Welcome, from the CEO

Hi, and welcome to the first edition of The Browser for 2010.

I have taken on the Chief Executive's role at InternetNZ from February 1. To lead an organisation such as InternetNZ is both a great honour and challenge.

The need to protect and promote the Internet is of critical importance to New Zealand's economic, social and cultural aspirations, and InternetNZ has worked hard towards this vision.

We intend to continue to do so in the future by strengthening our current efforts, building on our foundation of members' expertise, and proactively developing communities of interested stakeholders.

This will require increased collaboration with members, Council, Government, and the wider community.

We also need to increase the level and quality of two-way dialogue, supported by better use of social media tools and skills. I am personally committed to facilitating these collaboration efforts and conversations going forward.

I'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas on how we're doing and the areas that you think InternetNZ should focus on. Come along to the member consultations on 22nd or 24th February (details at right) if you can.

You can also email, call, or DM me or we can talk over a cup of coffee.

Regards and best wishes,

Vikram

Vikram Kumar
Chief Executive
Internet NZ
Phone: 04-495 2336
Mobile: 021 937 211
Email: vikram@internetnz.net.nz
Twitter: @vikram_nz

Making Contact

Vikram Kumar
CEO
vikram@internetnz.net.nz

Jordan Carter
Policy Director
jordan@internetnz.net.nz

Richard Wood
Senior Comms & Research Officer
richard@internetnz.net.nz

Campbell Gardiner
Comms & Research Officer
campbell@internetnz.net.nz

Keith Davidson
External Relations
keith@internetnz.net.nz

Susi Fookes
Shared Services Unit Manager
susi@internetnz.net.nz

Office / Membership Enquiries
L9, Grand Arcade Tower
16 Willis Street
Wellington
office@internetnz.net.nz
(04) 472 1600
www.internetnz.net.nz

Member consultations

InternetNZ is holding its annual round of member consultations in Auckland and Wellington in late February.

We will work through the budget and business plan for the 2010/11 year and listen to your feedback and suggestions.

Guest presenter is US-based Gordon Cook, author of the "Cook Report" who will talk on the effects of fibre networks on net neutrality, content market developments and how people use the Internet.

Meeting Details:
Auckland - 6.00pm, 22 February
Rendezvous Hotel

Wellington - 6.00pm, 24 February
Intercontinental Hotel

Please email rsvp@internetnz.net.nz by Monday 15 February if you would like to attend.

Internet reaches critical turning point

In mid-January, the global Internet reached a critical turning point, and the New Zealand IPv6 Taskforce has urged industry to sit up and take notice.

The global NRO (Number Resource Organisation) and the APNIC (Asia Pacific Network Information Centre) have announced that a critical milestone has been reached, with more than 90 percent of IPv4 Internet addresses having now been allocated.

Full exhaustion of the IPv4 space is now anticipated to occur during 2011.

The number of people and devices connecting to the Internet globally continues to grow, and the pool of available IPv4 addresses is insufficient to meet the growth demand. IPv6 was created many years ago to resolve this issue, but uptake of the new protocol has been slow.

Director General of APNIC Paul Wilson says key decision makers need to realise that without IPv6 deployment their businesses will be affected by IPv4 address depletion.

"We have now come to that critical stage, where if they don't act now, there will be consequences. APNIC has provided and continues to provide evidence of this depletion."

The New Zealand IPv6 Taskforce was formed to support adoption of IPv6 in New Zealand and is offering assistance to industry sectors to minimize risk and cost of IPv6 adoption, in the face of this IPv4 exhaustion.

The Taskforce is made up of industry and government representatives and is led by independent consultant Dr Murray Milner.

Milner says all sectors of New Zealand industry need to be aware of the issue and develop their IPv6 adoption plans.

"Every industry sector will face different challenges, and need to consider appropriate timelines. Plans need to be developed now as this will result in the least risk and lowest cost approach to adoption. The IPv6 Taskforce can assist in helping plan this process, to make it as painless as possible," says Milner.

"I encourage industry groups and concerned technology leaders to contact the Taskforce for more information and for assistance in kick-starting their own planning and implementation processes."
www.ipv6.org.nz

InternetNZ rejects centrally operated filtering

In January, InternetNZ released a position paper responding to the development by the Department of Internal Affairs of the "Digital Child Exploitation Filtering System".

The filtering system will block websites that host child sexual abuse images and will be available voluntarily to New Zealand ISPs.

InternetNZ's position paper rejects centralised filtering as an acceptable approach for New Zealand to take. It sets out the basis for this position, and calls on the Department to conduct a thorough study of the extent of access of child abuse material on the Internet and the best ways of addressing it.

A PDF version of the filtering position paper is available at:
www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/2010

InternetNZ releases copyright submission

InternetNZ (Internet New Zealand Inc) has released its submission to the Minister of Commerce on illegal peer-to-peer file sharing.

The submission is in response to a December 2009 Cabinet paper that set out the Government's preferred approach for new legislation that will replace Section 92a.

It is available online at:
www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/2010

InternetNZ Policy Director Jordan Carter says the proposed approach set out in the Cabinet paper deals with many of the concerns that InternetNZ and others had with why the law was written.

"We congratulate the Minister for proposing a much more reasonable framework for dealing with peer-to-peer file sharing than that inherited from the previous Government," he says.

"InternetNZ's submission reiterates the Society's opposition in principle to any inclusion of termination or account suspension in the law, highlights some issues of detail and offers a set of suggestions for improvements that are consistent with the overall approach set out in recommendations agreed by Cabinet."

Key issues in InternetNZ's submission include timings of notices and counter-notices, the distribution and recovery of costs to ISPs, sanctions for rights holders and ISP safe harbour.

InternetNZ sponsors Linux conference

Hundreds of open source software aficionados congregated in Wellington in January for the Linux.conf.au conference (LCA2010).

InternetNZ was a leading sponsor of LCA2010, which brought together Australasian and international open source practitioners who contribute to the Linux operating system and other open source projects.

Keynote speeches were delivered by several high-profile open source exponents including technology writer Glyn Moody, New York-based media professor Gabriella Coleman, MIT researcher Benjamin "Mako" Hill and New Zealand technologist Nathan Torkington.

Other speakers included Australian computer programmer Andrew Tridgell, free software advocate Rusty Russell, HP Linux CTO Bdale Garbee and Debian developer Keith Packard.

NZNOG gathers in Hamilton

Over 100 network operators from across New Zealand attended the annual Network Operators Group Conference in January. The conference was held at Waikato University and featured expert speakers on technical subjects including IPv6, Internet security and ENUM.

InternetNZ was an event sponsor and is a strong supporter of the conference, which has been running since 2004 and is a valuable forum for exchange of technical information and industry networking.

The Society was well-represented, with InternetNZ Policy Director Jordan Carter updating conference-goers on recent InternetNZ activity focusing on Copyright, ACTA, Filtering, IPv6, and the Government's fibre plans.

Over twenty people spoke over the two days of the conference, an insightful mixture of keynotes and lightning talks.

Peering guru Bill Norton gave a fascinating talk on the emergence of the video internet peering ecosystem and Marcel van den Berg from Internet security research firm Team CYMRU presented on the latest trends in cybercrime and malicious internet activity.

Other speakers included the National Library's Gordon Paynter, who outlined the Library's planned harvest of .nz websites in April 2010, and the DNC's Paul McKitrick, who introduced the work of the New Zealand Internet Taskforce - a newly-formed entity aimed at mitigating emerging threats on the Internet.

For more information visit the NZNOG website:
http://2010.nznog.org

events

Webstock 2010
15 -19 February, Wellington
webstock.org.nz

APRICOT
23 February - 5 March
apricot.net

NetSafe Members Meeting
24 February, Auckland
netsafe.org.nz

CENTR General Assembly
25 - 26 February, Warsaw
centr.org

APTLD
1 - 2 March, Kuala Lumpur
aptld.org

APNIC29
1 - 5 March, Kuala Lumpur
apnic.net

CeBIT 2010
2 - 6 March, Hanover
cebit.de

ICANN
7 - 12 March, Nairobi
nbo.icann.org

InternetNZ Council Meeting
19 March, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

IETF 77
21 - 26 March, Los Angeles
ietf.org

NetSafe Members Meeting
31 March, Auckland
netsafe.org.nz

NetSafe Members Meeting
28 April, Auckland
netsafe.org.nz

CeBit Australia
24 - 26 May, Sydney
cebit.com.au

IDNs – countdown to launch

The DNC office has been working towards the implementation of Internationalised Domain Names in the .nz space. Registrants will soon be able to use IDNs to correctly display Māori language words and names when they are used in .nz domain names.

The initial registration phase of IDNs in .nz will be handled during a sunrise registration period, which will run from Monday, 6 April to Monday, 6 July 2010.

During this time registrants of .nz domain names will be able to apply for variants of their names including the characters ā, ē, ī, ō and ū which feature in the Māori language. Names which meet the policy will be registered when the IDN system is launched.

For more information, please view the policy at: http://dnc.org.nz/content/IDN_Sunrise_Policy.html

The DNC will be running articles about IDNs in .nz every month until the launch date for first-come, first-served IDN registrations on Wednesday, 26 July 2010.

Keyboard software

If you are unfamiliar with macrons or are unsure how to enter these characters into your browser or into any other application, you may need to download some new keyboard software. If you are using a Windows based system the Microsoft website has a Māori keyboard available for download.

There are a range of solutions for Linux users, such as the MI-nz keyboard software which is compatible with the KDE release. Please note this software may not work with all versions of Linux. For a wider range of solutions for operating systems please visit the following link:
www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~kimihia/maori-keyboard

The DNC wishes to make the introduction of IDNs in .nz as easy as possible for the end user, so if you have any suggestions of helpful software or articles please feel free to send your thoughts to info@dnc.org.nz .

.nz Statistics

In December 2009, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 380,015 to 381,964, a net increase of 1,949.

Bill Norton talks video Internet

Global peering expert and founder of DRPeering.net Bill Norton gave an interesting talk at this year's NZNOG conference on the migration of video traffic from traditional channels to what he terms "the video internet ecosystem".

Norton says the Internet is a small but rapidly growing component of video distribution systems and, in terms of traffic, video will eventually dominate the Internet.

There is already a blossoming creation market in the video Internet, he says, enabled by cheap cameras and editing software, free upload and distribution via YouTube, dropping transit/CDN prices, increasing broadband penetration and home Wi-Fi.

"Everything is migrating to the video Internet system due to easier entry and more innovation, but do we have the right infrastructure in place to support it?" questions Norton.

Norton also covered off the ripping and distribution of content via P2P, attributing this to the unavailability of content in certain countries, intellectual property concerns, price and commercial-break saturation.

"Hollywood has a staged distribution process to maximise revenue. It has a unidirectional model, but home users are now redistributing for themselves with far more dynamic activity afforded by the Internet."

InternetNZ prepares submissions

InternetNZ will be preparing and filing a number of submissions throughout February, in response to the following:

∗ The Telecommunications Carriers' Forum is seeking feedback on its proposal for reform of New Zealand's NAD (Number Administration Deed) and numbering governance arrangements.

∗ The National Library is planning a .nz web harvest in April 2010 and is looking for feedback on options it has identified to address concerns raised during the 2008 harvest.

∗ The Commerce Commission has released a paper which sets out its draft guidance on Telecom's non-discrimination obligations under the Telecom Operational Separation Undertakings. Submissions are being sought from Telecom and other interested parties.

Once lodged, InternetNZ's submissions will be available online at:
www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/2010