

INSIDE

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Bryan Gray

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Mary Miller

Come together

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EUROPEAN BUSINESS SUMMIT PREVIEW: Philippe de Buck and Rudi Thomaes



SafeLine, the Greek Internet Hotline in the fight against cyber Crime

www.safeline.gr



In our days, the Internet emerges as the dominant global means of communication, information retrieval, and source of entertainment. Therefore, Internet safety becomes a crucial multidimensional issue that needs to be systematically addressed. While the fact that the Internet knows no borders has been a key reason for its unprecedented success, it is also unfortunately capitalized on by individuals that exploit the services provided for illegal purposes.

The absolute necessity of safer Internet use, and the effort for the elimination of Internet illegal content, led to the establishment of SafeLine, the first Greek Internet Hotline, operating since April 24, 2003. SafeLine's primary concern is the elimination of children's pornographic material posted on the Internet.

When Internet users encounter any content that may be illegal, they can report it on-line through SafeLine's website filling in the on-line report form (<http://www.safeline.gr/report/index.php?lang=en>), by e-mail, sending the message to report@safeline.gr, or by regular mail sending a letter to Safenet, Stournari 63, 10432 Athens, Greece.

To protect their personal data, reporting users may choose to remain anonymous after submitting a report. After the reception of a report, SafeLine's staff takes the appropriate actions by forwarding it to the appropriate authorities (Hellenic Police) for further action. In 2006 SafeLine received 376 reports, and in 2007 another 406 reports, which shows that the hotlines become more and more popular.

Recognizing the increased importance of peer-to-peer (p2p) file sharing applications, in 2006 SafeLine started accepting reports for illegal content in the eDonkey p2p network. During the first six months that the p2p reporting form was active, ten reports were received. Still, the p2p information section in the SafeLine website proved very popular.

To coordinate with other Hotlines and benefit from its International Dimension, SafeLine has been a full member of INHOPE, the Association of Internet Hotline Providers in Europe (www.inhope.org), since October 18th, 2005.

SafeLine is co-funded by the EC Safer Internet Plus Programme, as well as the following organizations within the framework of the NetWatch, SafeLine, and SafeLine2 projects:

- SAFENET - Hellenic Self-Regulatory Body for Internet Content, www.safenet.gr
- FORTHnet - Hellenic Telecommunications and Telematics Applications Company, www.forthnet.gr
- FORTH-ICS - Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas, Institute of Computer Science, www.ics.forth.gr
- FHW - Foundation of the Hellenic World, www.ime.gr

Project Officers:
Evangelia Markidou
Yolanda Arevalo-Torres

Head of Unit:
Richard Swetenham

Project Partners:
FORTHNET, SAFENET,
FORTH-ICS, FWH

Useful Links:
<http://www.safeline.gr>

