



ISP Survival Guide: Strategies for Running a Competitive ISP

By Geoff Huston

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Introducing the ISP bible for the networking and telecomm industry.

To put it mildly, cyberspace business is booming. There are presently more than 6,000 Internet Service Providers worldwide, and about 600 new providers are springing up each quarter. However, the ISP business is still very young and without precedent—no how-to manual or foolproof start-up recipe exists for those who want a piece of the action. As ISPs mount an ambitious challenge against phone companies for control of the \$300 billion telecommunications market, they need a step-by-step planning guide to creating, developing, and profiting from a solid service provider business. Networking pioneer Geoff Huston describes the technologies, business practices, and policies required to be a formidable player in the ISP business, covering architecture principles, network management, infrastructure, business models, public policy, future growth, and much more.

ISP (Internet Service Provider) companies provide access for end-users to the Internet. ISPs range from small, regional providers to larger, well-known companies like America Online and Sprint.

The Wiley Networking Council's mission is to fill an important gap in networking literature by publishing books that put technology into perspective for decision makers who need an implementation strategy, a vendor and outsourcing strategy, and a product and design strategy. It is comprised of four of the most influential leaders of the networking community:

Lyman Chapin: Founding trustee of the Internet Society; chief scientist of BBN, a division of GTE Internetworking.

Scott Bradner: Trustee of the Internet Society; Director of the Harvard University Network Switching Test Lab; Network World columnist.

Vinton Cerf: Founding trustee of the Internet Society, often called the "Father of the Internet;" Senior Vice President, MCI/WorldCom.

Ed Kozel: CTO and Senior VP for Product Development, Cisco Corporation,

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Editorial Review

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Running a successful Internet Service Provider (ISP) requires excellence in many areas. Good ISPs must keep on top of all the technical issues involved in high-traffic Internet connectivity. They must deal with the public, including its most technically incompetent segments. On top of all that, they have to make a profit in a competitive business environment. *ISP Survival Guide* does a good job of explaining all sides of the industry.

Rather than tie his book to the specifics of particular hardware and software products, Geoff Huston explains ISP technologies without implementation details. He writes at great length about the various interior and exterior routing protocols without mentioning specific products. He also covers the pros and cons of various data-transmission technologies, including ATM, ISDN, Frame Relay, and other systems, in addition to analog modems. Huston pays attention to quality of service issues--a subject that is not well covered elsewhere.

ISP Survival Guide also provides insight into the business aspects of running an ISP. Huston provides specific dollar figures that you can use to estimate capital equipment purchase costs and per-account annual maintenance costs. The book also contains advice on doing business with other providers that you're connecting to. --David Wall

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Julianna Pepper:

Information is provisions for people to get better life, information these days can get by anyone with everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even restricted. What people must be consider whenever those information which is within the former life are challenging be find than now could be taking seriously which one would work to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you get it as your main information there will be huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen with you if you take *ISP Survival Guide: Strategies for Running a Competitive ISP* as your daily resource information.

Lisa Knight:

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