



Internet Business Systems

Bridging the Digital Divide

By Alan Metcalfe, January 2009

A wise man once said that if you give a man a fish you feed him for a day. However, if you give him a fishing pole, and teach him how to fish, then he can feed himself for his lifetime. Considering how life works, he can probably also feed his family, and maybe even create a fishing business that sustains and inspires many others and helps build his nation and the world economy.

Computers and the Internet are incredibly valuable contributions to the world. The Internet is probably worthy of being described as the “river of opportunity” in which the whole world can fish. Never before in the history of mankind have we had such powerful weapons in the fight against ignorance, poverty, and all the things that prevent a fair distribution of opportunity.

It needs to be understood however that the way that computer systems are now designed is seriously flawed and extremely unlikely to ever deliver the promise of ubiquitous e-business and therefore a fair distribution of opportunity. Because of this flaw, computer systems are complicated and costly and cannot be easily integrated and made inter-operable the way they must be if they are to deliver ubiquitous e-business and a fair distribution of opportunity to the world. (Read the IBM Manifesto on the current state of the IT industry: <http://www.research.ibm.com/autonomic/manifesto/>)

Before we can hope to deliver e-business and the benefits of ubiquitous computing to the world, we must first solve the design problem in computers and computer systems that causes complexity and makes computer systems so user-unfriendly to so many people and so costly. This is what I have been working on for the past almost 20 years. This is what the Safe Worlds system is all about.

No Common Standard

The reason why existing systems are so complicated and therefore so expensive is that there has been no simple, all-encompassing, low-cost standard for e-business that can be universally applied. Many computer system designers have turned to XML and so-called Web Services to solve this problem. However, neither XML nor Web Services is an all-encompassing, low-cost standard for e-business that can be universally applied. XML and Web Services are a wonderful contribution to solving the problems of disintegrated existing systems that many big companies and governments have built over the years, but they are not the final solution for ubiquitous e-business that all can afford.

The final solution for ubiquitous e-business must comprise the following attributes:

- It must be a single e-platform that fits any business of any size;
- It must be fully integrated and therefore fully inter-operable;
- It must be adaptable to any form of digital communication;
- It must be private and secure;
- It must provide for the global monetization of products;
- It must be highly intuitive;
- It must be applicable to any culture; and
- It must be affordable;

The Safe Worlds Solution

Many will say that it is impossible to create such a single system. However, this is what Safe Worlds delivers.

Safe Worlds, as the name implies creates private and secure worlds (Virtual Private Networks) for business, within the infrastructure of the Internet. The “fat” client software for Safe Worlds is available to whoever wants it, FREE of upfront charge. Users pay for Safe Worlds on the basis of a small service fee that is charged on financial transactions to a limit of \$30,000. If there are no financial transactions, then Safe Worlds is free of charge apart from the broadband and storage that you use and the cost of your Internet connection.

Safe Worlds has been possible to design because of a major breakthrough in artificial intelligence and computer system design that I made in 1999 that relates to how the human mind thinks to do business. This unique methodology, or

universal logic language (Universal Logic), is an incredibly simple and yet enormously powerful workflow algorithm that can, as one would expect, be applied to any human activity that can be computerized.

Current Status

Safe Worlds is now built and ready for delivery to whoever wants to go to our Websites and download the FREE software.

In the coming years we hope that governments in developing countries throughout the world, and organizations like the World Bank and the United Nations will see the value of Safe Worlds and eventually help promote awareness and distribution of Safe Worlds to those who need this system most. I remain confident that it can bridge the so-called "Digital Divide" like no other solution.

By providing Safe Worlds FREE of upfront charge in this way, we hope now that millions of small business owners and budding entrepreneurs throughout the world download this ready-made system that incorporates globally recognized best business practice, and participate meaningfully in the benefits of globalization.

If we look back on the evolution of the Internet, we can now see the incredible impact that the World Wide Web and Netscape had when they were made available. Millions were empowered almost "overnight". Unfortunately, these systems were not primarily designed for e-business. This is what *Safe Worlds* is all about. I believe it will eventually allow millions to use the Internet for e-business that now have no hope without this system.

For more information: Alan Metcalfe alanm@harpbbt.com.au