

InternetNZ addresses Banking Code

InternetNZ has proposed amendments to the controversial Code of Banking Practice.

The Code, prepared by the New Zealand Bankers Association, came into force at the start of July. It treats users of Internet Banking in an unfair way compared with its treatment of other methods of banking.

The amendments focus on the following four areas that InternetNZ deems unfair: the rule against use of secure password facilities; the excessive conditions of liability for unauthorised transactions using Internet banking; the requirement that home computer users keep their systems up to date; and the right for banks to request access to people's computers in the event of a suspected fraud.

InternetNZ's recommends sensible reasonable changes that will address the major concerns the public have raised in response to this Code's content, says Deputy Executive Director Jordan Carter. "I hope that the banks will consider them seriously and implement them as soon as they can."

"In the end, the fundamental principle of current banking practice – that customers are not held liable for fraudulent theft of their money – should apply in the Internet world. Our amendments would help make sure it does," he says.

Copyright wrongs

The impact of technology on Copyright remains a problematic area after the Commerce Select Committee declined to take up the main suggestions made by InternetNZ in respect to the Copyright (New Technologies and Performers' Rights) Amendment Bill.

InternetNZ made submissions on ISP liability, the proposed notice and takedown system, format shifting and technological protection measures.

The Committee has retained the idea of a notice and takedown system akin to that being abused in overseas jurisdictions and made it even clearer that suppliers can contract out of allowing format shifting of music.

There are minor improvements on the draft, but the legislation fails to keep up with technological change in major areas. Short of a significant consumer backlash there appears to be no remaining avenues to preventing this Bill becoming law.

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IPv6 workshop filling fast

Places on the IPv6 technical workshop being hosted next week by InternetNZ are almost fully registered.

The workshop runs from 6 – 10 August 2007 with sponsorship by InternetNZ, FX Networks and the Crown-owned REANNZ (Research and Education Advanced Network New Zealand).

It is being delivered by two offshore experts on IPv6 - Faraz Shamim from Cisco Systems and Gaurab Upadaya from Packet Clearing House.

Topics covered will include IPv6 design and addressing, IPv6 neighbour discovery, IPv6 stateless auto-configuration and mobile IPv6.

Much of the workshop will involve hands-on work with network equipment from Cisco Systems.



AGM a roaring success

At first glance, fine art and web streaming seem odd bedfellows but at InternetNZ's Annual General Meeting these came together with aplomb.

The meeting saw outgoing President Colin Jackson, Vice President David Farrar and Councillor Simon Riley recognised for their contributions to InternetNZ and presented with limited edition landscape prints by emerging Wellington artist Julian Knap.

Fellow of the Society Roger Hicks was presented with a decorative stone sculpture recognising his work on the Structural Review. An honours board listing all Council members and Fellows of the Society past and present was also unveiled at the AGM.

Over 50 members packed the Society's Wellington office for the meeting, making it one of the best attended InternetNZ AGMs held in recent years. An additional four attended via videoconference from central Auckland, further boosting numbers.

The meeting was a multimedia affair streamed live to the web (now available for download from the R2 website - www.r2.co.nz), and several keen people dialing in through IRC.

Interim Council election results were announced at the AGM. Official results were confirmed earlier this week and are as follows:

Peter Macaulay was elected InternetNZ's President for the next two years. Macaulay is a former InternetNZ Councillor and has served in the past as Executive Director. Long-standing InternetNZ Councillor and Fellow of the Society Frank March was elected Vice President and will also hold this position for a two-year term.

Judy Speight was re-elected to Council and five new faces - Liz Butterfield, Hamish McEwen, Stewart Fleming, Michael Foley and Scott Bartlett - were elected to serve as InternetNZ Councillors.

The business end of the meeting saw reports received from outgoing InternetNZ President Colin Jackson, Treasurer Michael Wallmannsberger and the Society's Executive Director Keith Davidson.

Domain Name Commissioner Debbie Monahan updated the meeting on the DNC/NZOC and NZRS Chair Anne Urlwin reported back on recent NZRS activity.



Over 50 members enjoyed InternetNZ's Annual General Meeting held in Wellington at the end of July.

40+ years of service honoured

InternetNZ says farewell to a group of Council members who have chalked up over 40 years combined service for the Society. Outgoing President Colin Jackson, Vice President David Farrar and Councillors Simon Riley, Mark Harris, Jennifer Northover and Michael Sutton have tackled a wide range of issues during their tenures.

A founding member of the Society, Jackson has held various governance roles, including Councillor, Treasurer and President. He says the last two years have been positive for InternetNZ with good success in the policy arena and a healthy .nz domain name space.

Farrar, a Councillor since 1998, rates the SRS implementation in 2002 and "seeing NZRS develop into a professional and trusted registry" as highlights of his time on Council. InternetNZ successfully persuading Parliament and the Government to operationally separate Telecom has been another highlight, he says.

Riley, a Councillor since 2001, has worked on a swathe of projects including helping to develop InternetNZ's first strategic plan. He was a key figure behind the Next Generation Internet project and co-authored a number of documents relating to telco reform.

Harris was involved with setting up Domainz in the mid-nineties and in hiring the Society's first Executive Director Sue Leader. Recently, Harris worked as part of a test group from DIA, Netsafe and InternetNZ trialing software for blocking child pornography. He has been a councillor since 2005 and earlier served as Councillor from 1996 to 2001.

Northover has been a councillor since 1998 and has held numerous roles in InternetNZ, including formerly chairing the social impact committee and leading the recent remuneration review. She rates her biggest achievement on Council as "surviving the blistering years from 1998 to 2001".

Sutton was a key driver for ENUM as a concept and contributed significantly to the creation of a strawman model for ENUM for New Zealand.



Cyberlaw Fellow Philip Greene presents at the AGM, with Executive Director Keith Davidson in foreground.

AGM sees adoption of Structural Review constitutional changes

As part of last month's AGM proceedings, members voted on a suite of constitutional amendments put forward by the Council to reform how InternetNZ operates. These were developed as part of the Structural Review process which has been highlighted in previous issues of *The Browser*.

The first two proposed sets of amendments were adopted, while the third was not. The first set made a range of technical changes to the constitution, which allow for InternetNZ to apply for charitable status for the Society and the establishment of the Internet Foundation. They are fully documented on the website.

More important are the second set of changes. The amendments have made the following key changes:

- From next year's AGM the Council will begin to reduce in size from 14 members with half elected every two years, to twelve members with one third elected every three years.
- The positions of President and Vice President will remain elected by the members, for a three year term for the first time in 2009 (when Pete Macaulay and Frank March's terms come to an end).
- The offices of Secretary and Treasurer have been abolished, with effect from the 2008 AGM.
- The constitutional requirement for an Executive Committee has been abolished, replaced by an appointed governance board to oversee the activities of the Executive Director and Office.

To implement these changes without altering the terms of any existing Councillors, a transitional section was added to the Constitution which sets out how to get from the status quo to the newly adopted structure. The transition takes place over the next three AGMs. The revised Constitution will be posted on the InternetNZ website after it is submitted to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies in early August.

Thank you, and welcome

InternetNZ would like to thank outgoing councillors and welcome incoming councillors to the InternetNZ council.

Executive director Keith Davidson says the experience and voluntary efforts of councillors has been crucial to the achievements of the Society.

The Annual General Meeting to usher in the new councillors was a successful event and Davidson says all those involved in organising it should be proud for a job well done.

As well as the efforts of staff members, thanks also go out to R2's Richard and Jeremy Naylor for streaming the event, to Communications Partners' Rick Renner for the videoconferencing, and Simply Food for catering.

May next year's AGM also be an event to look forward to.

events

APTLD Meeting

August 14, Honiara, Solomon Islands
www.aptdld.org

ISPANZ AGM

August 16, Wellington
www.ispanz.org.nz

PacINET 2007

August 15-24, Honiara, Solomon Islands
picisoc.org

Digital Media & Content Summit

September 25-26, Auckland
www.conferenz.co.nz

APTLD Advanced Technical Training

October 24-25, Bangkok
www.aptdld.org

ICANN Asia Pacific

October 29-November 2, Los Angeles
<http://losangeles2007.icann.org/>

If you know of any other events to add to the InternetNZ events list—please email susi@internetnz.net.nz

DNC Annual Report

The DNC report was produced in conjunction with InternetNZ and released in the past month. Some of the key facets of the report and the year's work are outlined below.

Statistics

The number of registrations reached 250,000 late on 11 October 2006, showing continued strong growth in the .nz domain name space. In August 2006 the number of active domain names increased from 239,460 to 244,608, a net increase of 5,148.

Growth during the 2006/07 year has been especially strong, with last year's monthly growth record of 3,599 surpassed in all but two months of the year (December and January).

Policy review

As part of our commitment to continually review the .nz policies, the Registering, Managing and Cancelling Domain Names policy was reviewed during the year.

This review was extensive and remains ongoing. A third round of consultation will be undertaken during the coming year to assist the DNC and the NZOC to fully understand the local Internet community's view on the matter.

NZ Domain Registration Limited

NZ Domain Registration (NZDRL) was the subject of a High Court interim injunction obtained by InternetNZ, through the DNC.

An investigation by the DNC was conducted into what appeared to be a mass mail-out of letters to existing or former registrants of .nz domain names requesting payment for the registration of .net.nz domain names.

The DNC considered that there was insufficient information requested in the letters sent by NZDRL to enable a bona fide registration of the domain name to be made, and therefore urged that those people who received the letters respond with caution.

The DNC worked closely with the Commerce Commission during the investigation of this matter. The interim injunction obtained by InternetNZ meant that any payments made to NZDRL were held in New Zealand pending the court's final decision.

ACCC focus on future of regulation

Each year the Australian competition regulator, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, holds a conference to share knowledge and information about regulatory issues and policy challenges in the competition arena.

This year's conference, held in Brisbane at the end of July with a theme of "The Future of Regulation" had sector specific workshops on the water, electricity, ports and telecommunications industries as well as general items on measuring the productive impact of infrastructure regulation and more broad-based competition law policy.

ACCC's choice of sectors illustrated well the underlying theme of the conference: that the way network infrastructure utilities are regulated has a significant impact on the productive potential of a country's economy. Speakers covered the development of regulatory approaches, with a general focus on the liberalisation over the past twenty years.

Jordan Carter attended from InternetNZ, and said the sectors on telecommunications were of great interest. "The two presenters – one a US academic and one an EU competitive carriers' lobbyist – shared a range of insights regarding telecommunications regulation," Carter said.

"While their specific topic was fixed-mobile convergence and its impact on broadband, both spoke more broadly. What was reassuring is that New Zealand's general regulatory approach, of sector-specific regulation based broadly on the principles of competition law, is finding broad favour around the world. While specific implementations differ, New Zealand's regulatory framework is now pretty mainstream."

LLU prices out

The Commerce Commission has released draft determinations for local loop unbundling and co-location services, including draft prices.

The LLU price of \$16.49 per line in urban areas appears competitive. "It provides a good incentive to ISPs to invest in DSLAM infrastructure in the urban areas," says InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson.

"The rural LLU price of \$32.20 per line is high, and reinforces the need for the government to come to the table with its oft-mentioned rural broadband package.

"Now that the draft prices are known, ISPs can begin to finalise their investment plans. InternetNZ hopes to hear firm commitments to investment that will deliver better broadband for New Zealanders, sooner rather than later.

"I also congratulate the Commission for making such speedy progress in this complicated area," says Keith Davidson.