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Coming:



## International CES 2007, Las Vegas, NV

**Shen Tong,  
Former Chinese Dissident,  
starts Internet Company in U.S.**

by staff writer Michael Lindsay

In 1989 Shen Tong was a Chinese dissident and pro-democracy leader during the **Tiananmen Square movement** and massacre.

After Tiananmen Square in 1989, Shen Tong immigrated into the US and continued his education at Boston U and started his career here. He became a US citizen.



Tong Shen, founder, VFinity™

Shen Tong was chairman and CEO of the Democracy for China fund and wrote the popular book, "**Almost a Revolution**". He said he devoted his 1st part of life into the China democracy revolution, and part of his life is gone. Now, his focus is on his U.S. profession.

**His business idea is media technology using Web2.0** to develop a multi-language multi-media online streaming solution, called "**v-business**". **VFinity™ was founded in 2000 by Shen Tong with an early vision to make it possible for television broadcasters to "go digital" through the V-Business™ platform.** V-Business is an entirely software-based, pure digital platform that empowers the creation, annotation, management, editing and publishing using standard IT. Mr. Shen feels that Tong Shen continues to experience strong sales growth and is on track to meet ambitions to reach new audiences, bridge cultures, and meet various technological and business benchmarks.

**Their broader aspiration is to make video and their V-Business™ solution a part of almost all facets of education as well as commercial and artistic communication.** Mr. Shen has appeared on american TV shows including ABC & CBS, who invited him to produce some TV shows. He spoke at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass., Wednesday, June 2, 1999, during a 10th anniversary commemoration of the Tiananmen massacre. Eventually, he had a very popular TV show in China.

**VFinity™ specializes in the management, distribution and monetization of all digital media formats.** Their worldwide headquarters is in New York City. **Their Asia/Pacific regional headquarters is in Taipei, Taiwan R.O.C., and their solution presence encompasses North America, Asia and Europe.**

**CES ...** This annual Las Vegas, NV January convergence of international innovators, editors and vendors of consumer electronics products covered 1.6 million square feet of floor space last year and featured more than 2500 competing exhibitors announcing or rolling out their hottest new products and services.



This year there are the usual suspects -- Keynotes by Bill Gates and other technology notables; receptions, celebrities, parties and press announcements galore-- it takes lots of planning to 'catch the action,' and no-one can do it all! Heavy traffic and long waits in taxi lines are the norm.

Global manufacturers of prototypes and finished product will look for U.S. distribution and there will be a LOT of HDTV, HDDVD, Bluetooth gizmos and appliances, MP3 and other portable devices and communicators, home theatre and satellite receiver set top boxes, furniture, programable controllers, the 'Digital Home,' HOT automobiles gone digital with exceptional on-board sound systems, satellite radio, GES navigation systems, etc. Network appliances will be everywhere. There will be numerous solutions for "helping people protect their digital lives" and a plethora of ways to network and controlling multiple PCs.

I will share some of the **HOTTEST** products with you in the next edition of Digital Times®.

Personally, Santa brought me a new ATI video card that allows me to use two monitors with a digital connection to my new computer, AND still use one of the monitors in analog mode for my 'older' computer. Am I a happy camper! -editor



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**'DragonFly' toy robot... from 'Wow Wee'**

Amuse your inner child or Pet ;- ) "Dragonfly," part of Wow Wee's apparently new "FlyTech" sub-brand, is cute as can be, about the size of your fist and can fly around the room or out doors. Made of "crash-resistant" material, it flies by beating its wings -- as a *real* dragonfly would.



There is a tiny tail rotor to help stabilize it. It has two flying modes: Beginner and Expert and charges directly on the remote--the eyes pulse as it charges. Is that a little creepy for you? The company said that the toy's designed form children 8 and up. It does appear to be all remote controlled, and the FCC is still considering approval. No word on pricing or release schedule yet.

**Digitally Cool**

BellSouth's dropout prevention committee has donated **\$2.5 million** to Mississippi's **virtual schools project**. This will allow students to take courses online.

The nation's high school dropout rate has reached crisis levels and Mississippi claims to be one of those places. .

"Mississippi has pumped \$333 million into education over the last 3 years," said state education superintendent Hank Bounds. Teacher shortages, overcrowded schools and outdated curricula are

among the problems that many of our schools are facing." Most of the money was for teacher salary increases and retirement costs...Virtual education appears to be an excellent opportunity for students to keep busy and obtain the education they need ;-)

Kudos to the National Dropout Center at Clemson University, who is helping Mr. Bounds with Mississippi's reforms.

*Source: Las Vegas Review-Journal*

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Saundra Knowles Kinnaid,  
Founder

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**Continues to be Evil !!!**

@ *midnight*, I was awakened from a sound sleep by an phonecall on the 2nd day of 2007. The caller was a representative of **Vonage, whose VOIP phone services I cancelled last summer.**

The caller's question was simple - what is the name currently attached to this number, as Vonage seems incapable of keeping track of who they are assigning my 'old' phone number to!

The number is the same one Vonage released to Cox Digital Phone Service / Cox Communications over 6 months ago, per my request. The fact that they **continued to bill me for 3 months** after releasing the number to Cox and I cancelled VOIP service is **ONE** thing. Apparently they thought I wouldn't *notice* the charges, since payment was automatically withdrawn from my bank account. **Continually re-assigning this number to several other people in the last 6 months is quite another!!!**

We have received calls at all hours of the day for OTHER people Vonage gave my 'old' number to. Our attempts to correct this by contacting Vonage results in hold times of up to 45 minutes as well as promises to speak to a supervisor. Generally, either I or my husband gets transferred to several departments and supervisors, all of whom require an explanation all over again. Very often while holding, we get cut off and begin the process again, in hopes of speaking to someone with the authority to remove it from their DATABASE.

The other day we talked to "Sonny." He sounded like our complaint mattered and promised that we would be removed from the Verizon database of available #'s. We'll see....

-editor