

Net Neutrality

(v 0.1)

PXC

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“Even paranoids have real enemies”

Delmore Schwartz. American poet (1913 – 1966)

Sources

- PBS NOW - 2006 Net Neutrality, Patriot Act and Libraries.
 - Splitted with avidemux.
- <http://www.google.com/help/netneutrality.html>
- <http://www.savetheinternet.com/>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_neutrality

Net Neutrality 1

00:20 --- --- --- --- ---

- 01:30: We use to think that governments could not control Internet. That Internet was kind of a wild west without government regulations.
- 02:00: Well, it doesn't work this way. USA congress has the power to redesign the future of the on-line world and some powerful players are working hard to do just that and not to your benefit. This could lead to the end of freedom of thought in the Internet.
- 02:20: We go to blip.tv headquarters. blip.tv is kind of a youtube project but with better video quality.
- 03:40: Everybody can create a video, audio or text that reflects their thinking and they can get that out to millions of people and influence them without any filters at all.

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Net Neutrality 2

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- 03:58: Right now (2006) USA congress is being pressured to rewrite the rules of how Internet works. The telephone and cable companies insist these changes are needed to continue with the Internet growth.
- 04:15: But critics say this could destroy internet's most important benefit to society, the free and easy flow of new ideas.
- 04:23: Free press <<http://www.freepress.net/>> is a media watchdog.
- 04:38: Big media companies already control what you see on TV, radio and newspapers but they don't control what you see on Internet. Well, NOT YET.

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Net Neutrality 3

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- 04:54: Internet companies are supposed to be impartial middle-men. And everybody's traffic should be treated the same. No matter if it's traffic generated by you or by big corporations. This is called “Net neutrality”.
- 06:08: According to Free Press, Big telecom companies are against net neutrality and want to decide which websites run better than others.
- 06:22: The companies want to set up a guaranteed fast lane in the Internet for the websites that pay a hefty fee (or that THEY OWN).
- 07:03: But this business model goes against Net Neutrality.

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Net Neutrality 4

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- 07:11: And, as usual, they have deployed a small army of lobbyists to get USA government to do their will. They've spend millions of dollars in adds trying to ridiculing this Net Neutrality idea.
- 07:32: They argue that some of Net Neutrality stronger supporters (web giants like Google, Yahoo! and MicroSoft) are going to continue to make a fortune out of Internet but are trying to skip out on paying for upgrading the network.
- 07:59: Mike McCurry (the former Bill Clinton's press secretary) is now lobbying for the telecom industry though “Hands Off the Internet” <<http://www.handsoff.org/>> and argue that Net Neutrality is standing in the way of progress.

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- 08:46: Democratic congressman says this is about much more than just money. It says it is about monopoly and control of the ideas of even the smallest person.
- 09:07: The big web companies are already paying big sums of money. And you also pay to access the Internet. But people have learn to used Internet to reinvent not only economy, but free speech
- 09:39: The biggest concert is that if telecoms decide who gets through their pipes the quickest they can control who wins and loses on the Internet (be it political debates, competing technologies or web-sites). And that is why Net Neutrality is needed.

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- 10:20: Save the Internet <<http://www.savetheinternet.com/>> is an umbrella organization defending Net Neutrality. It fears that if you give mostly unchecked authority over the Internet to a few corporations who knows who's data and ideas will be allowed to go through.
- 10:56: US Telecom Association says user experience won't change.
- 12:01: But there are already some cases of Net Neutrality violation due to economical interests of telecom companies. And the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) fined them because Net Neutrality is enforced.

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- 12:38: USTelecom says that FCC already controls that nobody is blocking, inpearing, or degrading anybody's applications or services.
- 13:01: But Net Neutrality advocates say that without Net Neutrality you don't need to do that. You just give the fast lane connection to selected companies that pay for it and you've just built an unfair advantage for them.
- 13:19: Therefore, even if my product is better and I offer it for a lower price, they can make people to choose their product or their partners' products.

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- 13:41: It's really not about the Googles of today. It's about the Googles of the future
- 13:58: blip.tv's only chance to survive in a world that already has YouTube is Net Neutrality.
- 14:29: Telecom companies have said again and again: "We're gonna build our model based in discrimination".
- 14:44: Internet activists have been holding rallies to show Congress that Net Neutrality has popular support. But in 2006 the industry had a lot of friends in Congress.

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- 15:04: End of 2005, blip.tv had some environmental groups posting their videos and the sudden surge of traffic overwhelmed their own computers. But they've got it fixed in time.
- 15:29: Investors came in with money. Perhaps blip.tv has a chance to survive.
- 15:45: Nowadays, power and discourse is moving from a few centralized locations controlled by a few companies to everyone. And, without Net Neutrality, we run a serious risk of losing that.

16:10 --- --- --- --- ---

Google on Net Neutrality 1

- "Net neutrality" is an issue that will shape the future of the Internet.
- Network neutrality is the principle that Internet users should be in control of what content they view and what applications they use on the Internet.
- The Internet has operated according to this neutrality principle since its earliest days.
- It is this neutrality that has allowed many companies, including Google, to launch, grow, and innovate.
- Fundamentally, net neutrality is about equal access to the Internet.

Google on Net Neutrality 2

- In our view, the broadband carriers should not be permitted to use their market power to discriminate against competing applications or content.
- Just as telephone companies are not permitted to tell consumers who they can call or what they can say, broadband carriers should not be allowed to use their market power to control activity online.
- Today, the neutrality of the Internet is at stake as the broadband carriers want Congress's permission to determine what content gets to you first and fastest.

Google on Net Neutrality 3

- **What is the Current Status of Net Neutrality?**
- Net neutrality is a major issue as the U.S. considers new telecommunications laws. The U.S. House of Representatives passed its telecommunications bill, H.R. 5252, in May, without adequate net neutrality protections. Now the fight has moved to U.S. Senate. On June 28, the Senate Commerce Committee passed its own telecom bill, S. 2686. While an amendment to the bill that would have added meaningful net neutrality safeguards failed 11-11, this tie vote marks a significant political victory and gives the effort new momentum. The debate now shifts to the full Senate, where advocates will be working to get strong net neutrality language in any bill that the Senate considers.

Save the Internet on Net Neutrality

- The SavetheInternet.com Coalition applauds the recent introduction of the bipartisan “Internet Freedom Preservation Act 2008” (HR 5353). Introduced on **Feb. 12, 2008** by Reps. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) and Chip Pickering (R-Miss.), this landmark bill would protect Net Neutrality and spark a much-needed public conversation about the future of the Internet.
- The new bill would enshrine Net Neutrality into the Communications Act. It also requires the Federal Communications Commission to convene at least eight “broadband summits” to collect public input on policies to “promote openness, competition, innovation, and affordable, ubiquitous broadband service for all individuals in the United States.”

Latest news

- In August 2008 the following news was reported in THE WEEK: **“No to Internet rationing”**

“Internet service providers cannot ration service to heavy users of the Internet, the Federal Communications Commission ruled this week. The FCC said that Comcast, one of the largest Internet service providers, broke the law when it slowed the transfer of video files among a group of its customers to ensure that other customers had adequate bandwidth. The FCC ruled that Comcast had no right to act as Internet traffic cop.”

Tim Berners-Lee on Net Neutrality

- “The neutral communications medium is essential to our society. It is the basis of a fair competitive market economy. It is the basis of democracy, by which a community should decide what to do. It is the basis of science, by which humankind should decide what is true. Let us protect the neutrality of the net.”

- Tim Berners-Lee

Inventor of the World Wide Web