our internal systems to make it faster and easier for the grantee community to access our grants-management tools. NSF's success in electronic grants management is based on a solid track record of focusing on efficient business processes, innovative technologies, and strategic collaboration with the research community.

<http://www.nsf.gov/oirm/dis/FY06EGovReport10-20-06FINAL.pdf>

## DIGITAL COMMUNITIES

The Digital Communities section of the US Government Technology web site is an independent news and information resource for the public sector made



possible by Digital Communities sponsors. The portal focuses on dynamic, emerging technologies - wireless, high-speed broadband and new, innovative applications - vital for the continuing success, safety and economic health of 21st century communities. Additionally, through events and online resources, it serves as a forum for public sector to engage with vendors and peers and share valuable lessons on effectively using these new technologies to solve today's challenges.

<http://www.govtech.net/digitalcommunities/highlights.php>  
They have just launched their Digital Communities Magazine:  
[http://media.govtech.net/Digital\\_Communities/DC12\\_06\\_single.pdf](http://media.govtech.net/Digital_Communities/DC12_06_single.pdf)

## CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS (HEARINGS, REPORTS, ETC.)

### **COMBATING PRETEXTING: H.R. 936, PREVENTION OF FRAUDULENT ACCESS TO PHONE RECORDS ACT**

**Prepared Statement of the Federal Trade Commission before the Committee on Energy and Commerce. United States House of Representatives. March 9, 2007**

The Federal Trade Commission today told the House Committee on Energy and Commerce that “aggressive law enforcement is at the center of the FTC’s efforts to protect consumers’ telephone call records from pretexting,” and said that proposed legislation, the “Phone Records Act,” would provide important new tools that would assist the Commission in combating the unlawful practice.



“Ensuring the privacy and security of consumers’ personal information is one of the Commission’s highest priorities,” said Lydia Parnes, Director of the FTC’s Bureau of Consumer Protection. Individuals or companies that obtain access to consumers’ phone records through fraud, “without the consumer’s knowledge or consent, not only violate the law, but undermine consumers’ confidence in the marketplace and in the security of their sensitive data. Accordingly, the Commission has used its full arsenal of tools to attack the pretexters and the brokers who sell pretexted information.”

The testimony notes that consumers whose phone records were obtained and sold have testified that “they have been stalked and physically threatened by, for example, a former co-worker, an ex-spouse and an ex-boyfriend. In addition to the real threat posed to their safety, these consumers have spent significant time and hundreds of dollars changing phone numbers or service providers.”

<http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2007/03/pretexting.htm>  
Text of the Statement:  
<http://www.ftc.gov/os/testimony/P065409CommissionTestimonReCombatingPretextingandHR936House.pdf>

## THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### **2007 WORLD E-GOVERNMENT RANKING**

**Waseda University (Tokyo)**

*eGovBlog 2006*

The Waseda University Institute of e-Government has recently released its 2007 World E-Government Ranking. The Institute ranked the development of e-Government in 32 countries from all over the world. The top five countries in the list were: United States, Singapore, Canada, Japan and Korea.

In order to measure e-Government development in those countries, some indicators and parameters were defined and used. Focus of the research was not only on the provision of services to citizen, but also on the effective degree of commitment of a certain country with the implementation of successful e-Government strategies.

An interesting finding mentioned by the Director of the Institute shows that even though digital divide is still an issue, the gap between developed countries and some other developing countries is getting close. And this is certainly good news.

<http://www.egovblog.com/2007/03/01/2007-world-e-government-ranking-from-waseda-university>

### **ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN BE ASSISTED BY M & E SYSTEM**

**Nimit Leelasorn**

**DGC. March 17, 2007**

Corruption in developing countries starts at the grassroots of the population and escalates all the way up to the top government level via elected politicians and officials. Government officials use corruption as a way of improving their financial standing and to gain promotion within government organization ranks.

The key contributor to problem of allowing corruption to easily occur in government is lack of transparency and accountability. M & E System ([www.pacplan.com](http://www.pacplan.com)) can assist governments (and other organizations) to improve transparency and accountability by enabling self auditing and measurement to achieve better outcome.

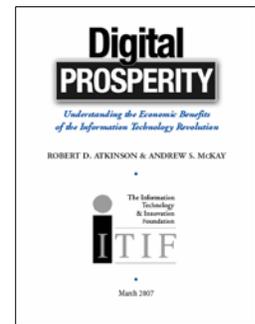
While eradication of the corruption is in progress, M & E([www.pacplan.com](http://www.pacplan.com)) System should also play an important part in the organization's reform to provide incentive by focusing on personnel's progress and performance improvement.

<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/egovernment/rc/ItemDetail.do~1092825>

## **DIGITAL PROSPERITY: UNDERSTANDING THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REVOLUTION**

**Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, March 13, 2007.**

The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation Description: "There have been surprisingly few attempts to catalogue what is known about the economic impact of information and communications technology (IT). In a new report, ITIF does just that, examining the impact of IT in five key areas: 1) productivity; 2) employment; 3) more efficient markets; 4) higher quality goods and services; and 5) innovation and new products and services. The report finds that the integration of IT into virtually all aspects of the economy and society is creating a digitally-enabled economy that is responsible for generating the lion's share of economic growth and prosperity, both here and abroad, including in developing nations. Importantly, the "IT engine" does not appear likely to run out of gas anytime soon and should power robust growth for at least the next decade, provided that policy makers take the right steps. Toward that end the report lays out five key public policy principles for driving digital prosperity: 1) give the digital economy its due; 2) actively encourage digital innovation and transformation of economic sectors; 3) use the tax code to spur IT investment; 4) encourage universal digital literacy and adoption; and 5) do no harm."



[http://www.itif.org/files/digital\\_prosperity.pdf](http://www.itif.org/files/digital_prosperity.pdf)

### **IS CITIZEN-CENTRIC THE SAME AS CUSTOMER-CENTRIC?**

**Neil McDonald**

**Prepared for the eGovernment unit, DG Information Society and Media**

**European Commission Think Paper 5: Birmingham, England, 24th October 2006**

Being a 'customer' is a sub-set of being a 'citizen'. Citizen carries a much wider set of components, not least an interest in fairness and a role in representative democracy. Citizen as customer applies to improvements in "transactional capacity".

Approaching citizens as customers does not necessarily imply commercialization of the relationship between citizen and government.

Citizens can still be customers if they have no choice and their transactions with government are not regulated by binding contractual arrangements.

There may be a 'leveling-up' of citizen expectations as a result of experiences in the realm of private/commercial digital transactions. Such improvements focus on efficiency and flexibility of delivery and on Customer Relationship Management (CRM).

If, as some evidence suggests, people want choice between services rather than just choice between channels, then this has significant implications for current e-Government approaches (i.e. those focusing on customer service only).

A better understanding of citizen preferences is fundamental to inform re-design of services and organizational change aimed at increased citizen-centricity.

[http://www.ccegov.eu/downloads/Paper\\_5\\_Citizens\\_and\\_Customers.pdf](http://www.ccegov.eu/downloads/Paper_5_Citizens_and_Customers.pdf)

## **EGOVERNMENT STRATEGY ACROSS EUROPE - A BRICOLAGE RESPONDING TO SOCIETAL CHALLENGES**

**Michael Blakemore**

**Think Paper 4: Prepared for the e-Government unit, DG Information Society and Media, European Commission. 15th November 2006**

Good e-Government will enable organizational transformation and citizen centric agendas by:\

- Championing ‘diversity’ in an enlarging EU, while synthesizing major learning lessons for all levels of government
- Confronting ‘failure’ in the same context that business does – a learning experience, not a disaster to be hidden at all costs
- Analyzing the complex landscapes of governance throughout the EU, identifying trends, and setting citizen and business relevant development agendas
- Identifying important processes of the consumption of governance, not its technological production; focusing on citizenship, dignity, inclusion, rights and responsibilities
- Supporting the development of citizen-relevant measure of e-Government, at spatial levels that go beyond administrative space, to functional space



[http://www.ccegov.eu/downloads/Paper\\_4\\_eGovernment\\_Strategies.pdf](http://www.ccegov.eu/downloads/Paper_4_eGovernment_Strategies.pdf)

## **ARE YOU READY FOR THE CHARGEBACK CHALLENGE?**

**By Matt Jackson**

***E-Commerce, March 12, 2007***

Chargebacks — the reversal or credit of a charge back to a customer's credit card account — unfortunately, are a part of doing business, whether online or offline. But e-tailors are at a natural disadvantage compared to bricks-and-mortar stores because there's no face-to-face signature witness or card imprint taken.

And, while it's relatively easy for a customer to get a charge reversed, proving a sale was legitimate can be time-consuming and costly for online merchants. To add to the dilemma, in fraudulent cases, e-tailors bear the liability in most cases, not the card issuers, as is the case in traditional commerce.

Still, knowing the reasons why chargebacks occur, how to spot suspicious ones versus valid ones, and how to handle both types, helps minimize the negative impact they can have on your bottom line, namely hefty fees and a lost sale.

Typically, chargebacks are initiated by unsatisfied customers, or worse, fraudsters who claim they never received the product. Sometimes the customer wants to return a product after the "return deadline" and wants his or her money back or lent their card to a friend who made unauthorized purchases. In the case of fraud, the trade publication Nilson Report estimates the rate of credit card fraud to be 18 cents to 24 cents per \$100 of online sales, which is three to four times higher than the overall rate of fraud.

[http://www.ecommerce-guide.com/solutions/customer\\_relations/article.php/3664961](http://www.ecommerce-guide.com/solutions/customer_relations/article.php/3664961)

## **LEARN HOW TO AVOID ONLINE FRAUD DURING NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK (FEB. 4-10)**

### **The Business Software Alliance Offers Online Shopping Tips and Other Resources to Help Consumers Avoid Software Piracy**

Washington, D.C. (February 7, 2007) –The Business Software Alliance (BSA), a non-profit trade association representing the nation’s leading software manufacturers, urges consumers to learn how to avoid purchasing counterfeit software and recognize online fraud during National Consumer Protection Week, Feb. 4-10th. Anyone can be a victim of software piracy. It is a serious problem in the United States and around the globe, costing consumers and businesses billions of dollars annually. Last year alone, BSA and its member companies shut down over 75,000 auction sites offering pirated and counterfeit products.

“With Americans shopping online in record numbers, it is more important than ever to ensure that consumers know the risks involved in buying from online retailers and auction sites,” said John Wolfe, Director of Internet Enforcement. “BSA hopes that during National Consumer Protection Week, Americans will take a few minutes to visit our Online Cyber Safety site and learn how to protect themselves from software piracy and other online fraud throughout the year.”

The best defense for consumers is education on how to protect themselves against the numerous risks involved with purchasing pirated software online. Fraudulent software leaves both users and their networks highly vulnerable to viruses and security breaches-- there is no assurance of quality or reliability in the software or the ability to receive upgrades and technical support. Additionally, there is no guarantee that necessary program manuals, updates and documentation will be received.

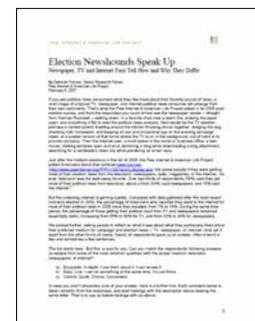
BSA’s Online Cyber Safety site: <http://www.bsacybersafety.com/>

## **ELECTION NEWSHOUNDS SPEAK UP: NEWSPAPER, TV AND INTERNET FANS TELL HOW AND WHY THEY DIFFER**

**Deborah Fallows**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project. Memo, 2/6/2007**

During the autumn 2006 campaign and election season, Americans flocked in record numbers to their favorite media sources for political news. When asked why they preferred one medium over the others, consumers all pointed to convenience of use and unbiased presentation of information in their



favorite medium, whether they preferred TV, newspapers, or the internet. Beyond that similarity, newspaper readers appreciated being able to settle in comfortably to pore over pages and scrutinize the information. TV viewers liked the effortless experience of being presented the news and valued seeing faces and hearing voices. For internet users, it was all about control, control, control of the when, where, what, and how fast of their online experience.

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Election\\_Newshounds\\_Feb\\_2007.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Election_Newshounds_Feb_2007.pdf)

## **ELECTION 2006 ONLINE**

**Lee Rainie, John Horrigan**

**PEW Internet & American Life Project. Report, 1/17/2007**

Twice as many Americans used the internet as their primary source of news about the 2006 campaign compared with the most recent mid-term election in 2002.

Some 15% of all American adults say the internet was the place where they got most of their campaign news during the election, up from 7% in the mid-term election of 2002.

A post-election survey shows that the 2006 race also produced a notable class of online political activists. Some 23% of those who used the internet for political purposes – the people we call campaign internet users – actually created or forwarded online original political commentary or politically-related videos.



[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP\\_Politics\\_2006.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Politics_2006.pdf)

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