

Dear Sir,

The great mistake by all ISP's is to send and receive email at zero cost ever since the Internet started. For a start I propose that Singnet, Starhub, and Pacific make these changes:

- 1) Charge the sender 1 cent for every email he sends out.
- 2) Charge the overseas sender 1 cent for every email that enters our local email account.

This means each email:

from Singapore to Singapore costs 2c.

from overseas to Singapore costs 1c.

from Singapore to overseas costs 1c.

All charges are paid by the sender, and the recipient incurs no charges.

At a later stage, IDA may instruct overseas ISP's to impose similar charges.

The cost of genuine email will still be negligible at 1 or 2c. But this will greatly reduce spam mail. If senders of spam mail ignore the 1c. charge, our 3 ISP's will gain millions of \$ every day! This can be used to subsidise phone charges, or other benefits to Singaporeans.

A separate problem is the spammer hijacking another computer (or email account) to send out spam. I propose that IDA ban the use of Windows XP in Singapore to stop hijacking. Our libraries must convert from Windows to Linux. Then the public will easily learn to use Linux on their own computers too. Meanwhile Singnet, Starhub, and Pacific should give the Linux installation CD together with their own Internet CD to the public.

This will solve many virus problems beside the hacking problem.

Yours sincerely,
William Tan