Litigating IT-Related Cases


Written for attorneys and other professionals responsible for handling the legal issues raised by new technology, the book examines the interplay between IT and intellectual property law in the commercial litigation environment.

The authors’ specialization in complex intellectual property and IT-related disputes in US federal and state courts is clear from the book’s subject matter:

- IT-related copyright, trademark, trade secret and patent issues;
- evolving privacy and data security considerations;
- electronic discovery, computer forensics, and protective orders;
- alternative dispute resolution; and
- emerging areas, such as digital cataloging, virtual theft, and computer trespass claims.

Seeking to focus on how the law is currently applied, the authors plan to update the book at least twice each calendar year after publication to stay current with IT developments and emerging case law.

Further information is available at www.lawcatalog.com.

How Web 2.0 Makes Money

Amy Shuen’s Web 2.0: A Strategy Guide (O’Reilly Media, 2008, ISBN 978-0-596-52996-3, 266 pages) is designed to pragmatically examine what’s different about Web 2.0 and how those differences can improve a company’s bottom line. The book is aimed at IT professionals, executives, small business owners, and entrepreneurs and seeks to use real-life examples to show how businesses large and small are creating new online opportunities.

Rather than focusing on individual technologies, the examples concentrate on effects. Shuen says that integrating Web 2.0 strategies means creating places online where people like to come together to share what they think, see, and do—enlist your customers to help build the site as well as “viral” awareness through word-of-mouth interest. This book demonstrates the power of this new paradigm by examining how:

- Flickr, a classic user-driven business, created value for itself by helping users create their own value;
- Google made money with a model based on free search and changed the rules for doing business on the Web;
- social network effects can support a business (ever wonder how FaceBook grew so quickly?); and
- businesses such as Amazon.com use creative approaches to monetize the investments they’ve already made.

Shuen has written before on Silicon Valley business models, and in this book she examines how enterprises are using Web 2.0 technologies to their economic benefit.

Clearing a Fuzzy Situation


A fuzzer is a program that at-
tempts to discover security vulnerabilities by sending random data to an application to see if it crashes; if so, there are defects to correct. Fuzzing has been around for a while, but it’s now transitioning from home-grown hacker tool to commercial-grade quality assurance product. Developers can use fuzzing to find and eliminate buffer overflows and other software vulnerabilities during the development process and before release.

Fuzzing is a fast-growing field with increasing commercial interest (seven companies unveiled fuzzing products in 2007). This book explores how fuzzing finds vulnerabilities and provides detailed information on fuzzing tools that are currently available. The authors also show how to build your own fuzzer to automate the process of detecting vulnerabilities in your own and third-party software.

**CONFERENCES**

**The Buzz Around Virtualization**

The IT Infrastructure, Operations, and Management Summit heads to Orlando, Florida, on 23-25 June 2008. The conference will examine virtualization’s impact on data centers seeking to reduce costs while providing 24/7 availability and quality of service.

The summit is organized around four tracks: the IT operations track will include server provisioning and configuration, automation and workflow realities, and asset management in a virtualized world; the virtualization track will cover server virtualization for x86, Unix, and mainframes, data protection and disaster recovery, and next-generation technologies; the infrastructure track will include Vista and Office 2007 migrations, storage trends and disruptive technologies, and virtualized client computing; and the IT modernization track will include power and cooling challenges, improving disaster recovery testing efficiency, and the impact of software as a service.

Breakout sessions, analyst round tables, and user experience sessions will focus on issues such as IT modernization, infrastructure consolidation, business resilience, and performance management.

For more information, see www.gartner.com/us/iom.

**The Fundamentals of Enterprise Architecture**

The Enterprise Architecture Foundation Seminar 2008 will be held in Washington, DC, this September. The seminar will focus on establishing a disciplined process—from planning to implementation—for responding to new business initiatives, increased technical complexity, and heightened time and budget constraints. The promoters view the enterprise as “a holistic system of systems that deliver agility, speed, and integration.”

The seminar is designed to present enterprise architecture fundamentals for IT and business management. The sessions will explore how to use enterprise architecture to

- build governance processes,
- establish key organizational roles and responsibilities, and
- integrate business and IT strategies.

For more information, see www.gartner.com/us/epas2.

**Innovations 2008**

The 5th annual Innovations in Information Technology forum (Innovations 08) is coming to the United Arab Emirates University’s new College of Information Technology in December 2008.

Researchers will present work in a range of topics, including

- wireless access technologies,
- network security and privacy,
- cryptography and authentication,
- mobile and mesh networks,
- multimedia communications,
- network management and performance,
- Internet services and applications,
- IT management,
- information ethics and IP, and
- business process modeling.

See www.it-innovations.ae for more information.
The Center for Research on Information Technology and Organizations (CRITO; www.crito.uci.edu) is one of the world’s leading think tanks on IT’s impact on organizations and society, as well as on IT management.

Based at the University of California, Irvine for more than 20 years, CRITO brings together multidisciplinary perspectives from internationally recognized experts in the fields of management, computer science, and social science. CRITO conducts both academic and applied research focus on IT management, the IT-enabled enterprise, technology-intensive user environments, and the increasingly global nature of IT use and production. Research projects are divided into five main areas of study: IT in business, globalization of IT, IT in education, IT in the home, and IT in government.

Visitors to the site can freely access research papers, subscribe to a newsletter, find out about news and events, and more.

Teaching and Developing IT Skills

The Educators’ Website for Information Technology (EWIT; http://www2.edc.org/ewit/) is designed for academic and technical educators in community-based and business partnerships. EWIT supports the use of academic standards to enhance learning and to develop IT skills for career advancement.

The site aims to assist academic and technical communities in helping students develop IT skills. It provides tools and resources in program areas including skill standards, integrating academic with career and technical standards, and IT curricula and assessment.

EWIT offers several services, including strategic planning (with an IT career-development program planning guide to help employers and educators assess IT education-to-employment programs), assessment (to help school administrators determine areas of strength and weaknesses), curriculum development (tools, technical assistance, and support for analyzing curricula to ensure focus on standards and problem-based learning), professional development (online institutes and courses for educators), and evaluation (including community mapping and program and project evaluation).