

## Digital Debris

### TRADEMARK WARS

**Digital Times** is a 6 year old trademark, registered with the U.S. Department of Commerce/Patent and Trademark Office. In the Spring of 2001 my Intellectual Property attorney gave notice to a British company who had opened an office in the U.S. and who was using Digital Times as a name for *their* online newsletter. The U.K registered business claimed entitlement via a common law trademark and quickly responded to our complaint by applying, in May, to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the U.S. servicemark Digital Times and in June 2001 for the servicemark, DigitalTimes.IT.

Stay Tuned ...  
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If  
you are unable to  
find passion in your  
rage, you will become  
what you fear.....  
-Martin Sheen

**Changing The Way We Do Business >>** the terrorist attack on the U.S. has dampened the movement of people and goods, as employees take to conducting teleconferences instead of making business trips, and supplies and products get held up for inspection at international borders.

Its time to think  
about each other and  
not take  
anything for  
granted ...



Deciding what to write about has been extremely difficult. Like you, I have been visiting family members and putting my affairs in order. Unfortunately, I had put off writing a will and sought the easiest way to do it. I settled on a well-organized online resource, U.S. Legal Forms, Inc. They have an impressive number of forms, including an amazing variety of wills. Ordering was easy. Delivery options were by regular mail or e-mail. My total expense was \$18.95. I paid by credit card and chose the immediacy of downloading the document in Adobe pdf, Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, ascii text or RTF format. In addition, they sent me an email with links to all of the versions of the Will that I could access for the next two days!

My Living Will was witnessed by two other people at my apartment complex. I then took it to a Notary. The next step was to make several copies and send them to relatives.

It didn't take me long to realize that the executor of my estate is going to have a tough job. After all, I did not specify my bank account number, life insurance policy information or numerous other details. Undoubtedly, the smartest thing I could do is put all pertinent information ONLINE -- perhaps in a password-protected pdf. Simple to update and easy to access, all I have to do is give family members the password and URL!



## Wireless Technology

...the link to life

**Ricochet, where are you now?**

Metricom, located in Los Gatos, California, shut down its Ricochet wireless data network, filed for bankruptcy protection and can't seem to find a buyer. Yet the city of New York called Metricom to ask if the network could be turned back on so that rescue workers at the World Trade Center could use it to communicate.

The Cellular Digital Packet Data networks operated by the likes of AT&T Wireless and Verizon Wireless apparently aren't adequate, or New York would not have specifically asked for Metricom's help.

Cingular Interactive's wireless data network was a godsend to people immediately after the terrorist strikes on Sept. 11. Landline and wireless voice networks were clogged, but BlackBerry owners, who use Cingular Interactive's data network, were able to send and receive messages.

Metricom had its share of problems and made mistakes. It's been criticized for charging too much for usage and doing a poor job of marketing. Some experts spurned the technology, saying it was too expensive to deploy. Even though the network reached 17 cities, it only attracted about 50,000 users — but they were extremely loyal customers. If the city had to turn to a bankrupt company and a darkened network, clearly no other company in business today could help.

## Digitally Cool



Aibo LM puppies by Sony have a vocabulary of 75 words and can be programmed to do things like dance to "Who Let The Dogs Out." They also have the ability to read your e-mail, take digital pictures or simply provided endless hours of pet-like amusement. These \$850 toys will be available on the Internet starting Oct. 27. The ivory-colored model will be named Latte, the gray one Macaron.



**Wireless:** OmniSky mobile professionals now can use their PDAs to check for localized real-time arrival information on mass transit systems in California, Massachusetts and Delaware. Specifically, riders can get updates on when the next vehicle will arrive at their chosen stop.

The OmniSky service, which includes access to the NextBus utility-driven content, is offered on a variety of PDAs, including the Palm V and Vx, the Handspring Visor Prism and Visor Platinum, the Hewlett Packard Jornada 540 Series Pocket PC and on the Compaq iPAQ Pocket PC.

The information contained in Digital Times is a combination of original editorial content and information pulled from wire services, research and various online resources.

## Create a Web for your Family... include momentos, valuable information and password-protect it... YOU CAN DO IT!

On the previous page I suggested creating a website and putting sensitive information regarding bank accounts, securities, ins., people to contact, etc. in a password-protected pdf. Give the password to people who need to know what to do if something happens to you. Right now, this seems to be a sensible, non-destructive approach!

How to create the PDF? For PC users running Windows, here is what you do. Just download a 30-day trial version of Acrobat 4.0 from Adobe. The latest version is 5.0, but 4.0 will work just fine! Create a document and print it to Distiller, the print engine for Adobe Acrobat. [if you chose the default installation, it will be installed as one of your printers]

Printing your document to Acrobat Distiller automatically opens the application, Acrobat. Here is the **secret** to password-protecting the file. From the File Menu, select Save As -- Click the Security drop-down dialog box, and specify a password. You can also select other security options before saving the file, too. For example, you can have two levels of security - one password to open the file [all editing tools will be grayed out] and a Change password giving someone full access to all editing tools in order to change/edit the protected document and re-save it later.

If you need assistance, email: editor@digitaltimes.com

### From Afghan TV Guide:

8:00 Husseinfeld  
8:30 Mad About Everything  
9:00 Veilwatch  
9:30 Children Are Forbidden From Saying the Darndest Things  
10:00 Veronica's Closet Full of Long Black Shapeless Dresses  
11:00 No Witness News ...

Reprinted from the San Francisco Examiner

## HTML 4.0 Cool

Web Pages, 2nd Ed.



**Publish your own material online!** The author of this useful book, Dave Taylor, takes a sensible approach to publishing web pages. It is a good read for beginners and I highly recommend it. An example of Dave's writing style: "What is the Web? Pages of information that reside on systems throughout the world."

Dave describes HTML as "The format used for creating and presenting content that web browsers can read." The book delivers by teaching you what you need to know in a rather lighthearted way. If you want to do a web page in a hurry go directly to Appendix A for step-by-step instructions. Otherwise, you can work through the examples without being connected to the Internet by using the learning files on the accompanying CD.

<http://www.digitaltimes.com>

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an "ecommerce publication reporting on the development and/or availability of interactive products and services."

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----->ARCHIVED ISSUES

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