Internet Access and Information Dissemination: Selected Topics - 6
Draft... for review and comment only ... Draft
Office of Technology, State of Minnesota

[Back to Table of Contents]

INTERNET GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ADDRESS
An assigned number that identifies a host in an Internet. It has two or three parts: network number, optional subnet number, and host number. Both numeric and alphabetic versions are available. For example, one of the Library of Congress addresses is loc.seq1.gov.

ARCHIE
A tool used to search hundreds of file archives on the Internet.

AUTHENTICATION
Verification of the claimed identity of a computer or computer network user;

ACCESS CONTROL
Verification and enforcement of the authorized uses of a computer network by a user subsequent to authentication;

BROWSER
(DN) A client for World Wide Web.
(MB) Software allows you to reach and copy but not modify source information.

CLIENT/
SERVER
(DN) Software that can operate on multi-platforms or multiple machines. For example, Gopher servers and clients can run on VAX, UNIX, MAC or DOS machines and take advantage of the special characteristics of each platform. MAC users connected to a UNIX gopher server would have a GUI (graphical user interface -- complete with icons and folders), while UNIX clients connected to a MAC server would see a plan ASCII menu. (MB) Client is a system or program that requests activities from one or more systems or servers to accomplish a specific task.

DATA INTEGRITY
Verification that the contents of a data item (e.g., message, file, program) have not been accidentally or intentionally changed in an unauthorized manner.

DATA CONFIDENTIALITY
Protection of the information content of data from unauthorized disclosure. EDI Electronic Data Interchange is at the heart of the expanding field of Electronic Commerce.

FAQ
Frequently Asked Questions. A frequently updated text file containing answers to users questions about various topics. Most USENET newsgroups have monthly FAQs.

FINGER

Tool for checking user-ids or addresses.

FIREWALL
Typically a separate machine, protects unauthorized access to information resources on a network from other parts of the network by prohibiting (or permitting) access from specific Internet domains for specific services.

FLAME
To insult another person via e-mail -- often on a public special interest list.

FTP
File Transfer Protocol: The standard Internet protocol.

GOPHER
(DN)Distributed document delivery tool and Internet navigator created by a team at the University of Minnesota (MB)A set of software client/server programs, developed at the University of Minnesota, available on the Internet. The client program works on a desktop computer and requests information from a gopher server.

HYPERTEXT
(DN)Text that contains internal and external links or pointers to other text or services. (MB) A document organization format that provides links to other documents within a document. The reader may choose either to read the original document or branch, using one of the links, to another document.

HTML
Hypertext Markup Language is used to mark-up World Wide Web pages.

INTERNET
The global collection of interconnected regional networks.

INTERNIC
InterNIC Network Information Center maintains databases of network services and e-mail connections.

IP Address
A numeric identifier that uniquely identifies an Internet computer or workstation.

IRC
Internet Relay Chat provides channels (a la CB radio) for multi-user exchanges via the Internet. The conversation is typed. Somewhat like the talk and phone facilities on mainframes but on a grander scale.

JUGHEAD
Jonzy's Universal Gopher Hierarchy Excavation and Display is a Veronica-like search engine for local gopher systems.

LISTS
E-mail linked special interest groups on Internet. Some lists are moderated; others feature free-wheeling conversations and controversy.

MUD
One of several types of Multi-User Dungeons popular on the Internet. Most are text-based attempts to

simulate near virtual-reality for various role-playing games.

NEWSGROUP
USENET conference is called a newsgroup and the messages are called articles.

NSLOOKUP
Tool for looking up alphabetic or numeric equivalents of network addresses.

NETFIND
A tool for finding e-mail addresses.

NON-REPUDIATION
Protection against denial of sending (or receiving) a data item by the sender (or receiver).

OPAC
(Online Public Access Catalog) An online library catalog.

PPP
(Point-to-Point Protocol) A set of communications protocols that is replacing SLIP because it is more rigorous and supports other protocols.

PROTOCOL
Rules two (or more) computers follow in order to exchange data.

SERVER
System or a program that receives requests from one or more client systems to perform activities that allow the client to accomplish certain tasks.

SLIP
(DN)Serial Line Internet Protocol establishes a network connection via a modem.

(MB) Serial Line Internet Protocol is used for access to the Internet over dial in lines. A SLIP server must be available at the host site for SLIP access to occur.

TCP/IP
(DN)Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol governs the transfer of data over the Internet.

(MB)A set of protocols used for layers 3 and 4 of the OSI model and which has achieved the status of a de facto standard.

TELNET
The Internet standard protocol for connecting to a remote service. Telnet allows a user at one site to interact with a system at another sit as if the user's terminal was connected directly to the remote computer.

URL
Uniform Resource Locators are used to identify network resources. They are used extensively by World Wide Web browsers.

USENET

A worldwide network of newsgroups (special interest groups) not on the Internet but often available via networked computers. A selection of these newsgroups may be found on various gopher servers.

VERONICA
(Very Easy Rodent-Oriented Net-Wide Index to Computerized Archives). A tool for searching gopher-space, indexes menu titles, provides keyword searching.

VIRUS
A program which contains within it a malicious program segment which may damage your system or files.

WAIS
(Wide Area Information Service) A distributed document search and delivery tool. Items found can be viewed online or mailed to user.

WWW
(DN)World Wide Web -- a hypertext document and network navigation tool.

WORLD WIDE WEB
(MB) (WWW) is a collection of information links created in a common format that allows the integration of text, image, audio, and video through information browser clients.

APPENDICES ATTACHMENTS:

"Mn/DOT Policy: Position Statement and Mn/DOT Policy: Guideline", March 13, 1995

Back to Table of Contents