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WSTPA News

"Addressing issues that interest technology professionals"

Fall 2003

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"Creating Relationships That Facilitate New Business for the IT Community"

Please join us at Western Washington's premier business-to-business event by registering online at www.techshows.com/seattle/registerattendee.html (select WSTPA under "Other" as to how you heard about CTS).

WSTPA is on the Advisory Council, and also Association Sponsor and Exhibitor at CTS. It will present two educational seminars:

- On October 29, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. in CTS Theater #2, Doña Keating will present "Strategies for Advancing Technology Infrastructure: Be There From Anywhere"

Dear Doña,

Welcome to our newest association benefit - a quarterly newsletter chock full of hot topics and industry trends, WSTPA initiatives, and member news. Received a new certification, hot new client, or designed innovative software or procedures? We want to hear about it at info@wstpa.org!

• Western Washington Summit 2003 a Success

The Association's Second Annual Summit Generates New Ideas and Momentum Poulso, WA -- West Sound Technology Professionals Association (WSTPA) announced that the association's second annual Western Washington Summit was an overwhelming success that will undoubtedly result in significant new technological achievements arising out of the region's technology clusters, academic research

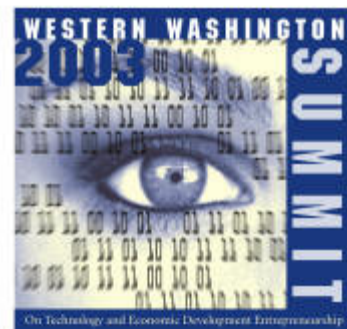
institutions, and economic development entities. "This summit is the second of what we hope will be an ongoing annual initiative to bring the technology cluster, business, education, and research institutions together to share best practices, create new opportunities, and develop partnerships that will better leverage the outstanding resources and talents residing in our region," said WSTPA President, Doña L. Keating. "This is just one of many examples of the collaboration WSTPA is trying to foster, that we believe is so important to furthering the West Sound's position of preeminence as a high-technology, research and commercialization environment."

WSTPA offers a special thanks to Scott Snyder Design for creating of the summit graphics and event program.

[More at WSTPA News...](#)

• Speakers Bureau Provides Tech Talent for Events

In the Information Technology age one of the challenges faced by industry professionals is finding people both willing and



On Technology and Economic Development Entrepreneurship
"Empowering the Vision"

Proudly presented by

 WEST SOUND TECHNOLOGY
WSTPA PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

- October 30, 2003 at 10:30 a.m. in CTS Theater #1, Steven Harrison will present "Security Fundamentals For Small Business".

CTS replaces the annual ITEC event, and is the premier regional B2B forum for Puget Sound area IT managers and business executives to evaluate the latest advancements in IT Security, Data Storage, Mobile Communications, and more! It will attract approximately 3,000 attendees over the two-day event. Attendees are middle and senior-level management professionals from SMB, corporate, academic and government organizations. Department and Business Unit Managers from IT, Purchasing, Finance, Business Development and Administration will be represented.

The event is being held at Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Hall 4F, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Daily. No students, student groups, no one under 18 years of age admitted. Business cards are required with your attendance.

[More WSTPA events](#)

qualified to help spread the word. With the establishment of the region's first technology-focused speakers bureau - there's a new light at the end of the fiber-optic tunnel.

West Sound Technology Professionals Association will make its member base of technology and business experts available to organizations in the West Sound region, and possibly the nation...ensuring that anyone in need of a speaker is matched up with a willing expert for their particular topic.

[Full Story](#)

• **WSTPA Welcomes New and Renewing Members**

WSTPA welcomes the following new and renewing members since July 2003. Thank you for your continuing support in our efforts to make WSTPA the preeminent resource and association for technology professionals and the technology industry. And a special thank you to Charles Keating, David Miller, Doña Keating and Jeffrey Mattox for their tremendous and diligent efforts regarding this recent membership drive.

[See the full list here](#)

• **Benchmarking Study Shows Washington in Bottom Half of Tech States: National Leadership Positions in Jeopardy**

The Technology Alliance, a statewide consortium of business and community leaders, during its annual luncheon today released results from a major study assessing how well Washington is supporting technology-based development. The study compares Washington's performance against that of eight other states with technology-intensive economies and outlined a course of action for improving the state's performance. Washington ranks in the bottom half on almost every one of the indicators used to determine its strength in the three areas that drive technology-based growth: education systems, research capacity and entrepreneurial climate.



"The results are alarming," said Technology Alliance President Ken Myer. "In only one measure- strong work force-do we rank at the top of the technology states. This isn't good enough. We have to be excellent because we're competing against an elite group of states, who are working hard to attract the best companies, the most highly skilled workers, and the top researchers, facilities and ideas."

[More on this topic](#)

• **Server breach raises Linux code worries**

The GNU Project, which develops many of the components in the Linux operating system, said this week that the system housing its primary download servers has been compromised by an attacker. The project urged those who have downloaded software from the server since March to check that the source code has not been tampered with.



Linux, an open-source operating system that dominates the

Web server market, uses the compiler, libraries and other software that was originally developed by the GNU Project. The project warned that the attacker may have inserted malicious code into its software, although it said all the code checked so far appeared to be intact.

[More at CNET](#)

• Tech Tip - SQL Server Security: Lock the Back Door Too

An extended stored procedure called xp_cmdshell causes SQL



Server to spawn a command shell and execute the command given as a parameter. For example, xp_cmdshell 'dir c:\mssql\backup' would return a listing of the files in the backup directory. In general, this utility is useful for administrators. What you must be aware of is that the command executes with the privileges of the account under which SQL Agent executes. Since this account is typically a member of the administrator group, a user could wreak tremendous havoc ("I didn't realize that format c: would cause any problems! Really!"). To limit this command to administrators, Right click on the SQL Server Agent Icon in Enterprise Manager and choose "properties" from the menu. Choose the job system tab. At the bottom there will be a checkbox next to text that reads "Only users with Sysadmin privileges can execute CmdExec and ActiveScripting jobs here." Make sure the checkbox is filled in.

Have a hot tech tip ? Send it to us at info@wstpa.org. Be sure to include a clear explanation of what the technique does and why it's useful. If it includes code, limit it to 20 lines if possible.

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phone: 206.338.6554

West Sound Technology Association • P.O. Box 1102 • Silverdale • WA • 98383

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