



Stanford eCorner

Net Neutrality

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Video URL: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu/videos/1638/Net-Neutrality>

Scott shares his views on net neutrality, a topic of hot debate in the Internet space. He defines net neutrality and explains its impact.



Transcript

The Net Neutrality Debate for those that may not be familiar is Google and Microsoft and Yahoo, arguing that the network should be free and there should be no service differentiation and everyone should be allowed to use it and equally. And this NetOne, their operators, Verizon's and AT&Ts and others in the world saying, "We should have the right to have control and discriminate over who uses the network." Our biggest problem in the comment is that we support the backbones for all of those guys. So, we think that one dimensions are alright. But what I think is actually happening is more political question than anything else which is the content providers don't want Pete to be charged just to get on the network and the telecom operators don't want to be required of invest capital and not be allowed to differentiate service in order to generate a return. They don't want to just put the money out there and have a B overrun for no profit. So they're each taking very extreme positions but I think what will end up happening is everyone would be allowed on the network, no one will be discriminated against. But the people who build and operate the networks and invest the capital to put them in place are going to have the right to create different classes of service. And it's the same, kind of works in every other communications or line economies, for the economist in the room, that you could think of. Every line economy you can imagine has got differentiated rates for packages and people and electrical service and all of that and this one is going to work the same way once they get done arguing about it. Each is afraid that if they go to the middle, the other guy will bring them to the other side and politicians who don't know better might go along with it.

So they're each taking out severe positions to make sure they end up in the middle at the same time. I don't know how long that will take.