

CertSys works with more schools to educate children how to protect themselves from online dangers.

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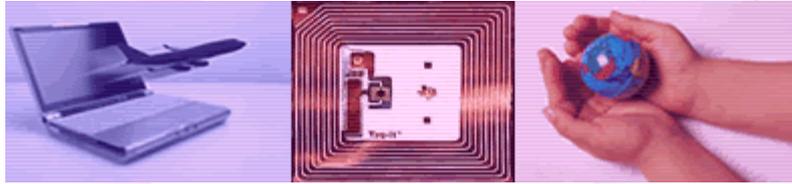
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CertSys News

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Q. What makes a radio-powered microchip with a serial number so important?



A. Information.

The next generation of online information could strengthen companies by being better at directing the right products to the right people at the right time.

When Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) was first introduced, companies concentrated on how a tagging system could benefit their organisations in terms of gaining profit from competitive advantage and cost reduction.

According to research by Gartner, the adoption of RFID and expenditure on related hardware and software is expected to skyrocket over the next five years with worldwide RFID spending to total \$3bn by 2010.

RFID is not a like for like replacement for barcodes and the growth of the technology will drive companies and organisations who are beginning to discover business value in places where bar coding technology is less effective. One particular example of this is the adoption of RFID chips within passports. From October 2006 all US passports will contain RFID chips which is aimed to help improve air travel security.

Officials will be able to read the name, date, place of birth and a digital photo of the passport holder which has angered privacy advocates.

Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP)

What is VOIP? A technology which allows you to make telephone calls using a broadband Internet connection instead of a regular (or analog) phone line.

How do I know if I have a VOIP phone call? It will ring like any other call.

What are some advantages? VOIP is digital and if you have broadband internet connection you would not have to maintain and pay the additional cost for a line just to make telephone calls.

With many VOIP plans you can talk for as long as you want with any person in the world if the other person has internet connection and in addition you can also talk with many people at the same time without any additional cost.

What are some disadvantages? The disadvantage is that some VOIP services do not work during power outages and will not provide directory assistance. There are also security issues which are currently being tackled.

Why invest into VOIP? According to a survey by Viatel, two thirds of 100 European IT directors believe the potential for 50% cost savings and added functionality of VOIP override any security fears.

Telephone Communication Developments:

1. Text Messaging used to chase up unpaid court fines

The government has set up a 4,000-strong enforcement team to mop up the estimated £400m that remains to be paid by offenders.

A text message trial in Staffordshire is said to have persuaded 3/4 of 150 recipients to pay their outstanding fines. The government is also considering using emails and phone calls.

2. UK surfers interested in mobile Banking

The driving factors for mobile banking services are features allowing users to check account balances, receive warnings when their account goes overdrawn, freeze a card and make payments or transfers.

A study by industry analyst Forrester, showed that 51% of existing online banking users aged between 16-34 would be willing to try such a service and a quarter of internet users would be tempted to switch to a new bank if it was offered.

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(Source; Recycler magazine Dec 2000)
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