LIS sector watch

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Internet industry codes of practice

Internet Industry Association
http://www.iia.net.au

The three new internet codes were developed by the Internet Industry Association in response to the findings of the government's review of the Online Content Co-regulatory Scheme established under Schedule 5 of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*. The codes have been registered by the Australian Broadcasting Authority following extensive community consultation in which ALIA was involved. The codes of practice will assist families to manage their internet use and to assist in the regulation of content on mobile phones. The codes are: Hosting content within Australia; Providing access to content hosted within Australia; and Providing access to content hosted outside Australia.

Getting in on the Act: the review of the private sector provisions of the *Privacy Act 1988*

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner
http://www.privacy.gov.au/news/media/05_03.html

The review is the first major examination of the private sector provisions in the *Privacy Act* since they commenced in December 2001. The review found that although the Act works well, a number of recommendations have been proposed to further strengthen the private sector provisions whilst maintaining a balance between protecting individual rights and recognising the collective needs of the community.

Location names now available as internet domain names

http://www.auda.org.au/news-archive/auda-13052005/ — for information on the release of geographic domain names to business

http://www.auda.org.au/domains/geographic-2LDs/ — for information on the intended release of community geographic domain names

Australian location names will soon be made available for registration as domain names. The release will be managed by auDA (.au Domain Administration Limited), the body responsible for managing the .com.au and .net.au domains. The release of domain names will give Australian businesses the opportunity to associate their online activities with the name of their city, town or suburb. Later in the year geographic domain names will be available for communities throughout Australia to establish an online presence that directly relates to their geographic location.

Request for proposals for a national study on user satisfaction with access to government information and services at public libraries and public access computing centers

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (USA)
http://www.imls.gov/whatsnew/current/052405.htm

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is seeking proposals for a national research study on how individuals with limited access to internet resources (those who do not have broadband access from home, work or school; who choose to access government services and information from locations other than home, work or school; or who do so through traditional means of access) access federal, state and local government services, and whether such users are satisfied with the access provided by public libraries and public access computing centers.

The study will also examine ways public libraries and public access computing centers provide assistance (for example, through reference services, tutorials, classes, training) to users seeking federal, state and local government information and services. The study will be extremely useful, although the results are some time away, but it will be monitored by LIS Sector Watch.

The economic impact of public libraries on South Carolina

The School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina (USA) http://www.libsci.sc.edu/SCEIS/home.htm

The report examined the economic benefit of public libraries for South Carolinians and to what extent they feel the public library contributes to their overall economic well-being. The first phase of the study analysed data from users in the areas of general use, use for business, use for personal investment and use for job seeking. The second phase of the study used existing data from the South Carolina State Library to demonstrate a monetary equivalent of the services provided by South Carolina libraries. ∎