

# Samoa Update

REGIONAL CYBERSECURITY FORUM  
Brisbane, 15-18 July 2008

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# Samoa Update

## 1. Country overview

- Independent State, Population is 180,000;
- Under current reforms project, we have separated Policy, Regulations and Operations.
- Combined Telephone penetration now at 59% (6% in 2002), with 95% nationwide coverage;
- 2 GSM Mobile operators, 1 Fixed line provider;
- International Access via Satellite only, but plans for Submarine cable;
- Overview of Internet industry:  
4 ISPs: Computer Services Ltd, I-Pasifika, Lesamoa.net, Samoatel.  
Approx 7500 Internet users, still very low due to PC affordability and lack of basic access. Mobile phone coverage around 95%, but expensive.
- Internet access by Dial up, WiMax, WiFi, ADSL
- Extent of spam problem: up to 85% of incoming mail, ISPs are putting in extra filters to block off spam.
- Emerging issues: Mobile phone spam

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## 2. Legislation Update

- Telecommunications Act 2005
- Electronic Transaction Act 2008
- Broadcasting Bill 2008
- Anti-Spam Bill 2008
- Final Draft developed by Australia DBCDE and selected consultants is with AG's office for final clearance
- Expected to be tabled in Parliament August/September after Cabinet endorsement. Should come in to force before end 2008.
- Public education and awareness of spam and the bill had started on TV and radio.
- Need for a review of current Communications related laws, taking into consideration the importance of Cybersecurity.

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## 3. Regulation Update

- Minister of Communications and IT is responsible for all ICT matters;
- Enforcement Agency: Office of the Regulator
- Other key stakeholders: Attorney General's, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, ICT industry
- Cybersecurity is a concern to small islands.

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## Thank you

- from Samoa



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