eNews
The National E-Commerce Extension Initiative

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Welcome to the Latest Issue of *eNews*:

The Internet is truly a wonderful tool. It provides instant communication, ease in business transactions and excellent networking opportunities. As the Internet's role in our lives becomes more and more prominent, we run a greater risk of falling victim to the constantly increasing threats of identity theft, online fraud and various other breaches of security. This month's issue of *eNews* offers information and resources to help individuals and businesses protect themselves against such harmful security threats.

We would also like to invite you to spend some time looking around the National E-Commerce Extension Initiative site as it has recently undergone a few changes. We are very pleased with the new look and organization of our site and hope that you will find it informative and easy to navigate. We certainly welcome any suggestions you might have regarding the site and we are always open to any recommendations for items to be included in *eNews*.

Bo Beaulieu, Director
Julianna Brown , Editorial Assistant

News and Research:

Developing Best Practices to Combat ID Theft, Part 2
By Andrew K. Burger, E-Commerce Times
According to this article, approximately 10 million Americans fall victim to identity theft each year, and, unfortunately, this statistic is expected to increase. Read more about this huge problem and ways to avert disaster at: http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/56082.html
To Read Part 1 in the series, go to: http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/56027.html

Stopping Spyware at the Source
By Cindy Skrzycki, Washington Post
Spyware programs are secretly installed on a computer when a person downloads "free" offers from the Internet, such as music or screensavers, and, according to Consumer Reports Magazine, consumers are spending $2.6 billion a year trying to block or remove this annoying software. The Federal Trade Commission is beginning to increase its efforts to stop this problem. Read more at:
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/03/05/AR2007030501475.html

Is That Really You? ID Theft and Multifactor Authentication *By Andrew K. Burger, E-Commerce Times*
Online banking fraud has grown in recent years due to the growth of identity theft, thus banks are learning to use authentication methods that depend on more than one factor. Learn more about what the government and banks are doing to combat bank fraud and identity theft at:
http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/55888.html

The Seven Best Practices for Network Security in 2007 *By Gary S. Miliefsky, Network World*
Spam. Spyware. Malware. What steps should businesses be taking to counteract these threats to their information technology systems? This article suggests the seven best things to do to maintain network security. Learn about these practices at: http://www.networkworld.com/columnists/2007/011707 miliefsky.html?t51hb

Online Merchants Can Block Phishing Attacks for Good. Really.
Keith Regan, E-Commerce Times
For the first time ever, Web-security firm MessageLabs has recorded more e-mails that are phishing attacks as opposed to those containing viruses. A phishing e-mail claims to be from a reputable company that has suffered a problem with your account and needs personal information from you. Victims turn over their social security numbers, bank account numbers, etc. Discover how the security industry is trying to stay one step ahead of these thieves at: http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/55948.html

The Net and Children: Still Scary
David Kirkpatrick, Fortune
The title says it all. The Internet is a scary place for our children. Read about what MySpace and Facebook, two of the biggest social networking sites on the Web, are doing to help protect our kids at:
http://money.cnn.com/2007/02/12/magazines/fortu ne/net_child_safety.fortune/index.htm

How to Respond to a Data Breach, Part 2
Kelly Shermach, CRM Buyer
Several major data thefts have made the news recently. Most of the publicized thefts have been from large firms and massive government entities, but this article warns that the issue of data theft is one that small businesses should also worry about. Having a plan in place is of vital importance. Read the full story at: http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/55710.html
To read Part 1 in the series, go to: http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/55601.html

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E-Commerce Successes:

Sawbill Canoe Outfitters
By Beth E. Koch
Bill Hansen of Sawbill Outfitters had more hurdles to jump over than most new online business owners. Many people come to Hansen's hometown in northeast Minnesota to escape telephones and e-mail.

This part of Minnesota is so remote that many people do not even have a telephone connection, and certainly do not have Internet access. Hansen, along with a few local businesses, helped form a cooperative that provides Internet Service to area businesses.

Read the entire story at:

http://www.accesse.info/CaseStudies/sawbilloutfit tersfiles/sawbilloutfitters.html

Visit the Sawbill Outfitters Web site: www.sawbill.com

E-Library Focus

The United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team is sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security. One purpose of the US-CERT Center is to protect citizens from cyber attacks through the Internet. US-CERT has an online reading room with a list of various resources related to general online security. Visit the reading room at: http://www.us-cert.gov/reading_room/

Helpful Tools and Resources

The National Institute of Standards and Technology offers a PowerPoint presentation on their Web site titled "Computer Security is Good Business." The 96-slide presentation promotes awareness of the importance of cyber-security and offers some corrective measures for dealing with security breaches. Access the presentation at: http://csrc.nist.gov/securebiz/Half-Day-Presentation.pdf

The Federal Trade Commission offers a Web site devoted to cyber security for both consumers and businesses. Available resources include a video on information security, spyware consumer alerts, information about e-mail phishing and an 28-page data security plan for your business. View the site at: http://www.ftc.gov/infosecurity/

Microsoft's Staysafe.org has resources specifically targeted to teenagers, parents, educators and senior adults. Their toolbox contains information such as how to protect your wireless network, how to block unwanted IMs and e-mails, how to use parental controls and how to protect yourself from spyware. Get the info at: www.staysafe.org

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has a security toolkit more specifically aimed at businesses. An interactive security video on this site offers instructions for building a security plan. They even have a sample security plan available. Test your current knowledge of cyber security by taking their security quiz. You can find the site online at: http://www.uschamber.com/sb/security/default

The Identity Theft Resource Center describes the most common ways thieves steal your information and provides tips for both businesses and consumers for reducing the risk of identity theft. Find them at: http://www.idtheftcenter.org/preventiontips.shtml

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