



## From packets to broadcast – ISNM patents future Internet

Luebeck, 04.06.2007. Quite complex technologies are needed in order to send information back and forth in the Internet. A new concept could simplify the messaging and thus have a relieving effect on the network operators.

Right now all data travelling within the Internet is chopped into small data packets. On average, the bits and pieces of information are not bigger than 200 Byte. Each package is tagged with address of receiver and sender in order to find the target and enable re-sending in case of loss. The stations a data package passes by are called Router. Routers function as distribution devices, always trying to send the information to its destination within the shortest time possible. This is an effective way of sending data around, still it is not flawless. Keywords like “flow control”, “congestion control” and “backbone router” indicate only a few obstacles to overcome.

Now researchers from four different universities are convinced that there are easier and less problematic ways to send data around the world. The innovation is called TunnelNet and is quite simple: Instead of leading the packages well directed through the Net, the data is scattered all over it. Each package is additionally tagged with an encrypted info, ensuring that the data reaches its intended destination without being accessible by others. This concept is being outlined by Prof. Burkhard Stiller (Universität Zürich), Prof. Georg Carle (Universität Tübingen), Prof. Jochen Schiller (Freie Universität Berlin) and Prof. Andreas Schrader (ISNM – International School of New Media at the University of Lübeck).

So far, the revolution of the Internet did not take place. The researchers have applied for a patent, though, and after some more research has been done, the new era of the WWW may dawn.

For further information (in german) check

<http://www.unicom.uzh.ch/publications/unimagazin/unimagazin-07-2/unimagazin-2007-2.pdf>

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