

## **Internet Misuse in the Workplace**

Dow Chemical Co. fired 50 employees and suspended 200 more for accessing, sending, and storing sexually explicit and violent materials via the Internet. There are more and more news stories everyday about how the Internet has had a negative impact on today's work world. The Internet is an essential and valuable tool for successful businesses in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This paper examines how the misuse of the Internet has crept into workplaces all over the world and caught many employers unaware. News stories will illustrate how Internet misuse threatens your organization. You will be informed on how to resolve the problems of Internet misuse with discussions on the importance of an Internet usage policy and using online activity management software.

## **Putting the Lid on Pandora's Box**

The Internet can boost productivity by enhancing communications, collaborations and research capabilities in the workplace. However, it can also undermine efficiency, should users spend too much time surfing for personal reasons. It doesn't take many employees downloading MP3s or movie trailers to clog networks, and it takes only one employee accessing sexually explicit material to embroil an organization in an expensive lawsuit. This paper outlines why every office should have an acceptable Internet Usage Policy. The paper offers an outline on what every policy should contain. The issues addressed are how to create policy, the importance of consistent enforcement, educating employees and keeping up with the constantly changing Internet.

# **White Paper Abstracts**

## **The Evolving Workplace -- Two Steps Forward, One Step Back**

So where is the harm in someone chatting online to a friend at work or maybe playing one quick game with Bob in accounting? This paper examines why this behaviour can lead to a loss of employee productivity by using humorous examples to highlight a very serious problem: the hi-tech hi-jinx of the modern work world. By using outrageous, or even comical examples such as an employee bringing a monopoly board to work and playing all afternoon versus playing games online with fellow co-workers, we illustrate the mental disconnect between what we know is acceptable behaviour and how this behaviour fails to comply with our Internet use.

## **Securing the Cyber Playground**

As a parent you cannot be everywhere at once, as much as you like to be. You set down household rules, things such as; don't talk to strangers, call when you are going to be late, establish curfews and such. When your children are at home you as a parent tend to worry less. Your home is the place where your children are the safest, or is it? This paper is aimed at informing parents of where Canadian children are going on the Internet. The examination is based on a study conducted by Industry Canada of families in the Toronto and Montreal area. It reveals shocking facts such as how quickly children will give out personal information online. The article offers information on how parents can protect their children while they are online.