

Future Applications and Middleware: Impact on the Infrastructure

Brian Carpenter, IBM Europe, Switzerland

Abstract:

The Internet today has progressed from being a generic platform for program-to-program and human communications, through an era as a source of so-called "content", to the beginnings of an era as a general services network. Paradoxically, at the same time, it has retrogressed from its original state as a transparent peer-to-peer network to a state where there are many barriers to communication except in a restricted client-server mode. Yet its new role as a services network requires open and fluid communication between any pair of Internet devices. This presentation will discuss the implications of that paradox for the future.