

Internet Radio

Geof Goodrum

Washington Area Computer User Group

19 March 2011



Overview

- Defining Internet Radio
- Why should I be interested?
- What do I need?
- Where do I look?
- Business Model
- Summary



Defining Internet Radio

- Internet radio (aka e-Radio) is a broadcasting service transmitted via the Internet.
- Broadcasting on the Internet is usually referred to as webcasting.
- e-Radio suggests a streaming media that presents listeners with a continuous stream of audio to which they have no control much like traditional broadcast media.
- Not synonymous with podcasting, which involves downloading and copyright issues. Nor does e-Radio suggest "on-demand" file serving.

Source: [Wikipedia](#)



Why Should I Be Interested?

- World wide reception over the Internet
- Wider variety of formats than local broadcast radio
 - Talk
 - Comedy
 - Music: Bluegrass; Ska; Electronica; World
- Typically few or no commercials
- Mostly free (some by subscription)
- Less regulation



What Do I Need?

- Internet access
 - High-speed (96-192 kbps) = higher quality audio
- Computer, Mobile device, or **Internet Radio device**
- Streaming Media Player software and codecs
 - Web Browser + Flash Player
 - Mobile Device Application (iPhone, Android, Blackberry, etc)
 - MS Windows: **Windows Media Player**; **Winamp**
 - GNU/Linux: **Amarok** (KDE); **Rhythmbox** (GNOME); **Xine**; **XMMS**
- Service subscription (optional)



Where Do I Look?

Internet Radio Directories:

- www.Shoutcast.com
- www.Live365.com
- www.Radio-Locator.com
- www.Icecast.org

Service Providers:

- Pandora
- Last.fm
- Slacker Personal Radio
- Rhapsody
- Magnatune
- Music Choice
- SiriusXM
- Yahoo! LAUNCHcast
- AOL Radio



Business Model

- Webcasters income is from advertising, subscription fees and donations
- Music royalties paid by webcasters
 - per listener + per song + per channel (original proposal)
 - US Copyright Royalty Board determination “based on revenue”
- Radio and Internet Newsletter



Summary

- Internet Radio has something for all tastes
- High-speed Internet preferred for high quality music
- Subscription services may have special requirements
- US fee structure threatens Internet Radio
 - ◆ Support your favorite station!

