



Government Affairs e-Update



Volume 4, Issue 9
6 August 2004

Brought to you by Cisco Government Affairs Online



Cisco Government Affairs E-Update

Volume 4

06 August 2004

Brought to you by Cisco Government Affairs Online: <http://www.cisco.com/gov>

Note: This report is generally issued on Fridays.

This Week@Cisco In Government Affairs

Cisco's E-Update keeps you up to date on the major policy news of the week. Focusing on broadband, education and e-government areas, but covering high-tech and telecom in general, the E-Update is a great source of information for policymakers. To subscribe, send a message with "subscribe" in the subject line to "Subscribe-eUpdate@cisco.com"

If you have high-tech public policy news or announcements that you think other e-update subscribers would be interested in, please send them to john.earnhardt@cisco.com. There are over 1300 subscribers to Cisco Government Affairs' eUpdate.

RE-DESIGNED CISCO GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS WEBSITE – Please visit www.cisco.com/gov to view our redesigned worldwide government affairs website. You can reach any member of the team at: <http://www.cisco.com/gov/contact/index.html>. Also see Q&A with Laura Ipsen, Vice President of Worldwide Government Affairs, as she reviews the issues that Cisco is focusing on: http://newsroom.cisco.com/dlls/media_info/public_policy_overview.html

This Week@Washington, Dc

FBI WANTS TO EAVESDROP ON FIBER LINKS - The FBI wants to force Verizon Communications to make sure that its broadband-over-fiber service can be easily wiretapped by police and spy agencies. http://news.com.com/FBI+wants+to+eavesdrop+on+fiber+links/2100-7347_3-5295560.html

FCC MAY PUT CABLE, NET PHONES UNDER WIRETAP RULE - The Federal Communications Commission plans to propose a ruling Wednesday that would require Internet-based phone and broadband services to design their networks so they can be easily wiretapped, two FCC officials say. http://www.usatoday.com/tech/news/techpolicy/2004-08-03-wiretap_x.htm

RULE THAT LOWERED BROADBAND PRICES MAY BE REVIVED - The Federal Communications Commission may revive rules that would allow more high-speed Internet providers to stay in business, potentially keeping prices low for consumers. Small broadband companies such as Covad Communications have attracted about 300,000 residential customers by leasing part of the regional Bells' voice lines for broadband at deep discounts. The competition forced the Bells to cut their broadband prices from about \$50 a month to \$40 a month a couple of years ago. But the FCC last year voted to phase out the arrangement, known as line-sharing, as part of a sweeping overhaul of phone competition rules. <http://www.usatoday.com/usatoday/20040804/6423000s.htm>

FCC ADOPTS NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING AND DECLARATORY RULING REGARDING COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANCE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT ("CALEA"). The FCC begins a thorough examination of the appropriate legal and policy framework for implementing the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act.

Press Release: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250547A3.doc

Chairman Michael Powell's Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250547A1.doc

Commissioner Abernathy Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250547A2.doc

Commissioner Capps Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250547A4.doc

Commissioner Adelstein Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250547A5.doc

FCC ADOPTS FURTHER MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD THE E-RATE PROGRAM - The FCC adopted measures that resolve a number of issues that have arisen from audit activities conducted as part of ongoing oversight of the schools and libraries support mechanism ("E-rate" program).

Press Release: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250540A1.doc



Chairman Powell Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250540A2.doc
Commissioner Abernathy Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250540A3.doc
Commissioner Copps Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250540A4.doc
Commissioner Adelstein Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250540A5.doc

FCC TAKES ACTION TO PROMOTE BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT TO MULTIPLE DWELLING

UNITS (MDUS) - The FCC acted to promote broadband deployment to consumers by providing the incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) additional incentives to invest in broadband facilities to multiple dwelling units (MDUs).

Press Release: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250545A1.doc
Chairman Powell Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250545A2.doc
Commissioner Abernathy Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250545A3.doc
Commissioner Copps Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250545A4.doc
Commissioner Adelstein Statement: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-250545A5.doc

FCC CANS WIRELESS SPAM - Commission builds on CAN-SPAM Act to prohibit unsolicited marketing messages unless wireless subscribers specifically ask for them. <http://update.internetweek.com/cgi-bin4/DM/y/eijc0GPLoYOG4X0ChNK0Ad>

DHS TECH EXECS TO WORK ON 9-11 SUGGESTIONS - Information technology officials at the Homeland Security Department plan to examine how they can advance at least four of the commission's recommendations. <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0802/web-dhscio-08-04-04.asp>

DHS NETWORK MAY LINK TO OTHERS - The Homeland Security Department is considering using a classified network to link state and local governments as well as federal civilian agencies. <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0802/web-cooper-08-05-04.asp>

KERRY SUGGESTS MERGING TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION, NTIA - Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic presidential candidate, yesterday proposed combining two of the government's technology and telecommunications agencies. His plan details some of the federal reforms his administration would pursue. The Massachusetts senator's strategy calls for the Commerce Department's Technology Administration to merge with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to "promote a more efficient and effective operation, while ensuring that we move forward to bridge the digital divide."
http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/26842-1.html
Senator Kerry's Plan: http://www.johnkerry.com/pdf/pr_2004_0803.pdf

JOHN KERRY'S REAL TECH AGENDA - A careful review of Kerry's history in the Senate shows that his record on technology is mixed. The Massachusetts Democrat frequently sought to levy intrusive new restrictions on technology businesses that could harm the U.S. economy. He was no friend of privacy and sided with Hollywood over Silicon Valley in the copyright wars.
http://news.com.com/John+Kerry's+real+tech+agenda/2010-1028_3-5291476.html

HILL MOVES REFLECT E-GOV'S LOWER PROFILE - Recent congressional moves leave little doubt about who lawmakers want to control funding for e-government projects: themselves. Appropriators, who over the last three years have allocated only \$13 million of the \$100 million requested for the E-Government Fund, recently sought to chop off another funding source for e-government projects.
http://www.gcn.com/23_21/news/26781-1.html

PASSPORT ID TECHNOLOGY HAS HIGH ERROR RATE - The State Department is moving ahead with a plan to implant electronic identification chips in U.S. passports that will allow computer matching of facial characteristics, despite warnings that the technology is prone to a high rate of error. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A43944-2004Aug5.html>

This Week@Emea

INTERACTIVE TV : COMMISSION REITERATES ITS SUPPORT FOR OPEN AND INTEROPERABLE STANDARDS, BUT SAYS IMPLEMENTATION SHOULD NOT BE MADE LEGALLY BINDING - Member States should continue to promote open and interoperable standards for interactive digital TV - including the Multimedia Home Platform (MHP) standard - on a voluntary basis, says the European Commission in a new Communication on the interoperability of interactive digital TV.
<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/04/1012&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN>



E-GOVERNMENT REVOLUTION - Bahrain is poised for an e-government revolution, revealed the Prime Minister. <http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/Story.asp?Article=87864&Sn=BNEW&IssueID=27130>

This Week@Asia-Pacific/Japan

VOICE OVER INTERNET TAKES ON TELECOM FIRMS - VOIP has been around for several years, but has taken off recently as technology improves and the spread of broadband Internet connections make it easy to use the service. <http://www.cnn.com/2004/TECH/08/02/telecoms.voip.reut/index.html>

CYBERATTACKS DISRUPT JAPANESE GOVERNMENT NETWORKS - A government official says there was no major damage reported from the attacks at eight ministries this week. <http://update.internetweek.com/cgi-bin4/DM/y/eijc0GPLoY0G4X0ChNI0Ab>

HIBIS: THE HIGHER BANDWIDTH INCENTIVE SCHEME - The Australian Government is working with Internet service providers (ISPs) to bring higher bandwidth broadband services to regional Australia, in line with city prices, through a scheme called HiBIS (the Higher Bandwidth Incentive Scheme). Under HiBIS, ISPs can apply to be a 'HiBIS provider'. This means they will receive an incentive payment from the Government to provide you, if eligible, with higher speed broadband access in line with city prices. <http://www.telinfo.gov.au/HiBIS%20page.htm>

ULTRA BROADBAND SERVICES TO BE FAST AND AFFORDABLE IN AUSTRALIA - Affordable information delivery 400 times faster than today's broadband services is becoming a reality thanks to a \$14.5 million project launched in Ballarat today by the Minister for Innovation, John Brumby. http://www.dpc.vic.gov.au/domino/Web_Notes/newmedia.nsf/8fc6e140ef55837cca256c8c00183cdc/5e608e6f4e8f68a9ca256ee0007e0abb?OpenDocument

FEE STRUCTURE STYMIES ONLINE USE - Australia has the highest internet traffic charges in the world and the country's unique volume-charging regime is stifling internet use and content development, an internet peering expert says. <http://australianit.news.com.au/articles/0,7204,10273820%5E15306%5E%5Enbv%5E,00.html>

This Week@Us States

GRAND HAVEN, MICH., COMPLETES CITYWIDE WI-FI NETWORK - Grand Haven Mayor Roger Bergman recently announced the completion of the city's Wi-Fi broadband network. According to the mayor, it is the nation's first fully operational citywide implementation. Other cities have announced intent to build similar networks or have announced partial deployments; in contrast, the Grand Haven implementation is fully complete. "As the first Wi-Fi city in America, Grand Haven has truly lived up to its name in the Internet era, as we now allow anyone anywhere to connect to the Internet and roam the city and waterways in a completely secure computing environment," Mayor Bergman said. <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=91003>

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION CALLS FOR CONSOLIDATING IT - As part of a review and overhaul of the California state government, an appointed commission recommended that officials condense the state's technology policy and operations into a single entity. The California Performance Review's report contains more than 1,200 recommendations for the state's government. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger launched the review in February to resolve the state's fiscal crisis. <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2004/0802/web-calif-08-04-04.asp>

Other Tech News Of The Week

PACE OF BROADBAND ADOPTION QUICKENS - The number of high-speed Internet subscribers in the U.S. is expected to surpass the number of dial-up subscribers by late 2006, a market research firm says. <http://update.internetweek.com/cgi-bin4/DM/y/eiea0GPLoY0G4X0Cgpd0AU>

STUDY: CABLE OPERATORS TO FLEX VoIP MUSCLE - Cable giants will edge out VoIP specialists as leaders in selling telephone service over cable broadband this year, according to a new study. http://news.com.com/Study:+Cable+giants+to+flex+VoIP+muscle/2100-7352_3-5295023.html?tag=nefd.top

BRIDE OR BRIDESMAID? - AT&T AND MCI MAY COMPETE FOR SUITORS - Onetime telecom titans AT&T Corp. and MCI Inc. have been at each other's throats since 1968. Now, with their futures looking bleak, the two are shaping up for what could be a final battle over which company can be sold off first. <http://online.wsj.com/article/0,,SB109140568139980089,00.html> (Paid subscription required)



POLL: E-VOTERS NOT SO AFRAID OF ELECTION-DAY HACKS - A new set of polls suggests that high-tech security experts have significantly less confidence in the security and accuracy of e-voting tools than does the public at large. http://news.com.com/Poll%3A+E-voters+not+so+afraid+of+election-day+hacks/2100-1028_3-5295556.html

STAFF BLAMED FOR VIRUS OUTBREAKS - A survey by anti-virus firm McAfee found that 50% of senior managers in small businesses blame staff for the damage done by viruses and other computer security problems. Staff also downloaded unsafe programs on to work PCs and disabled security systems designed to protect them. Just over half of the small firms questioned said they had suffered damage due to a virus outbreak. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/3536018.stm>

E-Update Archive

To view past issues of Cisco's Government Affairs E-Update, visit our [E-Update Archive page](http://www.cisco.com/gov/archive/eupdates/index.html). <http://www.cisco.com/gov/archive/eupdates/index.html>

Disclaimer

Positions in articles and papers from outside sources are in no way endorsed by Cisco Systems' Office of Worldwide Government Affairs. We offer articles on topics of interest to our audience to further the debate on the issues that are important to high-tech. To view our positions on the policy matters that we care about, please visit our [Government Affairs homepage](http://www.cisco.com/gov). – <http://www.cisco.com/gov>

Cisco.Com/Gov And E-Update Feedback

Please send any feedback to John Earnhardt at jearnhar@cisco.com.

To contact any member of the Government Affairs team, please visit our “[Contact Us](http://www.cisco.com/gov/contact/index.html)” page. <http://www.cisco.com/gov/contact/index.html>.

Subscribing/Unsubscribing:

You are receiving this update because you requested it. If you received this message because it was forwarded to you and you wish to subscribe to this weekly E-Update, please send a message to Subscribe-eUpdate@cisco.com with “Subscribe” in the subject line. Or, visit our Government Affairs homepage (www.cisco.com/gov) and click on the “Subscribe” button in the lower left-hand corner.

If you no longer wish to receive this update, send a message with “unsubscribe” in the subject line to Subscribe-eUpdate@cisco.com.

**Corporate Headquarters**

Cisco Systems, Inc.
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-1706
USA
www.cisco.com
Tel: 408 526-4000
800 553-NETS (6387)
Fax: 408 526-4100

European Headquarters

Cisco Systems International BV
Haarlerbergpark
Haarlerbergweg 13-19
1101 CH Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www-europe.cisco.com
Tel: 31 0 20 357 1000
Fax: 31 0 20 357 1100

Americas Headquarters

Cisco Systems, Inc.
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-1706
USA
www.cisco.com
Tel: 408 526-7660
Fax: 408 527-0883

Asia Pacific Headquarters

Cisco Systems, Inc.
Capital Tower
168 Robinson Road
#22-01 to #29-01
Singapore 068912
www.cisco.com
Tel: +65 317 7777
Fax: +65 317 7799

Cisco Systems has more than 200 offices in the following countries and regions. Addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers are listed on the Cisco Web site at www.cisco.com/go/offices.

Argentina • Australia • Austria • Belgium • Brazil • Bulgaria • Canada • Chile • China PRC • Colombia • Costa Rica • Croatia • Czech Republic • Denmark • Dubai, UAE • Finland • France • Germany • Greece • Hong Kong SAR • Hungary • India • Indonesia • Ireland • Israel • Italy • Japan • Korea • Luxembourg • Malaysia • Mexico • The Netherlands • New Zealand • Norway • Peru • Philippines • Poland • Portugal • Puerto Rico • Romania • Russia • Saudi Arabia • Scotland • Singapore • Slovakia • Slovenia • South Africa • Spain • Sweden • Switzerland • Taiwan • Thailand • Turkey • Ukraine • United Kingdom • United States • Venezuela • Vietnam • Zimbabwe

Copyright 2003 Cisco Systems, Inc. All rights reserved. Cisco, Cisco Systems, and the Cisco Systems logo are registered trademarks or trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the U.S. and certain other countries. All other trademarks mentioned in this document or Web site are the property of their respective owners. The use of the word partner does not imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company. (0301R)