

# Internet News & Notes

## Tips For Simplifying Your Online Life

(NAPSA)—A growing number of Internet users are overwhelmed by their online life. Between multiple e-mail and social networking accounts (think MySpace and Facebook, among others), the services that were created to make it easier to stay in touch with friends and family have become complicated to manage and maintain. According to a recent survey:

- 79 percent of Internet users have two or more e-mail accounts while also maintaining at least one social networking account.

- 87 percent of Internet users spend a minimum of seven hours a week managing these accounts.

- 82 percent of Internet users wish they could have one in-box where they can check all their e-mail and social networking accounts in one place.

### Advanced Communications

From the first telegraph in 1831 to the first U.S. cell phone network in 1983 and the latest computer-in-your-pocket mobile phone, the race to communicate more quickly is always on. Now, the latest craze is online communications—social networking, twittering (instant e-updates to your network of friends) and blogging, etc.

But how do we maintain control over our online communications (instead of letting them control us) and get back to a more simple way of managing all these accounts and devices?

### Simplifying

Here are some suggestions for untangling the communications muddle:

- Cancel all your phone lines except for one. With the widespread adoption of the mobile phone, we are seeing fewer households with a landline. In fact, 2008 is likely to be the first calendar year in which U.S. households



**With new communications tools, it's possible to find relief from "online overload."**

spend more on cell phone services than on landlines. Choose one provider and one phone.

- Read the newspaper online. Most Americans are online every day anyway, so you might as well get your news there as well. Cancel your print subscriptions and save a few trees in the process.

- Bookmark your favorite sites so you don't have to search for them over and over again. Consider using the e-mail vacation response tool when you know you can't check them all as regularly as usual—so that urgent matters don't fall through the cracks. Also, consider using OpenID—a single online log-in service to manage all your different passwords.

- Use online tools that consolidate all your e-mail and social networking accounts into one easy in-box. One example is Fuser.com, a free online tool that allows you to check all your e-mail and social networking accounts at one time from a "virtual command center." You no longer need to waste time with multiple Web sites and log-ins to communicate with your friends, family and colleagues. To learn more, go to [www.fuser.com](http://www.fuser.com).

These simple suggestions can go a long way toward making life a little less complicated.