

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

CAN SPAM Suits Announced

Egregious Spam Operator faced litigation today from the largest US ISP' today including Microsoft, AOL, Earthlink and Yahoo. Under the new law that President Bush signed in December these activities wre cited in the compliants -- Deceptive solicitations for a variety of products including get-rich-quick schemes, prescription drugs, pornography, instructions for conducting spam campaigns, banned CDs, mortgage loans, university diplomas, cable descramblers and other common types of unsolicited e-mail -- Use of open proxies (sending spam through third-party computers to disguise their point of origin) -- Falsified "from" e-mail addresses (spoofing) -- Absence of a physical address in the e-mail -- Absence of an electronic unsubscribe option

Posted by viavr in Internet at 09:29

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

SCO Files Copyright Infringement Lawsuit Against AutoZone

LAS VEGAS, Mar 3, 2004 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- The SCO Group, Inc. (Nasdaq: SCOX), the owner of the UNIX(R) operating system and a leading provider of UNIX-based solutions, today announced it has filed suit against AutoZone, Inc., for its alleged violations of SCO's UNIX copyrights through its use of Linux.

SCO's lawsuit alleges the following:

- * AutoZone violated SCO's UNIX copyrights by running versions of the Linux operating system that contain code, structure, sequence and/or organization from SCO's proprietary UNIX System V code in violation of SCO's copyrights.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Nevada, requests injunctive relief against AutoZone's further use or copying of any part of SCO's copyrighted materials and also requests damages as a result of AutoZone's infringement in an amount to be proven at trial.

The company will discuss this announcement as part of its regularly scheduled conference call related to first quarter earnings, scheduled for Wednesday, March 3 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time. To participate on the call, individuals may dial 1-800-818-5264 or 1-913-981-4910 and use the confirmation code: 141144. Alternatively, a listen-only live web cast is available at <http://ir.sco.com/medialist.cfm>. Call participants are encouraged to dial in 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 06:41

Tuesday, February 24. 2004

A translation from the Google

From FerengiWith the Browsen I met the following

URL:<http://www.sandoba.de/article-491-vorteile-gegenueber-open-source-systemen.html> Therein it means among other things:"with the advancement commercial and free systems within the Web range resemble each other as far as possible, since the systems in the source text are often delivered. The customer has thus the choice, whom he gives the order for advancement. However there are for the customer with open SOURCE systems no possibility of effect direct affect the development process. Also an investment security is missing as far as possible, since the developer teams see themselves forced by other work often after short time to stop the work on the systems. Commercial systems however finance themselves as far as possible from the license costs. Therefore an attitude of the development is hardly conceivable."This paragraph appears to me somehow somewhat exaggerated. Typo3 isa marvelous example, like commercial services approximately aroundOpen SOURCE content management system (Typo3 is whole okay, hasin addition, various larger weak points) develop. And naturallyone could have as a customer also influence on the development process;as far as I conversed with Typo3-Implementationspartnern and users,the Typo3-Community is very open, which concerns feature Requests.And the topic with investment security... naja, that likesPerhaps Popel CMSen apply, not however IMHO in systems, thosealready achieved a certain market penetration.We ourselves drive out a Portalframework/Applikationstoolkit,also CMS functionality thereby is (4 WYSIWYG editors with more automaticSelection of the editor depending upon Browserfunktionalitaet). We financeus not as far as possible from the license costs (a full version gibt'swith us already for 5.000 EUR), but mainly from the project developments,for those the customer gladly pays: he receives its desires for his systemdirectly and does not have to wait up to the next product update (over thenperhaps to be disappointed, because the manufacturer its desire notconsidered). And investment security gibt's with that additionallyavailable "open SOURCE license" (contained in then still another company licenseis) also.On a lecture on contentmanager.days the 2003 there was an adviser(I do not know no more from which company, Stellent? or others), that thoseThesis spread that in an overall project the costs of the license onlya very small part constitute, which at least with larger projectsto quite be correct likes.Summarized I feel the text specified above under the URL mentionedas a little objective. License-free systems such as Typo3 just show that alsogenuine open SOURCE within the CM range a market chance has - straight in anyway alreadyquite dead content management range - many systems go to that into the marketdynamic applications (in which we are present already for several years ,because the customers probably recognized that one would like to have more, as only contentTo schubsen article around.About Typo3: straight 2003 were IMHO the year for Typo3 - ever morecommercial implementation partners developed, the straight ofSandoba criticized disadvantages (support, advancement, investment security)make up for again.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 15:12

SPAM OF THE DAY - Settec from Saudi Arabia

I don't know how we got on the list, but the recent bulk mail from SETTEC is eye-opening (it's not your usual spam.) The featured product :for Mar. 7-8 'Defensive Driving' at the Crowne Plaza Hotel - Saudi ArabiaMarch 16 - 17, 2004: Stipulations and Provisions of the New Unified - Meridian HeliopolisMore than half the mail is in Arabic script, which I don't read. The company is however located in "Agoosa Police Tower, Nawal St., Agoosa, Giza, Egypt "

Posted by viavr in Internet at 11:12

Saturday, February 14, 2004

E-tech Elite

I guess in any group of people, you have those that can be considered pompous. I don't think there was an overriding level of it though. I didn't make it into the speaker sessions, but I'm sure all the speakers gave a fine show. The exhibition hall seemed sparse. It was graced by a short list of grandjunction, ebay, microsoft, google, and maybe about 10 or so others. One of the exhibits had a 4-ft robot that roamed the exhibition area. I couldn't figure out what they OR microsoft were doing there - the microsoft team didn't staff their booth when I was there. Next year I guess I should schedule into the speaker sessions.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 13:40

Does the Internet Accelerate the Wal-marting of the US Economy?

On the way to O'Reilly's Etech, the train was late coming into the station by half an hour- which was a good period to knock through all the necessary calls. I don't know why it was late but I suspect it had something to do with the freight train that cruised down the tracks at a leisurely pace at about the time our scheduled passenger train was supposed to be there. On the way out of the station I picked up a copy of the Southern California Computer User from the rack in the station. These tabloid computer papers have all gotten thinner over the last 2-3 years as the hardware has become commoditized. It is a quick flip through the 50-odd pages, all the way back to the last page where I ran into James Mathewson's Outfitter column. This week he wrote about the Wal Mart economy. In this column, Mathewson echos a growing chorus of voices about the wal-martification of the American economy. He writes "All I know is that the Wal-Mart economy is not sustainable in the long term. Sooner or later, it will hit the wall." What are the opposing arguments to this? Mathewson writes of local merchants, and the impacts upon them. Lots of questions raised, but no answers. I think the direction of internet search is a part of this equation also. search engines with the power and scope of Google, Yahoo, AlltheWeb, and highly probably Microsoft give power to consumers to digest lot and lots of data. Purchasing data empowers the consumer to make a smart decision - for the same identical item, the lowest price is always available to the savvy search engine user. Let's not forget the search engines' aggregation of catalog data - content that has been crawled with a robot and re-purposed to suite the engines' mission. But what of the local merchant? It's extremely painful for them to service this market. As I've written before, unless the local merchant goes with a Walmart business model - that is of high-volume and low margins, they may as well not try to compete. The argument that many posit is that local merchants are positioned to service the local business because they are closer to the consumer. But the problem with that argument is the frequency with which the consumer wields the on-line pricing as a club to get lower pricing over the counter.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 13:38

VOIP is Not the Phone -

Lextext reports on the FCC ruling, sought and received by Pulver.com, to their favor. VOIP - voice over internet will remain free of regulation - at least for now. Only time will tell the permanence of this decision. Don't forget the tax-free internet-transaction world, that rail is probably nearing it's end. Read the ruling here: [click to download fcc-ruling-on-voip.pdf](#) You will need acrobat.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 00:46

Tuesday, February 10, 2004

The Balkanization of the WEb - It's the Economics

The row over internet naming and numbering standards (thanks to Lextext) is all about economics. The shots across the bow are clear indicators that discussion is not what's necessary, it is some forms of action - that is if you believe the technical leverage delivered by the web is to remain intact and continue to grow. Otherwise, the discussions are the harbinger of the balkanization of the World Wide Web into regional and other demarcated zones.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 21:26

The Semantic Web Arrives

I'm pleased to join Battelle and others in W3's Recommendation document RDF/XML. This is really just the beginning, and should represent the (hopefully) eventual demise of dirty data. I call data 'dirty' when the factoid or data point doesn't have digital (and in many cases - human readable) categorization. Data scrubbing is required, along a food chain making that is usually supposed to making use of it. The data conundrum is the velocity of its creation. We're always making more and more data; it's obvious current data creation rates overload intended channels. Any guesses as to the velocity of adoption of the new recommendations? And how about it's evolution?

Posted by viavr in Internet at 21:14

We'll Hop on a Train and Check

We'll check tomorrow!

Posted by viavr in Internet at 20:58

Thursday, February 5, 2004

Congress Considers Fines for Aliased Domain Registrations

The Register reported "Senator Lamar Smith of Texas - chairman of the Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee - yesterday produced from nowhere extensions to the 1946 Trademark Act that would make giving false contact information for a domain name a civil and criminal offence. His bill (HR 3754) was discussed today at 10am.." Thanks to Lertext for the link. The argument for this is put forth under intellectual property and trademark positions. It's an egregiously bad interpretation of those laws if passed. Trademark holders have strong and enforcable channels to go after domain squatters. My 5th grader's class was having discussions on the political scene, and comments were made that 'Democrats want big government'. In this case, it's the opposite; this bill has no redeeming value.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 19:00

Saturday, January 31, 2004

Orkut - it's just part of the Buzz

Google doesn't need Orkut. For marketable demographics, Google needs a killer-app/business model with demographics built-in and Orkut isn't it. When you have all eyes on your every move, every little thing you do is magnified. Orkut is a keen and simple example of this. Is Orkut a killer application? Email is a killer-app, as are instant email apps AOL IM, Yahoo Messenger, and MSN Messenger. Each counts tens of millions of registrations. Talk to any media buyer, and they will tell you the registered-user counts are highly inflated and discountable due to a) churn of the users, b) users with phantom accounts, c) users that open accounts and never do anything with them beyond the initial-use surge. But after all these discounts you STILL have tens of millions of users that volunteered 'some' level of demographics. These media buys worth doing because \$50K-\$500K a month is being bought. Orkut seems to make sense as another AdWords channel but that's about it. I would heavily discount any of the social networking applications from having mass market penetration capabilities. Believing they do is delusional and smacks of a Silicon Valley 'build it and they will come' mindset. Orkut.com states Orkut is an "online meeting place where people can socialize, make new acquaintances and find others...". Online socializing is terribly inefficient, which is why I believe the mass market will continue to use the social platform of choice: Shoes toe to toe.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 22:10

Google's Advertising Revamp One Month Old

Google's advertising offerings are now one-month into the official soft-launch of their revamped Advertising Sales product and service matrix. Prior to January 1, 2004, an advertiser spending \$5,000 per month would warrant a Google Account Representative. After January 1, advertising accounts are assigned a Google Rep only if they spend \$10,000 per month. ("Full service for large advertisers" at <http://www.google.com/ads/>). The ad placement on the page is now in full swing. Prior to January 1, 2004, large advertisers contracted with Google to secure 'Premier' positioning at the top of the results. These contracts were generally annual in nature, and assured the advertiser the top advertising slots in a browser-wide width. These premier slots are now open to all AdWords customers. Adwords buyers prior to January 1, 2004, secured space in the column to the right of the search results. After January 1, 2004, AdWords buyers now rise to the browser-wide slots when their PPC price puts their ad on top of the AdWords results for that search result page.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 10:28

Thursday, January 29, 2004

Playboy v Netscape - Settled - Back to the Library

Playboy and Netscape have settled their differences, it's been widely reported. I think a certain party didn't want (legal) precedents set. While poking around in others' stuff on the subject, I ran repeatedly into librarians voices, and in particular the American Library Association and their Privacy Related Page. Thanks to the redhead librarian at infozo.info for the ALA link. This and other similar instances have made me realize that the library community is getting quite 'out there' on any number of issues, from the Patriot Act, to censorship issues. Kudo's to them for taking stands.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 15:30

Blog Export: Flag Blog, <http://www.fivestarflags.com/vox/>

Tuesday, January 27. 2004

No to Net Voting pt. 2

Shanness writes regarding the use by Diebold of the DMCA in their lobby to further digital voting platforms.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 18:41

Friday, January 23, 2004

No to Net Voting

Election Voting on the web has serious flaws according to US security experts. Click here for the pdf: Security Analysis of SERVE Their executive summary states: This report is a review and critique of computer and communication security issues in the SERVE voting system (Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment), an Internet-based voting system being built for the U.S. Department of Defense's FVAP (Federal Voting Assistance Program). This report is a review and critique of computer and communication security issues in the SERVE voting system (Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment), an Internet-based voting system being built for the U.S. Department of Defense's FVAP (Federal Voting Assistance Program). The program's web site is <http://www.serveusa.gov/>. While the system is called an experiment, it is going to be used to count real votes in the upcoming general elections. The authors are members of SPRG (the Security Peer Review Group), a panel of experts in computerized election security that was assembled by FVAP to help evaluate SERVE. Our task was to identify potential vulnerabilities the system might have to various kinds of cyber-attack, to evaluate the degrees of risk they represent to the integrity of an election, and to make recommendations about how to mitigate or eliminate those risks. The SERVE system is planned for deployment in the 2004 primary and general elections, and will allow the eligible voters first to register to vote in their home districts, and then to vote, entirely electronically via the Internet, from anywhere in the world. Besides being restricted to overseas voters and military personnel, SERVE is currently limited to people who vote in one of 50 counties in the seven states (Arkansas, Florida, Hawaii, North Carolina, South Carolina, Utah, and Washington) that are participating. The program is expected to handle up to 100,000 votes over the course of the year, including both the primaries and the general election. (By comparison, approximately 100 million votes were cast in the 2000 general election.) The eventual goal of SERVE is to support the entire population of eligible overseas citizens plus military and dependents. This population is estimated to number about 6 million, so the 2004 SERVE deployment must be judged as a prototype for a very large possible future system. Our conclusions are summarized as follows: DRE (direct recording electronic) voting systems have been widely criticized elsewhere for various deficiencies and security vulnerabilities: that their software is totally closed and proprietary; that the software undergoes insufficient scrutiny during qualification and certification; that they are especially vulnerable to various forms of insider (programmer) attacks; and that DREs have no voter-verified audit trails (paper or otherwise) that could largely circumvent these problems and improve voter confidence. All of these criticisms, which we endorse, apply directly to SERVE as well. But in addition, because SERVE is an Internet- and PC-based system, it has numerous other fundamental security problems that leave it vulnerable to a variety of well-known cyber attacks (insider attacks, denial of service attacks, spoofing, automated vote buying, viral attacks on voter PCs, etc.), any one of which could be catastrophic. Such attacks could occur on a large scale, and could be launched by anyone from a disaffected lone individual to a well-financed enemy agency outside the reach of U.S. law. These attacks could result in large-scale, selective voter disenfranchisement, and/or privacy violation, and/or vote buying and selling, and/or vote switching even to the extent of reversing the outcome of many elections at once, including the presidential election. With care in the design, some of the attacks could succeed and yet go completely undetected. Even if detected and neutralized, such attacks could have a devastating effect on public confidence in elections. It is impossible to estimate the probability of a successful cyber-attack (or multiple successful attacks) on any one election. But we show that the attacks we are most concerned about are quite easy to perpetrate. In some cases there are kits readily available on the Internet that could be modified or used directly for attacking an election. And we must consider the obvious fact that a U.S. general election offers one of the most tempting targets for cyber-attack in the history of the Internet, whether the attacker's motive is overtly political or simply self-aggrandizement. The vulnerabilities we describe cannot be fixed by design changes or bug fixes to SERVE. These vulnerabilities are fundamental in the architecture of the Internet and of the PC hardware and software that is ubiquitous today. They cannot all be eliminated for the foreseeable future without some unforeseen radical breakthrough. It is quite possible that they will not be eliminated without a wholesale redesign and replacement of much of the hardware and software security systems that are part of, or connected to, today's Internet. We have examined numerous variations on SERVE in an attempt to recommend an alternative Internet-based voting system that might deliver somewhat less voter convenience in exchange for fewer or milder security vulnerabilities. However, all such variations suffer from the same kinds of fundamental vulnerabilities that SERVE does; regrettably, we cannot recommend any of them. We do suggest a kiosk architecture as a starting point for designing an alternative voting system with similar aims to SERVE, but which does not rely on the Internet or on unsecured PC software (Appendix C). The SERVE system might appear to work flawlessly in 2004, with no successful attacks detected. It is as unfortunate as it is inevitable that a seemingly successful voting experiment in a U.S. presidential election involving seven states would be viewed by most people as strong evidence that SERVE is a reliable, robust, and secure voting system. Such an outcome would encourage expansion of the program by FVAP in future elections, or the marketing of the same voting system by vendors to jurisdictions all over the United States, and other countries as well. However, the fact that no successful attack is detected does not mean that

none occurred. Many attacks, especially if cleverly hidden, would be extremely difficult to detect, even in cases when they change the outcome of a major election. Furthermore, the lack of a successful attack in 2004 does not mean that successful attacks would be less likely to happen in the future; quite the contrary, future attacks would be more likely, both because there is more time to prepare the attack, and because expanded use of SERVE or similar systems would make the prize more valuable. In other words, a "successful" trial of SERVE in 2004 is the top of a slippery slope toward even more vulnerable systems in the future. (The existence of SERVE has already been cited as justification for Internet voting in the Michigan Democratic caucuses.) Like the proponents of SERVE, we believe that there should be better support for voting for our military overseas. Still, we regret that we are forced to conclude that the best course is not to field the SERVE system at all. Because the danger of successful, large-scale attacks is so great, we reluctantly recommend shutting down the development of SERVE immediately and not attempting anything like it in the future until both the Internet and the world's home computer infrastructure have been fundamentally redesigned, or some other unforeseen security breakthroughs appear. We want to make clear that in recommending that SERVE be shut down, we mean no criticism of the FVAP, or of Accenture, or any of its personnel or subcontractors. They have been completely aware all along of the security problems we describe here, and we have been impressed with the engineering sophistication and skill they have devoted to attempts to ameliorate or eliminate them. We do not believe that a differently constituted project could do any better job than the current team. The real barrier to success is not a lack of vision, skill, resources, or dedication; it is the fact that, given the current Internet and PC security technology, and the goal of a secure, all-electronic remote voting system, the FVAP has taken on an essentially impossible task. There really is no good way to build such a voting system without a radical change in overall architecture of the Internet and the PC, or some unforeseen security breakthrough. The SERVE project is thus too far ahead of its time, and should wait until there is a much improved security infrastructure to build upon.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 05:26

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

Platform Evolution

Penner recently joined the s9y team. Can't wait to see the new user administration functions. As it is, we've been adding users to by way of myadmin -just get the hash right and it works fine. That isn't for everybody, though. It would be REALLY cool if the team would thrash the table structure to allow multiple blogs to exist in the same database, without creating more tables hmmm waitasec - mebbe you don't have to... brbWell that didn't quite work - missing a key field. I tried setting Serendipity bloga to blogb' 's tables in the database. It'd be a nice feature, since 'everyone' wants their own blog space - having multiple blogs write to the same set of tables. I envision the installation process into the user directory to be pretty much as it is now. At the configuration screens, admin would define the table prefix; if this newest installation was writing to an existing set of tables, the those posts, archives, authors, etc would need to have a 'blogID'. Hmmm. users to blogs table, blogID field introduced into existing table structure, and oh yeah, the dominos. ---->All this would probably demand a single admin 'su', at the database configuration panel, so normal users couldn't change their table definitions.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 16:31

Offbeat Internet Demographics Bust Dean

Howard Dean's recent calamity in the Iowa was the result of mis-reading and mismanaging web demographics. Gene Koprowski writes for UPI:CHICAGO, Jan. 21 (UPI) -- Howard Dean won a virtual primary online last summer, but the maverick politician did not fare so well in Monday's real-world Iowa caucuses. Pundits and online technology consultants say that was because the demographics of the Internet are quite different than those of the electorate at large: younger, more affluent, more liberal and more motivated by new technology. Thus, certain kinds of candidates perform exceptionally well online, while others simply do not. "The kinds of candidates who do well online are a Bill Bradley, a Howard Dean, or a John McCain," Michael Lux, a former Clinton White House domestic policy aide, now a political consultant in Washington D.C., told United Press International. "They draw a constituency that is not blow-dried, that is not totally mainstream. The whole Internet culture is drawn to them." This may create some false expectations for a candidate and his minions and even the media, because an Internet community can be spread out across the whole country, but voting is still carried out locally, and candidates often are chosen based on local values. (see the [hopefully permanent]article at <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20040120-092014-8691r>) Besides the internal mis-reading and mis-managing of web-o-philes, traditional media outlets also overlooked the data.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 15:06

Tuesday, January 20, 2004

Google PageRank Death

Is Pagerank dead? The Google PageRank's attempt to deal with digital density is admirable but flawed. The database claims 3,307,998,701, and the deep web isn't indexed. I estimate there are at least 1/3 to 50% more pages that exist that aren't indexed. The density will only increase, further eroding Pagerank's value as a concept. In the end volume conquers all.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 17:46

Friday, January 16, 2004

Playboy v Netscape 2

Mr. Battelle, get a little deeper. The suit between Playboy and Netscape is far from a nuisance. It illustrates a continuation of some of the twisted business model values that plagued and then caused the dot-com crash. Battelle writes "The question here is of balance. Where and how do you draw the line as to what is a misuse of a trademark, and what is not? If we have to depend on the courts every time someone wants to use a word that also happens to be trademarked, the chilling effect on paid search could be significant. " The point is that defendants' use of the trademark was in commerce, and they enjoyed an economic benefit. Further, The question is not necessarily of balance, but of value. As the holder of the mark, Playboy's position is no different than other mark holders that are far more aggressive in their enforcement, such as Gucci. Trademark value preservation is the goal, value erosion is what Playboy wants to prevent. This is really only the tip of the iceberg of current search engines' erosion of value. Google is a de facto 'content aggregator' in their cache page. Do content originators and owners enjoy a value benefit from the cache? Some would argue the answer is no, and Google's cache is copyright assumption without the permission of the holder. Cached pages are full of trademarks and copyrighted material that benefit Google most of all, and unless checked diminish copyright, trademark, and content owners intrinsic equity in their assets. The fact that content holders must opt-out of the cache is not the way copyrights work. The value proposition get worse when one begins factoring in Yahoo and Google's product search offerings unveiled in the last couple of quarters. In these offerings, both companies mine the web for product image, description and content for service up to their users. The result is a) product search users get a new version of an on-line catalog, this being Yahoo's or Google's version; and b) can winnow their results by the picture/short description/price the bot was able to parse out. Users get this abbreviated set of data, and are able to quickly get to the lowest-priced offering. This is of course the Google - Yahoo kiss of death for mom and pop e-commerce sites, since the resulting price compression benefits only the customer, the search engine that served the results up, and marketers that enjoy high-volume low margin business models.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 12:23

Thursday, January 15, 2004

Yahoo to drop Google q1 2004

Battelle writes regarding Yahoo's coming split with Google. Google is not necessarily the gorilla, and this is not necessarily good for Google. Yahoo has a significant war chest, and a varied revenue stream. Advertisers with Yahoo stores need not apply to advertise on the AOL network; you are turned away. The competitors in the space know who's who, and behave accordingly. If the resurrected Playboy vs Netscape (by the Ninth Circuit - see <http://news.com.com/2100-1024-5142058.html>) results in precedent favorable to the mark holder, in this case Playboy, Google will have a larger liability exposure to any fall-out. The 'we are (just) an ISP' defense doesn't really cut it. And why should Google benefit by being the underdog? Are you going to lead the market or not? Google's technological stance is quite singular among the search engines, they are after all the one with the 'algorithm' and can easily be considered the mother of heuristic search. The thin veneer of a democratic algorithm is largely worn away by the actual site-building community. If Google is a technology company, they should fight their way to a leadership position and Lead a charge.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 22:55

Dumb and Dumber

Ole Eichhorn presents a case laden with facts purporting mankind is getting dumber (a lower IQ) over time. If you're still surfing the internet and browsing high-traffic sites, surely you haven't missed what are becoming ubiquitous IQ test come-ons from emode. What a fascinating way to collect demographics to sell to advertisers; emode appeals to the narcissist. After all, who wants to admit being a brick short of a full load?

Posted by viavr in Internet at 19:58

Search Search Search

Thanks to Kottke's blog on Battle Search Engine, we've stumbled onto John Batelle's Search Blog Good job keeping up with what arguably could be the next net bust. Get set for large marketing roll-outs as msn and yahoo implement share pushes as they move out of beta.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 18:18

Apple Hewlett Packard iPod License

iPods are cool, and it's big news for Apple to license said thingy to Hewlett Packard (discussed here on Daring Fireball.) I wonder if HP will lend any velocity to the iPods continuing development (think about their inkjet product life cycle.)

Posted by viavr in Internet at 17:54

Blog Export: Flag Blog, <http://www.fivestarflags.com/vox/>

Wednesday, January 14, 2004

Blog by mail - email that is.

Posting blog entries by email .. gottahavit. You've earned space on the worthy list!

Posted by viavr in Internet at 18:03

Tuesday, January 13. 2004

SANE vs Not

The need to have technical brainpower running in problem solving mode running amuck, is not that different than unchecked feature programming - the pm's dreaded featuritis. It's actually an 'insanity check.'

Posted by viavr in Internet at 16:12

Digital Divide : Liberals and conservatives

World Magazine posted the question: Will liberals dominate the new technological frontier? in their blog. The basic premise breaking technological adoption into liberals and conservatives implies a 'digital divide' that might be explained by macro-demographics such as age and gender. Using a political label is a flawed premise to begin with. "Liberal use computers, conservatives don't?" "Liberals use the internet, conservatives don't? The viewpoint is over general, stereotyping, and betray a fear of the unknown.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 11:13

Suspicious Activity

How does your addy wind up receiving those things in your inbox? (The ones you didn't ask for?) Our suspicion has always been the senders generate massive lists of names appended with @hotmail.com, @yahoo.com, @aol.com, and etc. The right side of the @ only need be a couple of handful of known ISP's and the left side is the product of name generators. Of course they exist, just go through the exercise of opening an account at any of the aforementioned, and YOUR name is gone, but there are plenty of suggestions proffered! Get a random name generator at kleimo.com. This link courtesy of the scriptygoddess. (note: we preprended s..goddess with 'the', not she.) And as she points out, great for name and password generation.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 07:40

Monday, January 12. 2004

And where would we be if they did?

What if AOL Yahoo and Microsoft allowed us to add to the web-based mail headers? Don't think so. The folks at Habeas who are supposed to be ?? good spam ?? want those three, that arguably own 80% or 90% or more of the mail accounts in the US, to allow header editing. Yeah right. What they want is to become the defacto postage stamp on the sending of e-mail. It's no wonder AOL, Yahoo, and Hotmail just say 'No' to Habeas headers. The Habeas site states "special note for web based e-mail systems like Yahoo, AOL, and Hotmail. While you can still get the benefit of Habeas for email you receive, you cannot presently use Habeas SWE in your outbound mail. We encourage you to contact support@(your service name) and ask that they allow you to include Habeas headers in your outgoing email." All the 'good spam' companies (including spam filters, black hole operators, and any model build on addressing spam) are suspicious. If their model really worked, they'd be out of business, having solved the problem.

Posted by viavr in Internet at 16:38

Sunday, January 11, 2004

The coin of the realm

Next to flags, currency and stamps define authorities. It's interesting to note a feature built into Photoshop, that prevents currency manipulation. According to BoingBoing.net, the Photoshop CS automatically detects images of US currency. This of course might prevent sarcastic usage of the coins of the realm, such as the wonderfully funny examples here. And (if globalised, after all, it's just another feature hidden or not) just plain money depictions as here. This revealing connect-a-dot would not be possible either! For all the subliminal marketers out there, can we expect to see a new layout every election cycle? This one is hilarious and is a must see. Link courtesy of Squoogy.Weblogs.com

Posted by viavr in Internet at 00:00

Thursday, December 4, 2003

Still ON - is there any doubt? (sub-title: I gave at the office)

While scanning the web and actually looking for a rant excuse [why do some bloggers solicit donations? as in Matt Welch's so-called War Blog - you've seen them, the ubiquitous Paypal, donate now button. I clicked on the resume button, to find the author quite the well-rounded author about the LA town and more.] If it's not pc, our apologies, but do you really NEED the donations? And no, we don't mean to pick on you, a search at google with the word (support blog paypal) kicks out over 150,000 results. Hey, how about DONATING the donations to a worthy cause? On to the subject - really. At Little Green Footballs, (whoops, there's that donate button again, hey maybe it's donations for a kids cause?) I ran into a short summation of Bolivia's boot to a score of terrorists bent on piloting passenger jet missiles. Also at Yahoo News. Quoting:"(Ferrufino) said that the tip-off from French police said that the 16 Muslims were planning to hijack a plane en route from La Paz via Santa Cruz to Buenos Aires to attack targets in the United States," the news agency report said.State Prosecutor Jaime Solis, who is overseeing the case, said nine of the detainees would be deported -- he did not say to where. Several other detainees had already been released."According to French police, there is information that four of the nine have supposed connections to terrorism," Solis was quoted as saying.Martial law may not be such a bad thing, even if sugar-coated. Bolivia just gave them the boot, these guys need to be HELD, and at least given a psych, because they sound like sociopaths. But they weren't, they were deported, which is definitely not (cured, calmed down, persuaded to another method, talked out of [whatever], take your pick.) The bottom line is that these guys, if for real, were bent on taking a passenger jet to US targets. Does anybody think the present American defense footing would not have shot that plane out of the sky at the first hint?

Posted by viavr in Internet at 22:03