

# Impacts of the Internet in the Current National and International Crisis

A Presentation and Discussion

Featuring William Slater

President of the Chicago Chapter of the Internet Society  
ISOC-Chicago

September 26, 2001

**Synopsis:** We are now in the midst of the first war that is being widely and graphically covered on the Internet. The tragic events of September 11, 2001, have been especially evident on both the Internet and the television. But unlike television, the Internet has played many important roles, before, during, and after these despicable terrorist attacks. Because it's international, ubiquitous, easy to use, reliable, and highly responsive, the Internet allowed the rapid transmission of data to many points, globally. This presentation and subsequent discussion will show the many ways that the Internet has become intertwined with the present national and international crises, and what changes to expect in the very near future. Please join us and participate.

## Presentation Topics

### Introduction

### Websites

- News - The best and most popular websites
- Terrorists
- Defacements
- Tributes
- Pictures
- Search Engines
- E-Commerce:
  - People wanted defense-related items
  - eBay banned sale of WTC and Pentagon memorabilia
- Job searches for people laid off

### Performance Considerations

- Several major websites went down during the attacks
- User demand loads how news media companies handled it

## **Search Engines**

- Were updated very quickly
- Provided other historical facts for research and comparison
- Provided Additional News Sources and Pictures

## **Chat Rooms and Discussion Boards**

- Discussion
- Education and presentation of history and facts
- Venting

## **E-Mail**

- How E-mail Helped the Terrorists
- How e-mail helped people keep in touch
- E-mail news update notifications

## **Encryption**

- Was sometimes used by terrorists
- Types of encryption that are available

## **Other Internet Considerations**

- Stories about victims
- Stories about survivors

## **The Future of Internet Technology**

- Freedom and Privacy Issues
  - Carnivore
  - Eschelon
- Other Surveillance Technologies
  - Sniffers
  - Monitoring

## **Other Facts and Stories for Discussion**

- We encourage your participation

Bonus: We will have some Free Tickets to the 2nd Illinois Technology Showcase, to be held at McCormick Place on Oct. 18 - 19, 2001.