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Americans Concerned Information Will Not Be Kept Private, Secure on Internet

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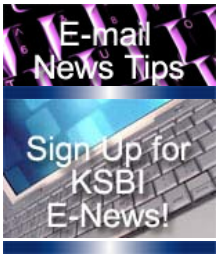
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Story Published: Mar 12, 2007 at 6:17 PM CST
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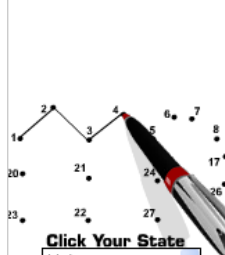
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Helmi Technologies Showcases Rich Internet Application Design at AJAXWorld Conference & Expo By AJAXWorld News Desk

Helmi Technologies Inc., the provider of an open source platform for building AJAX-based Rich Internet Applications (RIAs), is an exhibitor and speaker at AJAXWorld Conference & Expo 2007 East, the leading Web 2.0 and RIA event taking place on March 19-21, 2007 in New York City.

AJAXWorld Keynote by Bret Taylor of Google Maps By AJAXWorld News Desk

Bret Taylor, the original author of the Google Maps JavaScript front end and the Google Maps API, will be giving the March 20 Morning Keynote at AJAXWorld Conference & Expo 2007 in New York City. Taylor, who also created "Ajax Cookbook," at www.ajaxcookbook.org is...

Ubuntu Server 6.10 and WebLogic Workshop 9.2 By Bill Roth

In this post, I will be recounting my experience with Ubuntu server 6.10, WebLogic Workshop 9.2, and REST. Note: This in no way implies support of any kind from me or BEA. This is just the personal experiences of someone who can not keep his hands off the keyboard. ...

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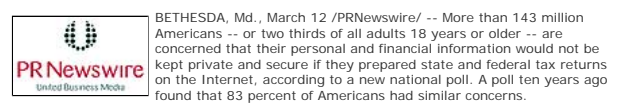
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Taxsoftware.com CONTACT: Edward Segal of Taxsoftware.com, +1-301-320-7080, help@taxsoftware.com Web site: http://www.taxsoftware.com/

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The User Experience of Social Applications
 Speaker: Stowe Boyd



Session Description: In this session by the editor of /Message (<http://www.stoweboyd.com/message/>), the blog on "what is happening at the edge, and its impact on the center," we will look at how effective social applications increasingly share a common set of user experience principles that shape their design. Boyd will discuss what the underlying rationale is for this user experience, and how application developers can adapt it to their needs.

Speaker Bio: Stowe Boyd is an internationally recognized authority on social tools and their impact on business and society, editor of /Message, and CEO of Blue Whale Labs, a social applications consulting company. He is an internationally recognized authority on business strategy and information technology, particularly regarding real-time, collaborative, process, and content management technologies. Over the past decade he has consulted, written and spoken widely on the challenges confronting business management and the social impacts of disruptive technologies.



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More Than 143 Million Americans Are Concerned That Personal and Financial Information Will Not Be Kept Private and Secure on the Internet

BETHESDA, Md., March 12 /PRNewswire/ -- More than 143 million Americans -- or two thirds of all adults 18 years or older -- are concerned that their personal and financial information would not be kept private and secure if they prepared state and federal tax returns on the Internet, according to a new national poll. A poll ten years ago found that 83 percent of Americans had similar concerns.

Both surveys were commissioned by Taxsoftware.com, the only Web site that provides both personal and business tax preparation services online, and which developed the first guaranteed secure Internet-based income tax preparation service.

In the latest poll:

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-- Those most likely to be "very concerned" about the privacy and security of their information included individuals with less than a high school education (47 percent), are retired

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completely trusted by those who use it."

Source: Taxsoftware.com

CONTACT: Edward Segal of Taxsoftware.com, +1-301-320-7080,

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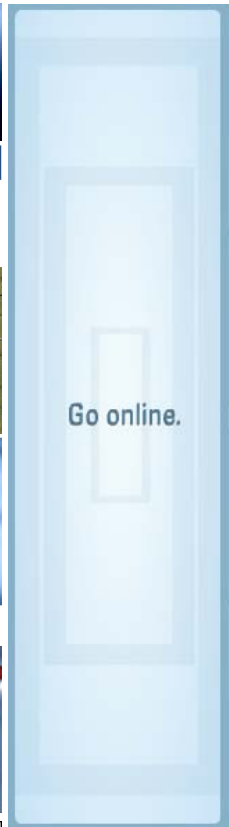


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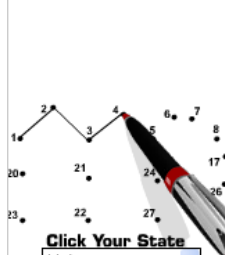
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More Than 143 Million Americans Are Concerned That Personal and Financial Information Will Not Be Kept Private and Secure on the Internet

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- Those most likely to be "very concerned" about the privacy and security of their information included individuals with less than a high school education (47 percent), are retired (41 percent), are not employed (44 percent), and have annual household incomes under \$25,000 (48 percent)

- Individuals with a post graduate education were most likely to be "not concerned at all" (41 percent)

The poll of 1,000 adults was conducted March 2 -- 4, 2007 by Synovate, and has a margin of error of plus or minus four percent.

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"People should not assume the best, but the worst. When it comes to protecting the privacy and security of your financial and personal records, it is better to be safe than sorry. You should only deal with online companies or use Web sites that can guarantee the safety of your information," he said.

Macedo observed that "what we said ten years ago when we released our first Internet security survey still holds true today: Based on the Internet's proven and continued vulnerability to vandalism, tampering and break-ins, the American people have good reason to be worried and skeptical about cyber- security. Until adequate and fool-proof protective measures are in place, it's doubtful that the Internet will ever be able to achieve its full potential or be completely trusted by those who use it."

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Taxsoftware.com

CONTACT: Edward Segal of **Taxsoftware.com**, +1-301-320-7080, help@taxsoftware.com

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By **AJAXWorld News Desk**
Helmi Technologies Inc., the provider of an open source platform for building AJAX-based Rich Internet Applications (RIAs), is an exhibitor and speaker at AJAXWorld Conference & Expo 2007 East, the leading Web 2.0 and RIA event taking place on March 19-21, 2007 in New York City.

AJAXWorld Keynote by Bret Taylor of Google Maps
By **AJAXWorld News Desk**
Bret Taylor, the original author of the Google Maps JavaScript front end and the Google Maps API, will be giving the March 20 Morning Keynote at AJAXWorld Conference & Expo 2007 in New York City. Taylor, who also created "Ajax Cookbook," at www.ajaxcookbook.org is...

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By **Bill Roth**
In this post, I will be recounting my experience with Ubuntu server 6.10, WebLogic Workshop 9.2, and REST. Note: This in no way implies support of any kind from me or BEA. This is just the personal experiences of someone who can not keep his hands off the keyboard. ...

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March 12, 2007

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More Than 143 Million Americans Are Concerned That Personal and Financial Information Will Not Be Kept Private and Secure on the Internet

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By: **PR Newswire**
Mar. 12, 2007 12:30 PM
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BETHESDA, Md., March 12 /PRNewswire/ -- More than 143 million Americans -- or two thirds of all adults 18 years or older -- are concerned that their personal and financial information would not be kept private and secure if they prepared state and federal tax returns on the Internet, according to a new national poll. A poll ten years ago found that 83 percent of Americans had similar concerns.

Both surveys were commissioned by **Taxsoftware.com**, the only Web site that provides both personal and business tax preparation services online, and which developed the first guaranteed secure Internet-based income tax preparation service.

In the latest poll: -- 66 percent said they were "very" or "somewhat" concerned about the safety of their information -- Those most likely to be "very concerned" about the privacy and security of their information included individuals with less than a high school education (47 percent), are retired (41 percent), are not employed (44 percent), and have annual household incomes under \$25,000 (48 percent) -- Individuals with a post graduate education were most likely to be "not concerned at all" (41 percent)

The poll of 1,000 adults was conducted March 2 -- 4, 2007 by Synovate, and has a margin of error of plus or minus four percent.

In 1997, a similar **Taxsoftware.com** poll found that less than 15 percent of adults "had no concerns at all" versus 32 percent in 2007. **Taxsoftware.com** spokesperson Mickey Macedo said he was surprised by the increased complacency.

"Despite recent high profile media reports about identity theft and the tampering or stealing of government and corporate computer files, a greater percentage of Americans apparently think it won't happen to them if they prepare their taxes online. This increased complacency applies to both men and women, all age groups and income categories, and almost all education levels," Macedo said.

"People should not assume the best, but the worst. When it comes to protecting the privacy and security of your financial and personal records, it is better to be safe than sorry. You should only deal with online companies or use Web sites that can guarantee the safety of your information," he said.

Macedo observed that "what we said ten years ago when we released our first Internet security survey still holds true today: Based on the Internet's proven and continued vulnerability to vandalism, tampering and break-ins, the American people have good reason to be worried and skeptical about cyber- security. Until adequate and fool-proof protective measures are in place, it's doubtful that the Internet will ever be able to achieve its full potential or be completely trusted by those who use it."

Taxsoftware.com

CONTACT: Edward Segal of **Taxsoftware.com**, +1-301-320-7080, help@taxsoftware.com

Web site: http://www.taxsoftware.com/



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The User Experience of Social Applications
 Speaker: Stowe Boyd



Session Description: In this session by the editor of /Message (<http://www.stoweboyd.com/message/>), the blog on "what is happening at the edge, and its impact on the center," we will look at how effective social applications increasingly share a common set of user experience principles that shape their design. Boyd will discuss what the underlying rationale is for this user experience, and how application developers can adapt it to their needs.

Speaker Bio: Stowe Boyd is an internationally recognized authority on social tools and their impact on business and society, editor of /Message, and CEO of Blue Whale Labs, a social applications consulting company. He is an internationally recognized authority on business strategy and information technology, particularly regarding real-time, collaborative, process, and content management technologies. Over the past decade he has consulted, written and spoken widely on the challenges confronting business management and the social impacts of disruptive technologies.



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Source: Taxsoftware.com

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help@taxsoftware.com

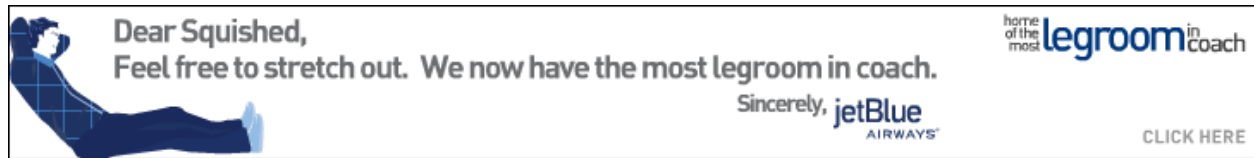
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Uncle Sam owes you money The Boston Globe

And on a new website actors Larry Hagman and Martin Sheen suggest donating it to a good cause

By Leonard Wiener, Globe Correspondent | March 17, 2007

Is that new federal telephone tax refund burning a hole in your pocket?

Archbishop Desmond Tutu as well as Martin Sheen, Larry Hagman, and Ed Begley Jr. have an idea. Donate it.

They're stars at a new website refundsforgood.org that's tapping into the rebates as a fund-raising ploy.

"We hope to inspire people to use this newfound money to help make the world a better place," says Robert Freling, of Solar Electric Light Fund, which installs solar-powered electric systems in developing countries and along with Physicians for Social Responsibility and PeaceJam make up the site.

Refunds For Good is the brainchild of Michael Swartz of Stamford, Conn., a 3-D animator and graphics designer, and Jonathan Gorham of Woodbridge, Conn., who calls himself a social entrepreneur.

This year almost every taxpayer is eligible for the rebate as part of their 2006 federal income tax refund or used to reduce any tax owed.

The rebate partly compensates for a long-distance excise tax the government was invalidly collecting. Individual taxpayers can expect \$30 to \$60 when taking a standard deduction, or possibly more if they calculate actual tax paid.

Donating at least part of a tax refund to charity isn't a new idea. A survey by online tax preparation firm Taxsoftware.com found that 27 percent of taxpayers said they planned to do that this year. But Refunds for Good is zeroing on the \$10 billion telephone tax rebate and encouraging people to direct it toward good works.

The IRS doesn't care what you do with the rebate, says IRS spokesperson Peggy Riley, but the agency won't do a direct deposit to a charity. You'll have to make the donation yourself.

What the IRS does care about are returns it is investigating for claiming too much for the phone rebate. It also cares about filers who haven't taken the credit at all, including many returns done by paid preparers.

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The tax pros say don't wrongly assume they don't know about the rebate, says Cindy Hockenberry, of the 18,000-member National Association of Tax Professionals. Most preparers use software with "no way to accidentally forget about it," she says. Neither Hockenberry nor the IRS could fully explain why so many returns aren't claiming the refund.

No dispute: A donated rebate to any charity can be a tax deduction on next season's return. ■

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