

## Broadband - InternetNZ explores path forward

InternetNZ broadly supports recent Budget commitments by the Labour-led government to invest over \$500 million of public funds in broadband over the next five years, and is commissioning an independent assessment of the best path forward for broadband rollout.

This followed National's announcement that it will invest up to \$1.5 billion to roll out fibre-to-the-home throughout New Zealand.

Labour's planned spend forms part of a ten year programme that includes a Broadband Investment Fund that aims to accelerate broadband investment in the business, education, health and rural sectors. Some funds will also be dedicated to improving New Zealand's international connections.

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson welcomes any increase in public expenditure on broadband, which he describes as critical infrastructure and essential for ongoing economic growth. The announcement confirms that the debate has moved to decisions on "when" rather than "if" better broadband is required.

"A clear difference has emerged between Labour and National as to how they are approaching this policy question, in terms of amounts to invest, pace of rollout and methods of public engagement. Different levels of detail are also available," says Davidson.

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## Hector's World launches in UK

InternetNZ congratulates NetSafe subsidiary Hector's World Limited on the UK launch of its online cyber-safety resource Hector's World.

In May, Hector's World was selected by UK law enforcement agency CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) as their key resource for keeping younger children safe from sexual abuse and grooming online.

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson says the UK launch should significantly raise both Hector's World and NetSafe's international profile.

"Offshore take-up of this cyber safety resource is testament to both its quality and originality. Hector's World is a practical and engaging application that sends all the right online safety messages to children."

NetSafe and its subsidiary Hector's World are important sibling organisations of InternetNZ, and the Society fully supports their ongoing efforts in educating the general public about the dangers that lurk online.

"Knowing the dangers helps prevent children from being harmed, and the Hector concept provides an empowerment tool for children to self-protect," says Davidson.

## Making contact

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“InternetNZ has strongly supported the development of a more competitive market in telecommunications, including through the operational separation of Telecom and strengthened regulatory powers for the Commerce Commission that we advocated for.

“The Government’s package as announced in May preserves that competitive basis, which we welcome, but proposes less investment than National’s plan, announced in April. We did not expect the major parties to enter into an auction, bidding up the value of their respective broadband proposals, and it is probably more useful to look at the underlying details.

“To help inform public and political debate about the merits of the approaches Labour and National have proposed so far, InternetNZ will be commissioning an independent consulting report that will evaluate the proposals on the table, and recommend a best fit approach for New Zealand’s unique conditions,” says Davidson.

“It is encouraging that both main parties have recognised the

importance of ubiquitous high-speed broadband and are willing to commit funds to help deploy the necessary infrastructure.

“It’s also pleasing they have seen the crucial role that open access networks can play in allowing multiple providers to compete on a level playing field over the same network; and that both are prioritising rural and underserved areas.”

Davidson also commends the Government’s stated priority of a second trans-Tasman cable, saying an additional international link would provide crucial competition that could result in lower costs for consumers for international data, and also provide diverse international paths ensuring a more robust and enduring Internet for NZ.

“The vision of universal access to very high speed broadband infrastructure is becoming widely shared, and the Government’s plans move further towards realising it. InternetNZ wants to ensure that the final policies of all political parties, by the time the election occurs, are as good as they can be to turn that vision into reality.”

## APNIC Registrations Open

Registrations for the upcoming APNIC 26 conference are now open.

The conference, which brings together Asia Pacific Internet and networking experts, government representatives, industry leaders & and other interested parties, is being held from 25 - 29 August 2008 at the Christchurch Convention Centre.

You can register online for APNIC 26 at the following link: [www.apnic.net/meetings/26/register](http://www.apnic.net/meetings/26/register)

For more information on APNIC 26, including travel and sponsorship details please see the meeting website: [www.apnic.net/meetings/26](http://www.apnic.net/meetings/26)

## Applications open for PIP travel fellowships

The Pacific Internet Partnership (PIP) is offering up to five fellowships for residents of the Pacific Islands to attend the upcoming APNIC 26 meeting in Christchurch.

PIP is a consortium of independent organisations, including InternetNZ, who have joined together to share resources to improve technical IT skills in Pacific Island Countries.

More information on applying for the travel fellowships is available on the PIP website: [www.pip.org.nz](http://www.pip.org.nz)

## Impact ‘08 seminar: water management

The second of seven Impact ‘08 ICT seminars, of which InternetNZ is a co-sponsor, was held on May 19. The topic was Water Management, and how ICT collaboration technologies are changing the way that water is managed, used and studied.

Unfortunately, technical difficulties prevented the use of the high-speed Access Grid, with those attending at grid nodes in Auckland, Hamilton, Christchurch and Lincoln universities unable to participate.

The seminar proceeded in a condensed face-to-face format for those at the Wellington node, with short PowerPoint presentations from NIWA’s manager of operational forecasting Bernard Miville and Dave Loubser from the Ministry for the Environment.

Miville described the range of environmental forecasting undertaken at NIWA – the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research.

The Institute’s Operational Forecasting System has been developed and is supported by the use of open source tools. They provide a 24x7 automated monitoring system with alerts to pagers, email and SMS. The ‘delivery system’ – called EcoConnect – is accessible via the web, with users able to access the products through a customisable map interface.

Loubser followed with an informative account of environmental remote sensing work being undertaken by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), précising two of MfE’s remote sensing initiatives – LUCAS (Land Use and Carbon Analysis System) and Kiwimage.

# InternetNZ comments on Draft Digital Strategy

In late May, InternetNZ filed a detailed submission in response to the Ministry of Economic Development's 'Draft Digital Strategy 2.0.

Part of the submission focuses on broadband targets. It was submitted that by 2012 those in larger urban centres should be able to access symmetrical broadband at 100mbps, moving to 1gbps by 2015. Suitable targets for smaller towns would be 10mbps and 100mbps, and for rural areas 5mbps and 20mbps respectively. Other key points in our submission included:

- That serious consideration should be given to establishing a single ministry that encompasses broadcasting, communications and IT. Such a ministry would be better positioned to manage the policy challenges of convergence in the marketplace.
- That cyber security is a growing threat to business and the economy as a whole. New Zealand lacks a national coordination centre (Computer Emergency Response Team - CERT). InternetNZ is committed to working with all key stake holders both industry and government in the establishment of an NZCERT.
- With respect to IPv6, the world is running out of IP numbers and there is a growing urgency that New Zealand needs to be formulating a transition plan from IPv4 to IPv6. Government provides a leadership role in this regard.
- In addition, InternetNZ considers next generation broadband services and applications will be key drivers in the uptake of broadband, but more importantly underwriting the business case for fibre to the home (FTTH). These new services and applications will in turn drive new forms of digital content.
- InternetNZ calls for a contestable Broadband and Network Applications Fund to support development of next generation broadband applications and network technologies.

A PDF version of our submission is available on the InternetNZ website at: [www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/2008/](http://www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/2008/)



## NZ slightly improves its OECD broadband ranking

New Zealand has slightly improved its broadband ranking in the latest OECD Broadband Statistics Report.

The statistics, for the half year to December 2007, show New Zealand is now placed 19th of 30 OECD countries in broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants.

18.3 out of 100 inhabitants now have a broadband connection, compared with the OECD country average of 20. There are 757,132 broadband subscribers in New Zealand.

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson attributes the lift in New Zealand broadband subscribers to recent regulatory reforms, which InternetNZ has lobbied long and hard for.

“Over the course of the last year InternetNZ has made extensive and detailed submissions to Government on the operational separation of Telecom.

“Separation Day has now occurred and we expect this will result in a more competitive telecommunications market, which should be reflected in subsequent OECD broadband statistics.”

Davidson is encouraged by figures showing New Zealand is the 6th fastest growing OECD country in terms of broadband penetration. There has been a net increase of 4.37 subscribers per 100 inhabitants.

“If New Zealand maintains this rate of growth then it will continue to slowly improve its position relative to other OECD nations. But, to fully leapfrog into the top half of the OECD, substantial investment and subscriber uptake in a ubiquitous open access fibre network is required.

## events

### ICANN

June 22 - 27, Paris  
icann.org

### TUANZ Rural Broadband

July 3 - 4, Rotorua  
tuanz.org.nz

### NetSafe Cybercitizenship Conference

July 28 - 30, Queenstown  
netsafe.org.nz

### InternetNZ AGM

July 31, Wellington  
internetnz.net.nz

### Convergence Oceania

August 1, Auckland  
wirelessdataforum.org.nz

### APAN 26 Sustainable Networking

August 4 - 8, Queenstown  
karen.net.nz

### APNIC 26

August 25 - 29, Christchurch  
apnic.net

### IPv6 Technical Workshop

August 29 - September 3, Christchurch  
internetnz.net.nz

### PacINET

September 1 - 5, Rarotonga  
picisoc.org

### IPv6 Technical Workshop

September 8 - 12, Auckland  
internetnz.net.nz

### RIPE 57

October 26 - 30, Dubai  
ripe.net

### ICANN

November 2 - 7, Cairo  
icann.org

### APTLD

December 6 - 7, Hyderabad  
aptld.org

## InternetNZ gives thumbs up to Digital Development Council

InternetNZ welcomes the launch in May of the Digital Development Council by Minister of Communications and IT David Cunliffe.

The signing of the establishment rules for the Council enables work to progress in setting up and signing members to the Digital Development Forum, which will include wide representation from user, industry, community and local government organisations.

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson says the initiative will bring organisations together from across the ICT spectrum to work with Government both in providing policy advice and to deliver on strategic goals.

“The Government’s Digital Strategy cannot be done in isolation. A collaborative approach is required and this new structure sets up a framework to deliver substantial benefits for New Zealand.”

The Council and Forum should be seen as a useful consultation body for Government to assist in establishing policies that affect the ICT sector, says Davidson.

“There are real opportunities here to share information and produce practical work programmes utilising wide industry and user experience. We certainly look forward to participating.”

Cabinet’s decision to provide establishment and early funding has been crucial to getting the initiative up and running and it should be noted that the Council and Forum will be independent of Government.

“InternetNZ calls on all interested organisations to support the initiative, focus on the national interest, and make it a success,” says Davidson.

## from the DNC

### Application for .health.nz

An application has been received to create a new, moderated second level domain (2LD) - .health.nz. Copies of the application, and the proposed moderation policy, can be seen on the DNC website.

Comments are sought on this application, and on the moderation policy that will be used to accept registrations. In particular, comment is sought on how the application meets the criteria for a new 2LD, namely that the 2LD:

- Represents an identifiable, significant community of interest; where:
  - ‘significant’ can mean either quantitatively or qualitatively; and
  - the community of interest can be defined in a clear written statement
- Represents an on-going and long-lived community of interest
- Does not conflict with, duplicate or cause confusion about, any existing 2LD, and is a useful addition to the current DNS hierarchy
- Uses a name to represent the domain that is a obvious derivative of a word that properly describes the community of interest or a complete word.
- Does not bring the .nz domain name space in disrepute.

Submissions are due by 5pm on Wednesday 16 July.