



**CourseCast of the Week – April 28, 2008 – Episode 46**

**Key Topics:**

- The BBC's iPlayer Controversy
- Microsoft's Mesh
- Fighting Bots with Bots and Zombies with Zombies
- News Briefs

**Talk About It:**

1. What is the BBC? What is iPlayer? What problems is iPlayer causing in the UK? What could the US learn from this controversy? (The BBC's iPlayer Controversy)
2. Define cloud computing? What is Live Mesh? Do you currently use any virtual online desktop resources? Do you think there is a demand for application streaming? (Microsoft's Mesh)

**Explore Technology:**

1. Research zombies. Determine how Phalanx and botnet spies will work to combat zombies. (Fighting Bots with Bots and Zombies with Zombies)
2. Research cloud computing, Microsoft's Live Mesh and Apple's iDisk. Discuss some of the similarities and differences. (Microsoft's Mesh)

**Think Critically:**

1. With iPlayer and cloud computing in the foreseeable future, what will this mean to the US Internet infrastructure? Do you have any ideas what might could be done now to prevent future problems? (The BBC's iPlayer Controversy; Microsoft's Mesh)
2. How do you feel about the U.S. Federal government having the legal authority to search through files on a laptop when coming into the U.S. and having the ability to filter all Internet traffic to look for illegal activities? Are there any other countries that are already doing this? (News Briefs)