Editorial Preface:
International Journal of Business Data Communications and Networking

Jairo Gutierrez, Editor-in-Chief

INCLUDED IN THIS JOURNAL

When we announced the mission of this new journal we stated that “Data Communications and Networks are no longer peripheral issues best left to the IT team, they are integral components of any modern information system and in many cases are essential to the success or failure of the organisation.” This has been the main motivation for the launching of the International Journal of Business Data Communications and Networking. We felt there was a need to disseminate research focused on the range of technologies, processes and ideas that enable us to enjoy the many benefits of modern data communications and computer networks. Furthermore, we wanted to assist our readers in understanding, managing, and using business data communication networks more effectively.

This inaugural issue contains a selection of interesting contributions with which we start tackling some important contemporary networking challenges. In the first paper, Prototype Implementation of a Proxy Caching System for Streaming Media Objects, Guo Hui, Zhou Jingli, Zeng Dong and Yu Shengsheng introduce a cache system used to facilitate the streaming of real-time multimedia traffic, which is an increasingly popular requirement for many modern networked applications. In the second paper, WebGuard: Web Adult Content Detection and Filtering System, Mohamed Hammami and Liming Chen deal with the challenges of detecting and filtering adult content when using the Web, a very topical issue given the widespread use of these technologies by children everywhere. The third paper, The Use of Efficient Cost Allocation Mechanisms for Congestion Pricing in Data Networks with Priority Service Models, by Fernando Beltrán and Cesar García, unveils a mechanism which allows users to send data over networks that can guarantee different levels of quality of service at different price levels. A pricing technique using efficient cost allocation methods is presented. This paper is of special interest to Internet Service Providers attempting to offer premium services to subscribers and to businesses requiring different levels of Internet service rather than the current best-effort (or send-and-pray) model. Finally, in the last paper, Mining Parallel Patterns from Mobile Users, John Goh and David Taniar discuss the fairly new field of mobile data mining and they propose methods that can be used to discover useful patterns from mobile users. These techniques can aid businesses planning mobile commerce offerings.
It is important to note here that you will not be reading this inaugural issue without the tremendous help our editorial team received from Idea Group Inc. They had the patience and experience to guide this process to fruition. Thanks!

Best regards,

Jairo Gutierrez, Editor-in-Chief

Jairo Gutierrez has expertise in networking and data communications. He has worked in industry as a research and development manager, systems integration consultant, and information systems manager. He regularly conducts seminars on networking technologies and their use. His current research topics are in network management systems, viable business models for mobile commerce, programmable networks, and Quality of Service issues associated with Internet protocols. Jairo is a senior lecturer in IS at the University of Auckland and coordinator of its Cisco Networking Academy Program. He teaches data communications and computer networking. He has supervised more than 30 post-graduate students during the last seven years with research projects covering a wide range of networking technologies issues. He received a Systems and Computer Engineering degree from The University of The Andes (Colombia, 1983), a master’s degree in computer science from Texas A&M University (1985), and a PhD (1997) in information systems from The University of Auckland (New Zealand).