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Nominate Now for 2009-2010 Board of Directors

Everyone knows it's election time—but don't think only of Republicans and Democrats: It's time to think about ACUTA elected officials! Moving the Annual Conference to April means our terms of office are changing as well. New officers will, as always, begin their terms at the end of the Annual Conference. For 2009-2010, that will be April 22.

ACUTA's Nominating Committee has issued the call for nominations for the positions of President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and two Directors-at-Large.

President-Elect: As stated in the Bylaws (Article III, Sect. A6), "Candidates for the office of President-Elect must have served as a member on the Board of Directors for a minimum of one year, or served as the Chair of a permanent committee for a minimum of one year." Nominees for this position must also be prepared to serve the following two years as President and Immediate Past President.

Secretary/Treasurer: Riny Ledgerwood will complete her second two-year term as Secretary/Treasurer and is not eligible to run for this position again at this time.

Directors-at-Large: Two positions shall be elected each year for two-year terms. The Nominating Committee will assemble a slate of nominees from names submitted by the membership. The two candidates receiving the most votes will be declared the winners. Directors-at-Large whose terms will expire this year are Randy Hayes, University of Northern Iowa, and Sandy Roberts, Wellesley College. Randy is finishing his second consecutive term and is therefore ineligible to run for the position this year. Sandy is eligible to serve another term if she so chooses.

Directors-at-Large who will serve the second year of their two-year terms are Matt Fuoco of the University of Kansas Medical Center and Joe Harrington, Boston College.

Immediate Past President Walt Magnussen will step off the Board, and President Corinne Hoch of Columbia University will serve as Immediate Past President.

Nominations must be received by 5:00 p.m. CDT, November 17, 2008. Send all nominations to Walt Magnussen, Immediate Past President, at wmagnussen@mail.telecom.tamu.edu. Phone nominations will not be accepted.



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From the President



Corinne Hoch

Director

Client Relationship Management

Columbia University

hoch@columbia.edu

Eat That Frog!

What do you do when you are waiting for a meeting or a conference call to begin? Review notes from the last meeting? Update a project plan with the latest accomplishments? Read a periodical for which you don't usually have time?

Not too long ago I had an opportunity to peruse "Columbia College Today" when I arrived ahead of schedule for a meeting, and I am so glad that I did because in it was an advertisement for a business productivity book, *Eat That Frog!*, by Brian Tracy, with 21 great ways to stop procrastinating and get more done in less time.

According to the author, Mark Twain once said that if the first thing you do each morning is to eat a live frog, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that it's probably the worst thing you'll do all day. He uses "eat that frog" as a metaphor for tackling the most challenging task of your day - the one on which you are most likely to procrastinate, but also probably the one that can have the greatest positive impact on your life.

After reading *Eat That Frog!* I was compelled to initiate my first two CRM projects. For a week I had found one excuse after another not to contact the primary stakeholders to let them know I would provide the role of IT relationship management for their web-based technology systems. I felt guilty because I wasn't able to take action, and I allowed my guilt to continue to build a wedge between what I needed to do and what I was doing. After all, it wasn't as though I weren't accomplishing anything!

Thanks to Tracy, I identified the reason for my reluctance to take action:

I was unsure of how to proceed since this was an undefined role in an undefined area. I was a "voice person," and what did I know about server space and domains and security assessments and technology infrastructure assessments and hosted services?

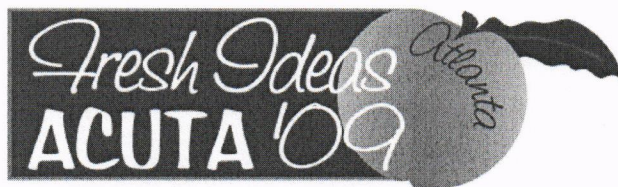
Working in a parallel universe has taught me a lot over the past 25 years, and I continue to learn. One thing I have learned is that Information Communications Technology is now a world in which I feel very comfortable. No one ever knows all the answers, but you can only fault yourself if you aren't honest with yourself and if you don't reach out to others when you know that you need them.

I recommend that you add Tracy's *Eat That Frog!* to your reading list. You will find a lot of common sense rules that are arranged uncommonly.

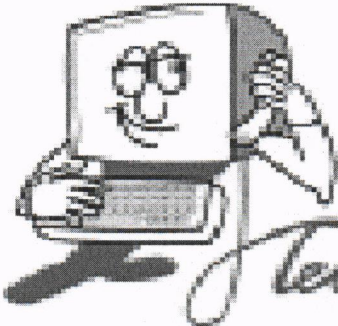
I would also remind you that ACUTA is an excellent resource. As an ACUTA member you will find many others who live comfortably within the ICT world. My advice? Reach out to all of us! ACUTA members will always help you answer Tracy's three questions for maximum productivity:

1. What are my highest-value activities?
2. What can I and only I do that, if done well, will make a real difference?
3. What is the most valuable use of my time right now?

Hope to see you in Boston ... there is nothing quite like the fall scenery in the Northeast... or networking with others with similar challenges... or finding the perfect ICT solution in the ACUTA exhibit hall!



38th Annual Conference & Exhibition • April 19-22, 2009 • Atlanta Georgia



Kevin Tanzillo
Dux PR
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Why Not Share That Extra Computing Power?

Extending computing resources cost-effectively has been a campus challenge pretty much since the days of punch cards and computers the size and weight of delivery trucks. There just never seems to be quite enough budget to do all that you want to do.

There may be a solution out there for you, one that's as simple as what Mom told you and your sister when you both wanted that last cupcake: Share!

A California company that was brought to our attention offers a device that for as little as \$70 per user allows multiple people to share the resources of a single PC. The idea behind this is that the typical PC has so much computing power that a single user consumes only a fraction of its potential at any given time. So even though the PC may not be a server per se, it can function as one, with several users networked to it.

The company is NComputing (www.ncomputing.com), and it offers two types of sharing. One, designed for garden variety PCs, allows up to seven people to share a single PC's computing power. This is via a direct connection, with the PC located within 10 meters. For a server or high-end PC, up to 31 people can share its resources via an Ethernet connection.

The way it works is that each user gets a small device that connects via cable or Ethernet connection to the main computer. The user's keyboard, mouse, monitor, and peripherals all plug into this device, which has no CPU, memory, or moving parts. Virtualization software running on the PC creates identities for each of the users so they can share applications, storage space, and other resources.

According to the company, more than 250 colleges and universities - including some ACUTA members - are using this approach. It stretches budgets, makes upgrades less overwhelming (rather than have to upgrade seven computers for seven users, for instance, only one computer needs an upgrade to serve seven users), and is actually environmentally beneficial as well. The device to which users connect consumes only 1 to 5 watts of power, compared with about 115 watts for an actual PC. That not only cuts power usage, but generates less heat, which can create a secondary benefit by reducing cooling needs.

We talked to the company about issues such as software licenses, performance, and user access rights, and it all seems pretty straightforward. Software licenses are really no different than they would be if you had independent PCs or terminals on a server. Performance in situations where you have all the users working at the same time is designed to keep everyone as consistent as possible. If there are 30 users, each user is allotted essentially one-thirtieth of the computing power, so if one person is using graphics-heavy applications, for instance, only that person is affected, rather than taking "bandwidth" away from anyone else. And as far as user access rights, setting them up using the company-provided software sounds pretty simple.

As always, if there are specific topics you would like to see covered in this space, please let me know via e-mail at kevin@duxpr.com.

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D C Update

Dave Ostrom

Washington State University
Chair, ACUTA Legislative &
Regulatory Affairs Committee
ostrom@wsu.edu

Things have been fairly quiet this month as far as telecommunications legislation and regulation. As a change I thought that I would first focus on the FCC's involvement in disasters such as Hurricane Ike. Some may not be aware that the FCC plays a role in restoration of telecommunications services and that it has a Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

On September 11, 2007, the FCC launched the Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS), a "voluntary, efficient, Web-based system that communications companies, including wireless, wireline, broadcast, and cable providers, can use to report communications infrastructure status and situational awareness information during times of crisis." DIRS was put to the test for the first time this year when it was activated for tropical storm Fay on August 22. For hurricane Ike, DIRS was activated on September 12, the day before Ike hit Texas. It will be deactivated once the FCC determines that the need no longer exists.

So what does DIRS really do? The carriers provide feedback on the status of their communication equipment including restoration efforts, whether or not they are using backup generators or batteries, what their fuel supply situation is for the generators, etc. This information is then compiled and shared with the National Communication System (NCS) in support of their role as the primary agency for emergency support under the National Response Framework. The information has proven to be valuable in "facilitating the accurate assessment of any damage to carrier infrastructure and the rapid restoration of that infrastructure," and the FCC has stated its intention to share the data with other agencies involved in emergency support for future incidents. Please note that the data is kept confidential and is not available to us as some of it could be used maliciously.

During disasters the FCC also issues special temporary authorizations (STAs) to allow communications carriers to obtain permission to operate at a specified variance when time does not allow for the regular license application process. This helps the carriers to restore service more rapidly than if they had to comply with all of the regular FCC rules. The STAs may be obtained on a 24x7 basis from the FCC's operations center.

The FCC also announced a very successful rollout of the digital TV switch on September 8 in Wilmington, North Carolina. They received close to 800 calls for help from a total

of approximately 14,000 households who use antennas to receive their signals. (However, they used the total of 180,000 households to calculate their success rate!) This was a test of the switch and the FCC hoped to learn how well the nationwide switch will go on February 17, 2009.

For More In-Depth Coverage of Legislative & Regulatory Issues:

ACUTA members may read about the latest developments in telecommunications- and Internet-related issues in the most recent Legislative and Regulatory Update, an electronic newsletter prepared monthly by ACUTA's government relations counsel. Access this newsletter at <http://www.acuta.org/relation/DownloadFile.cfm?docNum=309>

Clemson Researchers' EarthBottle Made from Plants Soon Will Be in Stores

CLEMSON, S.C. — Environmentally friendly bottles made almost entirely from plants will soon be showing up on store shelves. The compounded resin formula behind the "Earth-Bottle" is the brainchild of Clemson University employees Danny Roberts, researcher and assistant vice president of Public Service and Agriculture, and David Gangemi, director of the Institute for Nutraceutical Research. These natural polymer-fiber bottles are recyclable, biodegradable, petroleum-free and stronger, lighter than glass and more durable than most other bottles.

The materials have the potential to replace plastic for automotive parts, agricultural and industrial fabrics and biomedical parts, among other applications.

"The researchers have demonstrated how creativity at Clemson University results in meeting environmental and marketplace challenges," said John Kelly, vice president of Public Service and Agriculture at Clemson University.

For more information visit: <http://www.earthbottle.com/Home.html>.

Info Links

Randy Hayes

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Frequently, vendors, associations, governmental bodies, and others provide white papers and other informational documents which are announced through a variety of media sources. While some admittedly have a certain slant or opinion, others are quite objective; however, they often contain valuable information. Below are links to selected documents.

- Experian - Global Mobile Phone Study:
<http://www.smr.com/study/default.aspx?c=Media+Post%3a+Mobile>
- Arthur D. Little - Hybrid TV (Europe):
<http://www.adl.com/reports.html?view=286>
- PTI-Book - Municipal/Utility Guidebook for Deploying FTTH:
<http://www.pti.org/docs-cio/Municipal&UtilityGuidebook.PDF>
- ADE - Affordable Broadband.....Across the Digital Divide:
<http://www.alliancefordigitalequality.org/dep.pdf>
- EH&E - Reducing Your Campus Carbon Footprint:
<http://www.eheinc.com/recxcampus.htm>
- PFF - The Law is Whatever the Nobles Do:
<http://www.pff.org/issues-pubs/pops/2008/pop15.12undueprocess.pdf>
- Lirne.net - ICT Infrastructure in Emerging Asia:
<http://www.idrc.ca/openebooks/378-2/>
- SSRN - Reverse Auctions/USF...Global Experience Lessons :
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1136836
- Brookings - Annual State/Fed eGovernment in U.S - 2008:
http://www.brookings.edu/-/media/Files/rc/reports/2008/0826_egovernment_west/0826_egovernment_west.pdf
- PFF - Broadband Policy—Does the U.S. Have it Right After All?:
<http://www.pff.org/issues-pubs/pops/2008/pop15.14USbroadbandpolicy.pdf>
- Net Competition - Exposing Broadband Policy “Straw Man”:
http://netcompetition.org/Exposing_Broadband_Policy_Straw_Man.pdf
- ITIF - Time for Post-Partisan Broadband Debate:
<http://www.itif.org/files/Post-PartisanBroadbandDebate.pdf>
- Akamai - State of the Internet Report (2nd Quarter 2008):
<http://www.akamai.com/stateoftheinternet/>
- 21st Century Skills - Retool Education or U.S. Will Fail:
http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/21st_century_skills_education_and_competitiveness_guide.pdf
- CTIA/Harris Interactive - Youth Cellphone Survey:
http://www.harrisinteractive.com/News/MediaAccess/2008/HI_TeenMobileStudy_ResearchReport.pdf
- CTIA - Camera Phone-based Barcode Scanning:
http://files.ctia.org/pdf/WhitePaper_CTIA_WIC_CodeScan_9_08.pdf
- NASCIO - Managing State/Government Data:
<http://www.nascio.org/publications/documents/NASCIO-ProtectingRealm.pdf>
- NASCIO - Innovative Funding for State IT:
<http://www.nascio.org/publications/documents/NASCIO-InnovativeFunding2008.pdf>
- FCC - Digital Television Transition Update:
http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-285403A2.pdf
- Nielson Wireless - Call My Cell...Wireless Substitution in the US:
<http://www.nielsonmobile.com/documents/WirelessSubstitution.pdf>
- NGA - Pandemic Preparedness in the States:
<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0809PANDEMICASSESSMENT.PDF>
- Pew - Teens, Video Games, & Civics:
http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Teens_Games_and_Civics_Report_FINAL.pdf
- Right Now/Forrester -- Customer/Experience Officer Playbook:
http://crm.rightnow.com/cgi-bin/rightnow.cfg/php/enduser/doc_serve.php?2=REPCRM-FORM-CTI-ASmartbrief-TEXT-080916-CCEOPlaybook
- GAO - Report on HHS Health-IT Privacy Efforts:
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d081138.pdf>

Very Interesting 

The ICT Regulation Toolkit: A Resource Worth Checking Out

www.ictregulationtoolkit.org/en/Index.html

The ICT Sector and Challenges to Regulators

There is widespread agreement about the transformational opportunities that ICTs [information communication(s) technologies] offer to a country's economy. Experience has shown, in turn, that access to ICTs is optimized in countries with effective, competition-centered, market-friendly regulatory frameworks that support and sustain both ICT investment and diffusion, and thereby benefit consumers. The right framework is so critically important that it can generate billions of dollars of investment.

But implementing such a framework has become more challenging than ever in recent years as the ICT sector continues to undergo major structural changes. Regulators need to manage the transition from old to new ICT environments, which raises a wide range of questions involving the scope of authority of ICT regulatory institutions, approaches to licensing, competition policy and level playing field in the new environment, what to do about legacy subsidy arrangements, approaches to universal access in order to successfully realize the potential of alternative network infrastructures such as WI-FI and WIMAX to bring both services and high-speed Internet access to urban and rural areas, and the need to introduce an increased role for market forces in radio spectrum allocation.

The ICT Regulation Toolkit

In order to respond to developing countries' need for practical, relevant guidance and assistance in an ever-changing environment, in late 2004, infoDev, in cooperation with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), began the development of an ICT Regulation Toolkit, a hands-on, web-based update and expansion of infoDev's successful Telecommunications Regulation Handbook of 2000. The Toolkit is intended to assist regulators with the design of effective and enabling regulatory frameworks to harness the latest technological and market advances. Its most prevalent themes are the impact of changing technology, the role of competition, and the regulatory implications of the transition from traditional telephony to next generation networks (NGNs).

Seven modules in all will be available when the Toolkit is fully completed by July 2008. Each module offers both a summary and a more detailed overview of its respective topic with links to hundreds of practice notes and reference documents (over 850 in the entire Toolkit) drawn from global experience.

Publication of Executive Summaries of the Toolkit in English and subsequently other languages is currently being planned, starting with French and Spanish in 2008.

The Toolkit Modules are:

- Regulating the Telecommunications Sector: Overview (available)
- Competition and Price Regulation (available)
- Authorization of Telecommunications Services (available)
- Universal Access and Service (available)
- Radio Spectrum Management (available)
- Legal and Institutional Framework (available)
- New Technologies and Impact on Regulation (available)

All modules will be periodically updated and improved. As they are used by regulators and policymakers, new materials and case studies will emerge and these will be used to further enrich this important set of tools. The objective is to provide regulators, operators, policymakers, sector experts, and the general public with the latest on regulation strategies, best practices, and case studies.

The Information for Development Program (infoDev), is a global partnership of international development agencies works to maximize the impact of ICTs in development efforts. Using its cutting edge research and analysis, infoDev is a global resource of knowledge on ICT for development. Through innovative pilot projects, support for training and capacity building, and

action-oriented toolkits and handbooks, infoDev helps policy makers and donors turn ICT knowledge into action. For more information: www.infodev.org.

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies. As the global focal point for governments and the private sector, ITU's role in helping the world communicate spans 3 core sectors: radiocommunication, standardization and development. ITU also organizes TELECOM events and was the lead organizing agency of the World Summit on the Information Society. For more information: www.itu.int.

Loans to Cover Disaster Losses

In a September 16th message directed specifically to the many college and university campuses that have been affected by Gustav, Ike, and other severe storms, Executive Director Jeri Semer offered the support of the entire ACUTA community to those who now face the difficult recovery process. She encouraged affected campuses to use the listserv as a forum to inform other members of ways they might be of assistance.

In addition, campuses that have temporarily relocated and would like us to update contact information in the ACUTA membership records so that they will continue to receive mail and electronic communications should call or e-mail Michele West at the ACUTA office at 859-278-3338, ext. 222 or mwest@acuta.org.

After Jeri's message was posted, Ken Salomon, attorney with DowLohnes (ksalomon@dowlohn.com) posted this additional information:

Section 824 of the new Higher Education Opportunity Act that became law on August 14 creates the Education Disaster and Emergency Relief Loan Program at the U.S. Department of Education. This authorizes loans to institutions that have sustained direct and indirect losses from a federally declared major disaster or emergency.

Board Report September

Riny Ledgerwood
San Diego State Univ.
ACUTA Secretary/Treasurer
rledgerw@mail.sdsu.edu

The Board of Directors met on September 3 by conference call. The month-end financial statements for June and July were reviewed and approved. The Board received an update on membership recruitment, which has exceeded goals for 2007-08, and approved the institutional and corporate affiliate membership recruitment plans for the coming year.

Several appointments were made to the Membership and Vendor Liaison committees.

President Corinne Hoch reported that she had signed a contract with the Palace Hotel in San Francisco for the Summer 2010 Seminar, and had also signed comments to the FCC on 10-digit dialing for TRS. She also reported on recent discussions with BiCSI, and stated that ACUTA would have a representative (Carmine Piscopo, RCDD) on the committee that is developing a BiCSI standard for postsecondary educational institutions.

The Executive Director discussed the recent EDUCAUSE Campus Safety and Security Summit, which she and Walt Magnussen, Immediate Past President, had attended.

The Board received a preliminary report from the ACUTA Committee Structure Task Force, which is charged with examining our committee structure and recommending changes to bring it into line with current goals and objectives. A conference call is scheduled with all current committee chairs, ACUTA Board and Staff to discuss this issue further, and discussions will continue at the October 4 Board meeting in Boston.

The Board also requested recommendations regarding nominations to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) advisory committees.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeri A. Semer, CAE
Executive Director

(For Riny Ledgerwood)

Check It Out: Press Releases... Job Postings... RFIs/RFPs

The ACUTA website is a useful tool for communicating with other members, whether you've got some exciting news to share, a position to fill, or a project for which you need a vendor. Check the website for the latest postings frequently. Here are items that have been posted since our last eNews.

PRESS RELEASES

- PCR, INC's Chief Operating Officer announces Conway (Buck) Bayliff has joined the PCR team
- MOHAWK announces the launch of their Mohawk Accredited Contractor (MAC) certification program

JOB POSTINGS

- Network Engineer II (voice), University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA.
- STaRS Program Supervisor, Washington University, Saint Louis, MO.
- Voice Network Engineer, University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics, Iowa City, IA.
- Manager, Infrastructure & Communications, Eastern Washington Univ., Cheney, WA.
- Network Engineer, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY.
- Telecommunications Manager, University of Maine, Orono, ME.

RFIs/RFPs

RFP: Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Maintenance and Upgrade of Nortel Telecommunications System

OCS Federation Registry

Michael Enyeart
Indiana University

Indiana University has created Federation Registry for Microsoft Office Communications Server (OCS) for educational institutions in the .edu domain. The OCS Federation Registry is provided for educational institutions to identify peer organizations desiring to collaborate as OCS federation partners.

Registered institutions should meet the following requirements:

- A SIP domain name ending in .edu
- A deployed Office Communications Server infrastructure
- An OCS Access Edge Server that allows federation
- OCS users enabled for federation

For more information, please visit <https://accountmgmt.exchange.iu.edu/OCSE-duRegistry>

New Trans-Pacific Submarine Cable Completed

Verizon Business' submarine cable connecting the United States to China is now fully operational and ready to deliver IP, data and voice services.

Known as the Trans-Pacific Express, the cable system runs from Oregon through South Korea, Taiwan, China and other East Asian countries, and is designed to eventually support "more than 60 times the overall capacity of the existing cable directly linking the U.S. and China," the company says. Fred Briggs, Verizon Business' executive vice president of operations and technology, says the cable system will reduce trans-Pacific traffic latency by 10% to 15%, and will open up paths through China for American carriers to construct new networks in Asian countries such as India and Vietnam.

In total, the system consists of more than 11,000 miles of fiber-optic cable and has an operating capacity of 3.2Tbps. To put that into perspective, Verizon says that the Trans-Pacific Express can support "the equivalent of 77.5 million simultaneous phone calls," which easily dwarfs the current capacity of other U.S.-to-Asia cable systems. The company has said that the cable network will eventually have a design capacity of 5.12Tbps.

More at <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/091908-verizon-lights-up.html>

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Welcome New Members

Institutional Members

Marywood University, Scranton, PA. T2
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Lisa Powell, Dir. of Marketing, 256/382-5976

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Inova Solutions, Charlottesville, VA www.inovasolutions.com

Berkly Trumbo, Dir. Emergency Communications Systems, 434/951-8154

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The Northridge Group, Rosemont, IL www.northridgegroup.com

Janet Howenstine, VP Business Development, 262/242-9967

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NWS Communications, Westfield, MA www.nwscorp.net

Tom Stokowski, Strategic Business Development, 413/562-7081

NWS Communications designs and integrates broadband communications services. We use satellite, fiber optic, wireless and other technologies to provide clients with privately owned, high-speed satellite and broadband networks that are flexible, scalable, and profitable. Our systems handle large capacities for the distribution of streaming video and data.

Pier Systems, Inc., Bellingham, WA www.piersystems.com

Pat Philbin, PhD., Senior VP, 360/756-8080

PIER Systems provides on-demand solutions for fast, direct and transparent communications. The PIER System evolved out of an industrial accident in the Pacific Northwest in 1999. PIER was designed to put all vital tools needed by communicators onto a single, easy-to-use web-based platform in order to improve speed, efficiency & information control.

PlanNet Consulting, Brea, CA www.plannet.net

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PlanNet Consulting is about helping clients navigate technology change. We help organizations select the right technologies and get the most out of them. The company's primary focus is on critical systems infrastructure, supporting the full project life-cycle around our AAIM Methodology - Assess, Architect, Implement and Migrate.

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