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***On assignment  
in- Mongolia***

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'Napster'ising Business Data***

# The Internet at the edge of the world...



**D**irector of E2, Dennis Remmer, recently returned from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, where he was hosted as a visiting Professor by the United Nations University International Institute for Software Technology (UNU/IIST), in collaboration with the National University of Mongolia (NUM).

Invited by the UNU/NUM to instruct on Database Systems to senior industry personnel and academics from developing nations in central Asia, Dennis provided an intensive course on information modelling, SQL, modern database application development with J2EE and XML, database management and security. In addition to a majority of students from Mongolia, representatives from Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan were also in attendance, providing a rich environment for cultural exchange.

Commenting on his experiences, Dennis reports

that... "Mongolia is a frontier country, wedged firmly between Russia and China. It is a country with significant infrastructural problems - being a function of location, harsh climate, and evolution from its socialist past. Its population remains chiefly nomadic, yet there is a growing percentage becoming urbanised, seeking opportunity in a difficult economic (and physical) climate. Much of the existing urban framework is based on extremely outdated ex-Soviet infrastructure. There is a strong push within the Mongolian business sector for modern Information Technology - particularly in the mining, petroleum, finance, health, education and tourism sectors.

Increasing interaction with Japan and Korea has realised a growth of telecommunications and supply of technology. The typical scenario for Mongolian business will be to deploy minimal-cost software services.

As such, Linux, Apache, mySQL, Java, and the like are coming into focus. The cost of being online in this country is very high, utilising satellite communication in most cases. It is apparent that there are particular opportunities for wireless networking due to the inherent difficulties with deploying cable and fibre in this region. Other issues including software internationalisation and IT standards are of particular importance."

It is clear that there is a huge gulf between the haves and have-nots in the global IT community. It was a deeply rewarding experience for E2 to support and mentor IT professionals from some of these countries. Who knows what may come of this in the future...

## **Simple2Link - The P2P Construction Kit**

**P**roduced in Queensland for SimpleLink Pty Ltd by developers from E2 and Transentia ([www.transentia.com.au](http://www.transentia.com.au)), Simple2Link is the first vendor-independent next-generation technology infrastructure for building extensible secure P2P systems.

Many have heard of Napster, Aimster, and Gnutella. These technologies allow the open sharing of files across the Internet between systems. Such interaction is known as peer-to-peer or P2P, and differs significantly from traditional client/server consumption of data.

P2P services are a vital part of the growth of the Internet

and eBusiness systems. Although the Napster-like technologies have proven very popular, they have limited scope and have been adopted primarily for the uncontrolled exchange of data.

Simple2Link offers eBusiness secure and controlled exchange of data and information across the Internet between legacy, existing, and future applications.

Developed with all the power that Java and XML bring to modern Internet systems, Simple2Link provides the building blocks allowing enterprises to create their own P2P applications.

A Simple2Link-enabled system uniquely allows many

parties, typically in an industry sector or "Information community", to distribute live information in a controlled, high performance, secure, programmable, and inexpensive manner. In many situations Simple2Link bypasses the need for complex and costly middleware.

Simple2Link is undergoing key industry sector trials, but is already attracting much interest from across the IT spectrum. Parts of the Simple2Link framework will be made available on the Internet later this year to fast-track P2P systems development by the IT community.

Further details on Simple2Link may be found at [www.simple2link.com](http://www.simple2link.com)

## **Oracle and XML**

**E**2 recently represented Oracle Corporation throughout Australia, New Zealand, South East Asia and Scandinavia with its professional seminar "XML: Overview, Reality Check and Relevance to Oracle Professionals". E2 was well placed to conduct these mentoring sessions, having researched and project-utilised Oracle's XML technologies since their earliest alpha releases. A further round of these sessions are forthcoming in Australia - see <http://www.oracle.com/au/education/>

E2 will also be presenting

more specific sessions such as XML Schema at the Australian Oracle User Group conferences around Australia - see <http://www.ausou.org.au> - and has conducted successful in-house mentoring sessions for various corporate clients. Contact us to discuss your needs in this rapidly advancing area.

Oracle recently made available its latest XML offerings through <http://technet.oracle.com>, and they further illustrate the strength of Oracle's commitment to XML. Since 8.1.7, developers have had the Oracle XML Developer Kit (XDK) as part of the

RDBMS product, and Technet provides the very latest extensions.

The 9i-centric XDK platform, available for Java, C/C++ and PL/SQL developers includes: the XML Parser (with support for DOM 2.0, SAX 2.0, JAXP 1.1, and an XSLT Processor), one of the first W3C-compliant XSL Schema Processors, tools including the XML Class Generator (for generating Java or C++ code for building XML instances based on DTDs or Schemas), the XML SQL Utility for Java (for bi-directional XML<->SQL interaction), and the XSQL Servlet (for the production of XML based on SQL, with XSLT-based transformation).

## ***e2 Overview***

e2 is a specialist company, providing expertise to organisations that need to implement Internet systems. Its highly skilled people and partners are fully versed in the realities of Internet technologies and Internet-based electronic business.

e2's business is to develop modern, dynamic and functional web sites and Internet-based applications. In conducting this business, e2 conforms to trusted methodologies of software engineering and project management. e2's expertise is also utilised in technology transfer situations such as training and public speaking.

e2's mission, as its motto 'expertise for an advanced Internet' suggests, is to build Internet systems that work well, using processes that are clearly defined, at a price that is justifiable to the client.

## ***e2 Capabilities***

e2's primary areas of technology expertise include: Java, XML, Web, SQL and database technologies (in particular Oracle and Microsoft), GIS systems, multimedia (online audio, cdrom), and other Internet computing platforms, middleware and related development environments. e2's primary areas of professional service and interest include:

- ***Internet Systems Architecture:*** system scoping, Internet technology market analysis, system design and specification, n-tier methodology
- ***Internet Systems Implementation:*** development, systems integration, project management
- ***Internet Content Development:*** information modelling, distribution mechanisms, enterprise standardisation, website structuring, content authoring
- ***Training and Presentation:*** public and corporate Internet technology mentoring, training and instruction, course development, conference and other forum presentation.
- ***Internet Marketing:*** Internet domain market planning and implementation, online advertising and discovery techniques, corporate image site structuring and navigation
- ***Public Relations:*** coordinated campaigns and strategy, event management, media liaison, publicity

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