

Home : News

[Log in](#) | [Register](#)

Search the site

Are privacy and security stifling innovation?

Privacy and security needs to be handled very carefully to make sure that innovation isn't stifled.

By Asavin Wattanajanttra, 23 Sep 2009 at 12:50



Too much concern for **security** and **privacy** could hold back the potential of the internet and destroy innovation.

So claims Dr. Peter Freeman, Emeritus Dean and Professor at the Georgia Institution in the US, who made his comments while

speaking at **ENISA's** annual security conference in Heraklion, Greece.

The professor, who was previously the director of the **National Science Foundation** (NSF), said that innovation is based on information, communication and tools that help the innovator explore and find out new things. However, he warned that an overreaction to security needs could restrict these.

"Dealing with privacy and trust in a networked world must begin with having the technical means of providing security," he said.

Freeman said that the internet's complexity and broad reach meant it was essential for policy makers to have the technical knowledge to make decisions on security and privacy.

"You would not ask someone to design an aircraft without having a huge base of scientific and experimental knowledge," he added.

"You wouldn't decide policies on the operation of hospitals without extensive empirical information and medical knowledge."

Freeman also had something to say about **chief information** and security officers that businesses employ, suggesting many were given the responsibility for protection but didn't have authority to make employees do things differently.

[✉ Email to a friend](#)

[🖨 Print this page](#)

Social Bookmark this article: [What is this?](#)



Be the first to comment on this article

You need to **Login** or **Register** to comment.

Title

Related stories

- ▶ London cabs are ID theft havens
- ▶ Microsoft free antivirus just weeks away
- ▶ Phorm loses money and members of the board
- ▶ Infected computers compromised for 300 days

Related Tags

[ENISA](#) [innovation](#) [privacy](#) [security](#)

advertisement

Latest Security Features



The great Facebook privacy debate

The risk of sociability seems to be a sacrifice in privacy, but what are we doing about it? And can you ever really maintain your privacy on Facebook et al?

[Read more](#)

- ▶ What's next for virtualisation?
- ▶ What to do in case of a data breach
- ▶ Top 10 summer security threats
- ▶ Hackers: Crimes and punishments
- ▶ Downturn? What downturn? Life through a VC lens
- ▶ Is Apple's corporate culture a security risk?
- ▶ British protests show privacy matters
- ▶ Who should be Britain's cyber security czar?
- ▶ The reality of movie technology

Latest Security Reviews

Advertisement

Comment



Dell Adamo laptop review

Rating: ★★★★★☆

Dell shows that it can do cool too, with the ultra desirable Adamo.

[Read more](#)

- ▶ QNAP TS-809U-RP Turbo NAS review
Channel: Security
[More Security Reviews](#)
- ▶ Panda GateDefender Performa 9100 review
Channel: Security
[More Security Reviews](#)
- ▶ Gradwell Office Communications Server review
Channel: Networking
[More Networking Reviews](#)
- ▶ Windows 7 RTM review
Channel: Client
[More Client Reviews](#)
- ▶ CA ARCserve Backup r12.5 review
Channel: Security
[More Security Reviews](#)
- ▶ FaceTime Communications USG530 - web filtering appliance review
Channel: Internet
[More Internet Reviews](#)
- ▶ Guardium 7 – database security review
Channel: Security
[More Security Reviews](#)
- ▶ Google Apps Premier Edition
Channel: Internet
[More Internet Reviews](#)
- ▶ SmoothWall UTM-1000 review
Channel: Security
[More Security Reviews](#)

advertisement

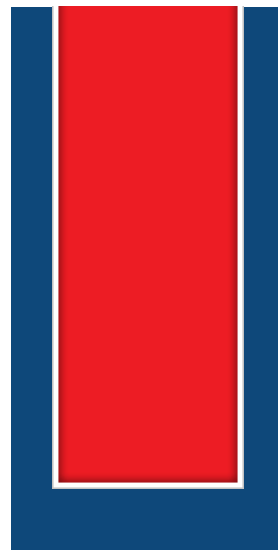
■ Blogs



Intel's Appstore

[Read more](#)

- ▶ Clampi: If a five year old threat is thought of as new....
- ▶ World Wide Wait



Whitepapers

Want more background on today's hottest IT trends?

Visit IT PRO's **whitepaper library** for more on virtualisation, encryption and other topics.

Find a Job

Keywords:

i.e. Job Title, Company

Location:

e.g. London or EC1A

Sector:

- Select a Sector -

[[Advanced Search](#)]

Register for IT PRO

You'll get exclusive member benefits including **free whitepapers, downloads, Webinars and weekly newsletters** full of the latest IT PRO news, reviews, insight and expertise.

[Register](#)

[Sitemap](#) | [Privacy Notice](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Company Website](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Media Information](#) | [RSS Feeds](#) | [Dennis Communications](#)

Our websites: [Auto Express](#) | [Computer Buyer](#) | [Computer Shopper](#) | [Custom PC](#) | [Den of Geek](#) | [The First Post](#) | [Men's Fitness](#) | [London is Free](#)
[Know Your Mobile](#) | [Fortean Times](#) | [Micro Mart](#) | [Mobile Computer](#) | [Evo](#) | [Octane](#) | [PC Pro](#) | [MacUser](#) | [iGizmo](#) | [bit-tech](#) | [Channel Pro](#) | [Mac Channel](#) | [Digital SLR](#)
| [Dennis Communications](#) | [Discount Vouchers](#) | [Magazine Subscriptions](#)



© Copyright Dennis Publishing Limited licensed by Felden