

Dear RGBB and COMMIT Members

During the last COMMIT meeting I was elected as the chairman of the COMMIT SIG. In this position as chairman I hope to continue the good work my predecessors have accomplished. For those who do not know me I run the Record Management Division for the House of Invention International, a Bugshan Company. I have been in Riyadh for the past three years and during that time have visited a large number of businesses large and small and I have a good insight into the issues facing Riyadh business' in the area of Communications and IT infrastructure and solutions

One of my main objectives is to increase to the number of active COMMIT members and I will be

looking to co-ordinate regular presentations from influential people in the industry and hold joint meetings with other Businessmen Group's in Riyadh.

For the first of such meetings I have agreed with Dr. Ibrahim Al-Furaih from KACST, the Head of the Internet Service Unit to bring us up to date on the Kingdom's Internet access. I have seen his presentation and it is ideal for the general membership. Please let me know if you would be interested in attending the presentation and include a preference as to day and time.

If you would like to join our group or if you have an interest in the IT and Communications Sector please send me an email paul@abugshan.com and I will ensure you will be kept informed.

**COMMIT
S.I.G.**



Paul Brown

Those of us who started work long before the computer revolutionised our daily lives, may remember a few terms like Cobol, Fortran & DOS. Terms which were then almost regarded as 'Geek Speak' reserved for those select few who really understood what went on 'inside the box'.

Today we all seem to be on the receiving end of the latest 'must have' and today's term is Broadband. To help those of you for whom communications are still a mystery, we have compiled a list of the key terms and jargon associated with broadband along with a short explanation of what they really mean.

ADSL

Stands for Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line. This is the technology that has been developed for enabling broadband connections using existing telephone networks.

Bandwidth

The amount of data that can be transferred over a connection at anyone time. For a standard connection through a phone line the bandwidth can be up to 56 kilobits per second (56kbps), for a broadband connection it is normally at least 256kbps and can be up to 512kbps or higher.

Broadband

A connection to the Internet that works at high speeds because of its greater bandwidth.

Cable

The generic name given to services which use fibre optic cable buried underground to carry telephone, television and broadband to your home or office.

Dial-up

A dial-up connection uses a telephone line to connect to the Internet. A modem is used to turn data into audio signals so that it can literally 'dial' the number of your internet service provider (ISP) and communicate with their computers.

Download

Describes the process of transferring files from a location on the internet to your PC.

High Speed Modem

Hardware required to receive broadband services. High Speed Modems are capable of far higher rates of data transfer than conventional 56kbps modems.

Instant Messaging

Simple text-based chat, which allows you to communicate with another internet user in real time.

Kbps (kilobits per second)

Describes the amount of data which is transferred between computers.

MP3

Audio file format, which uses compression software to make the file size smaller without significant reduction in quality. Commonly file format for sharing music files on the internet.

Network Card

A piece of hardware which allows certain types of modem to be connected to your computer. They are also used to connect a number of computers together to form a network.

Plug-In

Special software that helps view certain types of pages or documents on the internet. Most are available free of charge.

Streaming

An alternative to downloading large files such as audio and video. Streaming allows users to commence playback whilst the remaining file is downloading in the background.

Upload

Describes the process of transferring files from your PC to another location on the internet.

**BUT WHAT
DOES IT
ALL
MEAN?**

