Building E-Commerce and

E-Learning Models

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Electronic Commerce (E-Commerce)

- Commerce refers to all the activities the purchase and sales of goods or services.
 - Marketing, sales, payment, fulfillment, customer service

Electronic commerce is doing commerce with the use of computers, networks and commerce-enabled software (more than just online shopping)

Brief History

- 1970s: Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)
 - Used by the banking industry to exchange account information over secured networks
- Late 1970s and early 1980s: Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) for e-commerce within companies
 - Used by businesses to transmit data from one business to another
- 1990s: the World Wide Web on the Internet provides easy-to-use technology for information publishing and dissemination
 - Cheaper to do business (economies of scale)
 - Enable diverse business activities (economies of scope)

E-commerce applications

- Supply chain management
- Video on demand
- Remote banking
- Procurement and purchasing
- Online marketing and advertisement
- Home shopping
- Auctions

eCommerce Growth For Western Europe

(Source: Forrester Research)



Ecommerce infrastructure

- Information superhighway infrastructure
 Internet, LAN, WAN, routers, etc.
 telecom, cable TV, wireless, etc.
- Messaging and information distribution infrastructure
 - HTML, XML, e-mail, HTTP, etc.
- Common business infrastructure
 - Security, authentication, electronic payment, directories, catalogs, etc.

The Main Elements of E-commerce

- Consumer shopping on the Web, called B2C (business to consumer)
- Transactions conducted between businesses on the Web, call B2B (business to business)
- Transactions and business processes that support selling and purchasing activities on the Web
 - Supplier, inventory, distribution, payment management
 - Financial management, purchasing products and information

Advantages of Electronic Commerce

- Increased sales
 - Reach narrow market segments in geographically dispersed locations
 - Create virtual communities
- Decreased costs
 - Handling of sales inquiries
 - Providing price quotes
 - Determining product availability
- Being in the space

Disadvantages of Electronic Commerce

- Loss of ability to inspect products from remote locations
- Rapid developing pace of underlying technologies
- Difficult to calculate return on investment
- Cultural and legal impediments

The process of e-commerce

- 1. Attract customers
 - Advertising, marketing
- 2. Interact with customers
 - Catalog, negotiation
- 3. Handle and manage orders
 - Order capture
 - Payment
 - Transaction
 - Fulfillment (physical good, service good, digital good)
- 4. React to customer inquiries
 - Customer service
 - Order tracking



E-commerce Technologies

- Internet
- Mobile technologies
- Web architecture
- Component programming
- Data exchange
- Multimedia
- Search engines
- Data mining
- Intelligent agents

- Access security
- Cryptographic security
- Watermarking
- Payment systems

Infrastructure for E-commerce

The Internet

- system of interconnected networks that spans the globe
- routers, TCP/IP, firewalls, network infrastructure, network protocols

The World Wide Web (WWW)

- part of the Internet and allows users to share information with an easy-to-use interface
- ✤ Web browsers, web servers, HTTP, HTML, XML

Web architecture

- Client/server model
- N-tier architecture; e.g., web servers, application servers, database servers, scalability

E-Commerce Software

- Content Transport
 - ✤ pull, push, web-caching, MIME
- Server Components
 - CGI, server-side scripting
- Programming Clients
- Sessions and Cookies
- Object Technology
 - CORBA, COM, Java Beans/RMI
- Visual Studio .NET 2005 (ORCAS, ASP.NET, ... etc)
- Technology of Fulfillment of Digital Goods
 - Secure and fail-safe delivery, rights management

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System Design Issues

- Good architectural properties
 - Functional separation
 - Performance (load balancing, web caching)
 - Secure
 - Reliable
 - Available
 - Scalable

Creating and Managing Content

- What the customer see
- Static vs. dynamic content
- Different faces for different users
- Tools for creating content
- Multimedia presentation
- Integration with other media
- Data interchange
- HTML, XML (Extensible Markup Language)

Cryptography

Keeping secrets

- Privacy: interceptor cannot use information
- Authentication: sender's identity cannot be forged
- ✤ Integrity: data cannot be altered
- Non-repudiation: sender cannot deny sending
- How to evaluate cryptography
- Secret key (symmetric) cryptography; e.g., DES
- Public key (asymmetric) cryptosystems; e.g, RSA
- Digital signatures, digital certificates
- Key management; e.g., PKI



Public-Key Cryptography



Encrypting and decrypting a message using public-key cryptography.

Security

- Concerns about security
- Client security issues
- Server security issues
- Security policy, risk assessment
- Authentication methods
 - Something you know: passwords
 - Something you have: smart card
 - Something you are: biometrics
- Firewalls, proxy servers, intrusion detection
- Denial of service (DOS) attacks, viruses, worms



Payment Systems

- Role of payment
- Cash
 - Properties: wide accept, convenient, anonymity, untraceability, no buyer transaction cost

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- Online credit card payment, Smart Cards
 - Secure protocols: SSL, SET
- Internet payment systems
 - Electronic cash, digital wallets
- Micro-payments
- Wireless devices

Transactions Processing

- Transactions and e-commerce
- Overview of transaction processing
- Transaction processing in e-commerce
- Keeping business records, audit, backup
- High-availability systems
- Replication and scaling
- Implementation

Other System Components

Taxes

Shipping and handling

- Search engines
- Data mining
- Intelligent agents

Inventory management, enterprise resource planning (ERP)

Customer relation management (CRM)

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Auction (public sale) Model



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Public Sale (Auction) Model

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Placing a bid on eBay. (These materials have been reproduced by Prentice Hall with the permission of eBay, Inc. COPYRIGHT EBAY, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)



Course Outline

- Overview of e-commerce
- The Internet and the WWW
- E-commerce software building blocks and tools
- Scalability, high-performance servers, web caching

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- Basic cryptography
- Security, watermarking, firewalls
- Payment systems

Current and future directions

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