

# Technology

## In Our Lives

### Voice Over Internet: A Powerful Communication Tool

(NAPSA)— The Internet has certainly brought many benefits to people's lives—information at the touch of a button, new ways to shop, and the ability to connect with people through e-mail and instant messaging—just to name a few.

This year, AT&T, the company that developed the telephone and cellular service, will launch the latest Internet innovation around voice communications with a nationwide Voice-Over-Internet (VoIP) service.

Essentially, VoIP is broadband phone service with advanced call management features. It delivers unlimited residential local and nationwide calling combined with the ability to keep one phone number for life—all at significant cost savings over traditional phone service and with the benefit of new easy-to-use features that improve your ability to manage your life.

#### It's as Easy as Hooking up Your Answering Machine

No waiting on a technician, getting started is as easy as hooking up your answering machine. All you need is a broadband connection—cable or DSL—and an AT&T-supplied adapter that connects your computer and phone service. Self-installation is fast and easy—you can begin making calls in as little as 10 minutes.

#### Control and Convenience—Rich Communications on Your Own Terms

While estimated phone service price savings ranging between 30



#### Voice over the Internet is expected to revolutionize communication.

to 40 percent may initially drive interest in Voice over the Internet, industry watchers expect customers will soon recognize the true value comes from the technology's ability to transform the phone from a "simple handset" to a powerful communications tool. Its impact will be similar to how the telephone transformed the telegraph and the DVD replaced the videotape.

Here's a sampling of VoIP innovations that will be made available from AT&T:

- Say you're a family and interested in bringing back the "uninterrupted family dinner"—easily turn on **Do Not Disturb** and for a defined period of time incoming calls will go right to voicemail. Exceptions can be made for specific callers.

- Say you're a road warrior—always traveling from home to office. **Locate Me**, an advanced call forwarding feature, enables

you to get that important call wherever you are.

- Say you get a voicemail with major news you want to share across the family, **Voicemail Access Through Web Browser** allows you to forward it in e-mail. For the businessperson, the ability to view and access your voicemail messages through your computer allows your handheld device to become a phone service tool.

- Say you're a student working in a study group that needs to collaborate but can't meet in person, or you want to hold a virtual family reunion, **Multiple Line Conferencing** allows up to nine parties on a call at once.

- Say you're a tele-worker and need to keep an easy-to-use contact list or you can't recall the name of that pizza parlor you dialed last month. **Call Log** allows you to track calls you have placed, received or even missed, both from home and the office.

These features all focus on allowing businesses and consumers more control and convenience in their communications—and all will be available when this new service is launched. In the future, you will be able to switch phones from home to cell to car in mid-conversation without losing a beat, incorporate video into phone calling, and likely services you cannot even envision today.

If you would like to learn more about Voice over the Internet (VoIP) or converting to VoIP service, visit [www.att.com/voip](http://www.att.com/voip).