

Wired News

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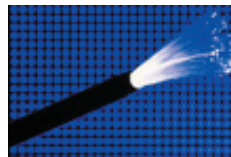
By
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Could Consumers Own Their Internet Connections?

By Peter Nowak - CBCNews.ca

What's the best way to ensure "net neutrality?" Tim Wu, the Columbia Law School professor and Toronto native who first coined the term, has a simple suggestion: customer ownership of internet connections.



In a study released last Thursday, the same day the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission issued a verdict allowing Bell Canada Inc. to continue slowing certain internet uses, Wu suggested an access model that would allow home owners to purchase high-speed connections rather than rent them from service providers.

Under the "homes with tails" model, customers would purchase a fibre wire connection to their home that would provide speeds far in excess of what is generally available in North America today. [Full story.](#)

One million UK children make illicit online purchases

By PC Advisor

Nearly one million UK children are using their parents' credit cards to shop online without their knowledge, says CPP Group.

A survey of 8-16 year olds by the 'life assistance' company - it sells insurance products - revealed that children are spending on average of £25 (US\$48) for every illicit purchase. However, 5 per cent are shelling out between £75 and £150 a time, racking up to £191m annually. [Read more.](#)

Commerce électronique: magasinage sur Internet

Par Statistique Canada

TENDANCES Un plus grand nombre de Canadiens ont utilisé Internet pour acheter des biens et des services en 2007, et ils ont passé pour une valeur de près de 12,8 milliards de dollars de commandes, en hausse de 61 % par rapport à 2005.



Cette croissance a été le résultat d'une hausse du volume de commandes, celles-ci étant passées de 49,4 millions en 2005 à 69,9 millions en 2007. La proportion de commandes auprès de fournisseurs canadiens a diminué légèrement, passant de 57 % du total en 2005 à 52 % en 2007.

Plus de 8,4 millions de Canadiens de 16 ans et plus ont passé une commande en ligne en 2007, en hausse comparativement à près de 6,9 millions en 2005. Ils représentaient 32 % des Canadiens de ce groupe d'âge, comparativement à 28 % en 2005. [Continuez.](#)

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Scientists ask: Is Technology Rewiring our Brains?

By Malcolm Ritter - Associate Press

What does a teenage brain on Google look like? Do all those hours spent online rewire the circuitry? Could these kids even relate better to emoticons than to real people?



These sound like concerns from worried parents. But they're coming from brain scientists.

While violent video games have received a lot of public attention, some current concerns go well beyond that. Some scientists think the wired world may be changing the way we read, learn and interact with each other. [Read on.](#)

Tech Gadgets: The Top 11 Stocking Stuffers

By Anne McDonald - PCWorld.ca

If you have from \$13 to \$80 to spend on your favorite tech geek, we've got ideas in the categories of fitness, music, travel, cool tools, unusual gift cards, and more. Let's go shopping.



'Tis the season to be jolly and to find interesting gifts for your tech-minded friends and family. I set myself a budget of up to \$80 per gift (fortunately, only one product here costs that much; most are a lot less) and scoured the

Internet to find fun uses for your precious dollars.

I came up with new ways to charge mobile devices, use digital photos, and cool and pamper a hot laptop. I also found gift cards with fun technologies built in, and much more. [The List.](#)

TigerDirect.ca uses collaboration to combat cyber crooks this Christmas

By Brian Jackson - itbusiness.ca

The Christmas season is hectic for everyone – fraudsters included. The busy shopping season is well-known in the retail community as the time of year when fraudulent transactions abound. Criminals hope their fake credit cards will slip through the gates along with the masses of legitimate purchases being made by holiday shoppers.



Now TigerDirect.ca hopes to stop more of those fraudsters by collaborating with other retailers. So the online merchant has joined an anti-fraud fighting community launched by Toronto-based Ethoca Ltd. TigerDirect.ca is the biggest “e-tailer”, so far, to join the service, which enables online retailers to anonymously share transactional data so as to get the big picture of when fraud might occur. [Full Article.](#)

