

## PRIVACY WORKSHOP PACKS HOUSE ASSUMPTIONS CHALLENGED

BY MARC WALDMAN

Can a system be designed in such a way that it guarantees strong protection of civil liberties? That was the main theme of the Workshop on Freedom and Privacy by Design held on April 4th.

The workshop, chaired by Lenny Foner, brought cryptographers, programmers and system architects together with experts on the issues of freedom and privacy for the purpose of discussing how to design systems that can secure civil liberties. The workshop discussions centered around three projects.

The first project was a proposed replacement of the Domain Name System (DNS). The domain name system is a hierarchical naming scheme that is primarily used to translate domain names, such as "cs.nyu.edu" into IP addresses such as "20.72.3.120". It is the IP address that is used to route packets of data around the Internet. Although the DNS system works very well, it possess certain characteristics that make it, from a civil liberties point of view, less than ideal. The unique nature of domain names allows the first company or individual that purchases a domain name to have complete control over it. This leads to "land grabs" where a company purchases all domain names that are in some way connected to its business. This



ATTENDANCE AT THE WORKSHOP EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS.

results in rapid exhaustion of the DNS namespace and also prevents smaller companies or individuals from acquiring these domain names. The unique mapping of domain names to IP addresses also makes anonymous publishing very difficult. The DNS system does not provide a mechanism to hide the true IP address of a particular domain name.

The DNS replacement discussion consumed the morning session. Rebecca Wright of AT&T Research Labs described the challenges and obstacles to

building such a system. These challenges include complying with existing laws and industry standards. A particular system, in order to gain widespread acceptance, must be easy to use.

Alma Whitten of Carnegie-Mellon University gave a brief talk concerning user interface design for privacy enhancing technologies. Alma stated that developers of privacy enhancing

WORKSHOP  
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## CFP IN THE NEWS

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ON A CONSTITUTIONAL COLLISION COURSE

BY DREW CLARK  
FROM NATIONAL JOURNAL TECH DAILY  
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Just as copyright law has collided with the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment rights, trademark law and its online applications is likely to be the next major intellectual property area where business interests butt heads with free speech advocates, legal experts said Tuesday.

"The First Amendment has come up a lot in copyright," said David Post, a professor at Temple University law school and noted cyberspace lawyer.

"Largely stimulated by Internet distribution, it will come up more in trademark law," Post said during a discussion on intellectual property law and the Internet at the Computers, Freedom, and Privacy conference.

NATIONAL JOURNAL TECH DAILY  
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## AUSTIN HILL TO DELIVER MORNING KEYNOTE

### BEYOND CREEPY CRAWLY INDOLENCE

BY DIETER ZINNBAUER

Discussing privacy, freedom and the Internet is pretty much like show-and-tell in grade two. Everyone gets carried away when rambling on about their own favorite creepy crawlers and only grossness really scores high with the audience.

"Challenging the assumptions", the motto of this year's Computer Freedom and Privacy, indicates a major effort to look beyond the politics of outrage about denial of service attacks or cyber-pornography. It provides a platform to explore the normative, technological

and socio-political building blocks of Internet age freedom and privacy, their dynamic interrelationship and emerging institutional framing.

Austin Hill, the keynote speaker for the opening session, has long been at the forefront of challenging entrenched assumptions and intellectual indolence with regard to online liberties. As co-founder of Zero Knowledge Systems he has pushed the technological frontier as well as the political discussion of cyber-privacy to a new level — and arguably evolved into the single most important threat to the business models of the DoubleClicks in this world.

## SECURITY, PRIVACY IN BROADBAND INTERNET

BY LAUREN MATHESON

As the public's increasing thirst for speed draws them towards broadband Internet alternatives, new questions of security and privacy arise. Broadband connections, by their 'always on' nature, infrequently changing IP addresses and LAN technology interfaces, increase the vulnerability of computer networks.

Large institutions and corporations know how to protect their systems, but as more and more home users opt for broadband connections, how much knowledge should be expected of them? With so many people using apparently low security Windows and Macintosh operating systems that enable file and printer sharing by default, there is much room for exploitation. Many home users are surprised when their computer's network neighborhood very much resembles their own neighborhood, and those whose printers accidentally receive a neighbor's document are shocked.

To their merit, many broadband providers and hardware manufacturers have developed patches and workarounds to some of these glaring insecurities, but what standard of

security and privacy should be expected? Are changes required to the construction of these networks and protocols? Information and misinformation abound regarding DSL vs. cable as means to deliver broadband service. Does either architecture offer an advantage for privacy and security?

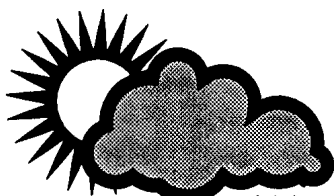
Important as we ask so many questions is whose issue is it to resolve these security and privacy concerns. Is it the government's role to ensure a degree of data protection for its citizens, or is it rather a consumer's responsibility to choose a broadband service with the dedication to privacy they desire? This could be a new arena for broadband providers to compete with each other.

Six professionals join us this afternoon to discuss this topic. Robert Ellis and Myles Losch join us from ACM. Simson Garfinkel is a consultant and journalist. John Denker hails from AT&T Labs-Research, while Jacques Desroches and Dermot O'Carroll are from two national broadband providers, Bell Canada and Rogers Cable, Inc.

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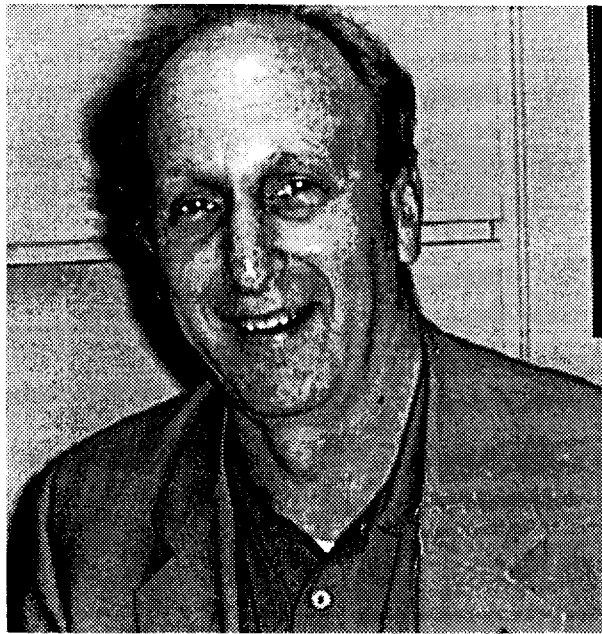


Partly Cloudy  
Chance of rain  
Hi 12°C 54°F  
Lo 5°C 40°F

On Friday, at the conference's last session, we will celebrate 10 years of CFP with a special panel of some of the most influential and memorable participants throughout the conference's storied history. In preparation, we asked the past CFP chairs about their view of where the conference has been and where it is heading.

## LANCE HOFFMAN LOOKS FORWARD

**“CFP IS ONE OF THE FEW PLACES WHERE WORLD AUTHORITIES GET DOWN AND DIRTY WITH UPCOMING STARS AND UPCOMING SCOUNDRELS. THE ISSUES BECOME LESS ABSTRACT WHEN YOU PUT FACES BEHIND THE IDEAS. I WANT TO DISCUSS THOSE IDEAS NOW, SINCE THE PEOPLE BEHIND THEM MIGHT BE ON THE COVER OF TIME OR FORTUNE NEXT WEEK OR NEXT YEAR.”**



LANCE J. HOFFMAN, CFP CHAIR '92

## CONSTITUTIONAL COLLISION COURSE

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Citing the case of KmartSucks.com, a now-abandoned domain that was started by a critic of the department store, Post questioned, “is that a case of tarnishing the name, or a First Amendment issue?”

But while trademark law already has played a large part in debates concerning the rights of individual domain name registrants and the practice of “cybersquatting,” Post said he expects the next frontier of legal thinking to focus on using people’s trademarks “not in domain names but on a Web site.”

The anticipated battle is likely to provide a new venue for free speech advocates to assert their rights, said Pamela Samuelson, a law professor at the University of California at Berkeley, citing a string of disillusioning court decisions favoring copyright holders over the right of public debate.

Samuelson said the decisions include judgments against iCraveTV, a Canadian company that legally (under Canadian law) rebroadcast television shows over the Internet, and against computer users who successfully reverse-engineered the Cyber Patrol Web filtering software and digital video discs.

She called last month’s decision in favor of Cyber Patrol — which was challenged in court by the American Civil Liberties Union — a “ruling by a hysterical judge whose answer was to issue an injunction against the world, forgetting that there are other countries.”

“This is one case where sex makes American judges nuts,” she said.

Post cited Thomas Jefferson, who is a former member of the patent board, as saying, “Inventions then cannot, in nature, be a subject of property. Society may give an exclusive right to the profits arising from them, as an encouragement to men to pursue ideas which may produce utility, but this may or may not be done, according to the will and convenience of the society, without claim or complaint from any body.”

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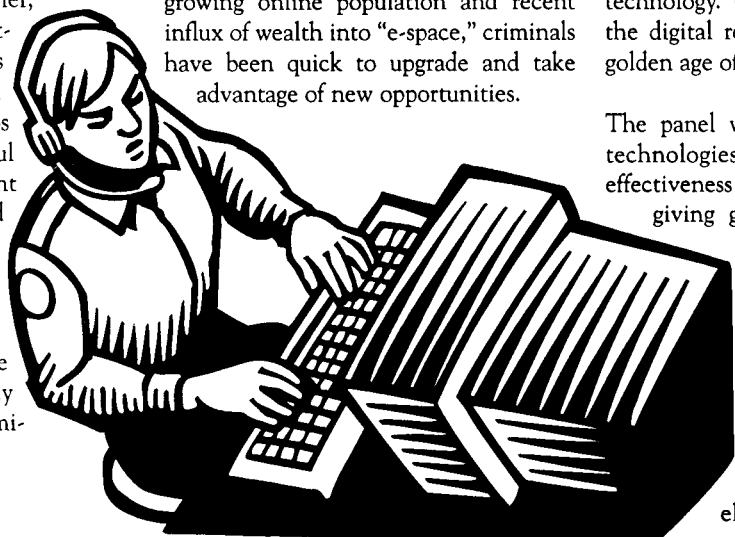
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## ECOPS WALK THE CYBER BEAT IS PRIVACY LEFT BEHIND?

### THE GOLDEN AGE OF SURVEILLANCE OR ANARCHY ONLINE?

MARK KERR

Among the legends of CFP is that it offers a rare opportunity for cops and hackers to drink together, debate, and perhaps enlighten each other. Today’s 11:15 panel doesn’t have a hacker, but it has two cops and a judge: FBI agent Paul George, Justice Department official Paul Kendall, and California judge Tom Cecil join CDT’s Jim Dempsey and George Tomko of Photonics Research Ontario to consider the interplay between privacy and technology in the criminal justice context.



As technology pervades every aspect of daily life — as more people are using the Internet to work, make purchases, or just entertain themselves — it is natural that crime would move online too. With a growing online population and recent influx of wealth into “e-space,” criminals have been quick to upgrade and take advantage of new opportunities.

While criminal investigators sometimes claim publicly that their ability to fight crime is hurt by technology advancements, law enforcement agencies have long been innovative adapters of technology. Civil libertarians fear that the digital revolution has ushered in a golden age of surveillance.

The panel will consider whether new technologies really increase police effectiveness in pursuing criminals? By giving governments the power to track suspected criminals, will law-abiding citizens also be pursued? As the government collects information to prevent crime, how will it be stored, who will have access to it, and if the government can gather information, who else can, too?

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SPECIAL THANKS TO  
JAMES DEMPSEY

Wednesday April 5th, 2000

CHALLENGING THE ASSUMPTIONS

## MUCH FLOCKING TOGETHER EXPECTED

### BOFs OFFER DIVERSITY, INTERACTION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5TH 9:30 PM — 12 AM

**Global preview of Cyberselfish —  
A critical romp through the terribly  
libertarian culture of high-tech”  
by Paulina Borsook.**

Location: Pier 4

“A book four years in the making, ‘Cyberselfish’ attempts to describe the religion of Silicon Valley, if you understand religion to mean ‘commonly held set of mostly-unconscious beliefs.’ This will be a virtual disintermediated bookreading because although I’ll have the uncorrected proof to read from, the actual mass-produced chunks of dead trees will still be at the printer. Special for CFP2000 attendees there will be one-off, custom-designed, CFP2000 commemorative bookplates I can sign as souvenirs (to slap in copies of the book after it gets published 12 May. Or not...), and book cards (postcard-ish things with the Cyberselfish book jacket reproduced on them). I will also try to answer any questions as best I can”

Paulina Borsook

**Electronic Frontier Canada (EFC)  
Open Evening: “Freedom and Privacy in  
Canadian Cyberspace: The Charter of  
Rights and Freedom in its Adolescence”**

Location: Pier 9

Organizers:  
Peter Hope-Tindall, dataPrivacy Partners Ltd  
Pippa Lawson, PIAC  
David Jones, EFC  
Robert Cribb, The Toronto Star

**Britain’s RIP Bill**

Location: Dockside III

**Present Your Thoughts  
to a National Task Force  
on the Internet and Democracy**

Location: Pier 5

“The National Task Force is “In Search of Democracy’s Domain in a Dotcom World.” The Task Force has special interests in the following topics: privacy and e-politics, commercial versus non-profit political Web sites, voter behavior and expectations, and politically engaging the generations online. Since this conference centers around privacy issues, this is an ideal time for activists, academics, and practitioners to present their thoughts about privacy and e-politics (especially electoral and issue politics). At the same time, all presentations are welcome. Although the Task Force is focused on US politics and culture, they certainly welcome insights and ideas about issues that are more international in scope, especially since the nature of the Internet often defies national boundary distinctions.

You should attend and make an informal presentation because your ideas will be conveyed to former U.S. Representatives Patricia Schroeder and Richard White, the Co-Chairs, and the distinguished members of the Task Force: Doug Bailey, Jerry Berman, David Boaz, Mike Connell, Lorrie Faith Cranor, John H. Fund, William A. Galston, Lawrence K. Grossman, Roberta Katz, Margery Kraus, Mark Lloyd, Adam Clayton Powell III, Bill Schneider, Michael Schudson, Andrew Shapiro, Nadine Strossen, Ellen Wartella, Daniel J. Weitzner, and Raul Yzaguirre. Task Force Director Dr. David M. Anderson will conduct the session. The National Task Force is a part of the Democracy Online Project which is funded by a grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts. It is administered by The Graduate School of Political Management of The George Washington University.”

Organizers:  
David Anderson, Democracy Online Project

**Hackivism:  
Social Activism in the Network Society**

Location: Pier 7

Organizer: Jesse Hirsh, TAO Communications

**Reconciling Title V (Privacy) of  
The Financial Services Modernization Act  
of 1999 with The “Safe Harbor” Provisions**

Location: Dockside IV

“The financial privacy provisions of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (The Financial Services Modernization Act) establish extensive new obligations and rights with respect to consumer financial privacy. In the BOF, we will review the terms of the Act together with some legal commentary and explanation. The session will then move to question the sufficiency of these privacy provisions in light of the European Privacy Directive and the US ‘Safe Harbor’ response and to discuss the boundaries of the definition of ‘financial institution’ in light of the newest developments in ecommerce.”

Julia Gladstone, Bryant College

**Latest News From a New Privacy Survey**

Location: Dockside II

Organizers: Gale Meyer, North Carolina State University  
Julie Earp, North Carolina State University

**Appropriate Privacy for  
Political Organizations**

Location: Pier 8

Organizer: Craig Hubley, Craig Hubley & Associates





## WORKSHOP PACKS HOUSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

technologies all too often expect the average user to understand complex topics such as key distribution and digital signatures. An incomplete understanding of these topics can lead an individual to unknowingly revealing sensitive information such as secret passwords.

After the two brief talks, there was a moderated discussion of the replacement DNS system. Discussion topics included the need for a hierarchical naming system, the role of search engines and the need to preserve the underlying DNS.

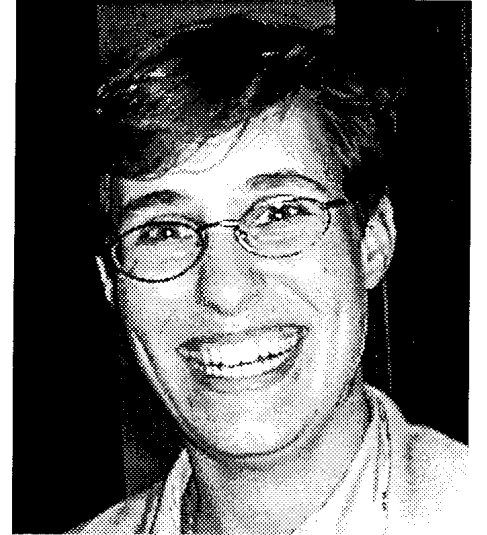
The second project concerned ways to motivate businesses to protect their customer's civil liberties. David Phillips

ALMA WHITTEN SPEAKS UP AT THE WORKSHOP TUESDAY MORNING, AS PHIL ZIMMERMAN, ANNE ADAMS, IAN BROWN AND ADAM SHOWSTACK LOOK ON.

of the University of Texas at Austin discussed the activities of anti-nuclear activists and how they could be adapted by civil liberty activists. John Gilmore of the Electronic Frontier Foundation discussed the free software movement and described starting the free software company Cygnus.

The moderated discussion that followed focused mainly on ways of convincing businesses to better protect individual privacy. There was also discussion on what form a privacy "Chernobyl" would take — that is an event that would cause average users to demand greater privacy protection from the companies they deal with.

The third project concerned "anonymous" cash — cash that cannot necessarily be traced back to a particular individual. Companies that issue credit and debit cards routinely use data mining techniques to discover the buying habits of individuals. This allows them to target specific advertising at the individual that owns the card. Anonymous cash systems would prevent this type of targeted advertising and therefore the credit card companies have little incentive to get involved with anonymous cash. The moderated discussion suggested various methods to coax credit card companies to issue anonymous cash cards.



## CFP INTERVIEWS MARIT KÖHNTOPP

Marit Köhntopp is the head of the Department of Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PET) at the Privacy Commissioner's Office Schleswig-Holstein in Germany. Since 1995 she has been working on security and privacy aspects especially concerning the Internet, anonymity and pseudonymity, biometrics, multilateral security, negotiation, in short: all kinds of privacy-enhancing and privacy-sympathetic technologies with both the technical and jurisdictional point of view.

CFP News — Why did you come to CFP?

Marit — At the Privacy Commission, we believe that privacy cannot just be a local issue. Privacy is an international issue. Therefore it is important to engage with privacy advocates and policy makers worldwide.

CFP News — What are you looking forward to at CFP?

Marit — Having face-to-face meetings with people who I have been corresponding with from around the world as well as meeting new privacy advocates.

# CRASH COURSE ON NEAL STEPHENSON

## HUGO AWARD WINNER PROVIDES WEDNESDAY'S DINNER THEATER

BY ANDRIY PAZYUK

Neal Stephenson is one of the leaders in science fiction writing today. He began his science fiction career in 1979 with a novel *The Big "U"* and continued it with Eco-thriller *Zodiac* (1988), cyberpunk classic *Snow Crash* (1988), *Interface* (1994), and *The Diamond Age* (1995) with which he has had great success. *The Diamond Age* is the winner of the 1996 Hugo Award for Best Science Fiction Novel. The latest, *Cryptonomicon* (1999) is a 900 page novel centered around cryptography.

Neal Town Stephenson is also known under the joint pseudonym Stephen Bury that he shares with his uncle, George Jewsbury.

In an interview with Michael Goldberg, Stephenson says: "I like technology. I like

computers. I like science. I just like the ideas that people come up with, the things that people do with their heads. The people I most enjoy talking to are hackers and scientists and people who tinker with stuff".

Most of his books are written in the "cyberpunk" genre, characterized with such requisites: the strikingly changed near future with its advanced technology, such as biochip technology in *Interface* and nanotechnology in *Diamond Age*.

Looking at the current trend in technology development it seems that science "fiction" may be science achievement in the near future and that fact raises some ethical questions that always accompany new technologies. Where does the border between man and machine lie? The politically juiced *Interface* also raises the question of how technology has and could change politics.

The author focuses on the near future. In an interview for Bantam Books devoted to *The Diamond Age* he predicts "that in the next generation we'll start seeing some basic applications of nanotechnology, and then it will be widespread in the generation following that".

The participation of a speaker with the individuality of Neal Stephenson at CFP increases the spirit of digital era. It is also a chance to hear some good sound bites from the author. As I know, he is not easily interviewed. Besides he introduces himself as a bad correspondent. \*

This does not hinder his sense of humor.

\* See: "Why I am a Bad Correspondent" by Neal Stephenson at [www.well.com/user/neal/badcorrespondent.html](http://www.well.com/user/neal/badcorrespondent.html)

