

Subj: Online Privacy: Perspectives of Privacy Right
From: Paul Sholtz, Chief Technology Officer, PrivacyRight Inc., c/o Amy Hanson, 703-299-9470
To: Internet Caucus Advisory Committee

Is the Internet Eroding or Enhancing Individual's Privacy?

In general, combining computer networks with databases erodes privacy. Computer networks can be used very efficiently to *monitor* user's activities and interests, even without the knowledge of the person being monitored. This information can then be stored in a database and *searched* for an indefinite amount of time. The Internet combines the ability to monitor and to search on a vast scale, giving organizations powerful tracking tools that significantly erode individual privacy.