ONLINE CURRENTS

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ARTICLES

ISP filtering: What is it, where is it at, and is it going too far? - Bianca Locsin

A significant component of the Rudd Government's Cyber-Safety Plan (announced in May 2008) is the introduction of server-based or Internet Service Provider (ISP) level filtering. The controversial scheme, currently in its pilot phase, has drawn criticism from members of the communications industry, as well as anti-filtering activists and freedom of expression advocates. Critics charge that the scheme is too expensive for end-users, too burdensome for ISPs, too technically unworkable and over-reaching, and overly censorious on the part of the government. This article provides an update on the status of the scheme, describes how the scheme is intended to work and explores the impact of the scheme's implementation on access to online content. The scheme may have an unintended consequence – that librarians would be prevented from accessing legitimate online content.	175
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JSTOR is a not-for-profit company that maintains a full-text archive of leading scholarly journals, especially older material. It offers libraries two advantages – it allows them to reduce storage space by getting rid of long runs of rarely-used older journals, and it expands access to a wide range of journal articles. JSTOR is also of value to publishers who wish to digitise their backruns, but don't have the capacity.	180
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Head Office

100 Harris Street PYRMONT NSW 2009 Tel: (02) 8587 7000 Fax: (02) 8587 7100



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