

# I N T E R N E T

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Internet Providers Take Action Against Hackers

(NAPSA)—The continued increase in consumer Internet use has resulted in a corresponding increase in online threats—including viruses, hacking, phishing, malware and other intrusions that at best present a nuisance and at worst can result in loss of important information and identity theft.

According to a consumer study by a leading Internet security company, more than 35 percent of respondents said that passwords alone do not provide enough security for conducting personal business online—including shopping, managing finances, and storage of personal information. “For many, passwords alone might not be enough protection against the new breed of Internet threats, and that’s shaking the confidence of people who want to use the Internet,” said Art Coviello, CEO, RSA Security.

One Internet Service Provider (ISP) is taking the lead in offering something more secure than the single password. America Online, Inc., has introduced a new premium service—AOL PassCode—that offers members a second level of account protection through the use of a key chain-sized device that generates and displays a unique numeric code every 60 seconds. To log on to the service, a customer needs to enter his or her user name and password, and then the rotating numeric “passcode.”

“AOL PassCode is like adding a dead bolt to your AOL account—one where the key changes every 60 seconds,” said Ned Brody, AOL’s Senior Vice President for Premium Services. “Many of our members use their accounts for



**Using a rotating, numeric passcode that changes every 60 seconds helps keep information confidential.**

business purposes, financial transactions or other sensitive activities. The service offers a higher standard of protection through the same state-of-the-art, two-factor authentication system used by many financial institutions, technology companies and other major businesses.”

The technology, called strong authentication by industry insiders, was created by RSA Security Inc., one of the leading providers of solutions that secure and manage online identities.

AOL PassCode is based on the RSA SecurID two-factor authentication solution, which is used by a majority of Fortune 500 businesses to protect their critical corporate data.

Creation of the new protective device is part of a broader trend by ISPs to offer stronger forms of online consumer identity protection that allow more opportunities for individuals to conduct personal business online. To learn more, consumers can log on to the AOL service and visit keyword: PASSCODE or call 866-568-6843.