

## The Liberty Alliance Identity Theft Initiative:

### The Identity Theft Prevention Group

The Liberty Alliance Project, a global consortium dedicated to establishing technical, business and policy standards for digital identity management and Web services has formed a cross-organizational work group focused exclusively on curbing identity theft.

The online identity theft problem is too big and growing too quickly to be solved by one vendor or one initiative. The Liberty Alliance formed this new group with the belief that when the industry works together the majority of online identity theft issues will be solved faster and on a broader scale.

The group is designed to serve as a hub for a global effort against identity theft and will be attacking issues from multiple perspectives in a collaborative, open and vendor-neutral environment.

**Over 150  
Organizations  
Driving Holistic  
Solutions to  
Combat Identity  
Theft and Fraud**

### Identity Theft Prevention: A Natural Progression for the Liberty Alliance

The Liberty Alliance is the only global body of vendors, consumer-facing companies and government agencies focusing on *all* aspects of digital identity.

- Liberty members have hands-on knowledge and experience implementing complex identity systems. Members understand the technical---and more importantly---the non-technical challenges associated with large-scale solution development and deployment.
- Liberty has released several sets of specifications for identity federation and Web services. Liberty has the processes in place to pull together the various requirements to address identity theft and reconcile those requirements to meet broad demand. Liberty also has a track record of rapid development/deployment.
- Liberty's commitment and work in privacy is unmatched. Liberty, in fact, is the only organization creating identity standards that also has a dedicated Public Policy Expert Group. The Group provides advice and guidance on enabling privacy within Liberty's specifications based on current and emerging regulatory trends across the globe.
- Liberty-based solutions have been adopted and supported in 30+ certified products, and have been deployed globally by leading financial services organizations, governments, telcos and other services providers. It has been estimated that more than 400 million Liberty-enabled identities or clients will be deployed by the end of 2005.
- Liberty's work is grounded in collaboration, witnessed by the fact that the Alliance works closely with governments and privacy organizations worldwide.

### The Goals of the Liberty Alliance Identity Theft Prevention Group

The Identity Theft Prevention Group will do the following:

- Act as a business and technology forum to address identity theft on a holistic level—across industries and attack vectors
- Leverage Liberty's track record and capabilities in developing business and technical best practices
- Work with existing ID theft-related organizations to bolster their efforts
- Make recommendations into Liberty Alliance Expert Groups for additional technical, policy and business work

## Key Activities

Liberty's Identity Theft Prevention Group will be focused on developing comprehensive strategies and solutions in a collaborative environment. This will include:

**Best Practices and Guidelines:** Recent incidents have shown that the most powerful security and identity management technologies can be compromised if users and business are not taking the appropriate precautions in protecting their information. That's why policy and best practices are so important. To that end, Liberty will work with its partners to develop best practices (technological and policy) and work to provide consumers and businesses with the educational tools they need to make informed decisions.

**Counter Measures Assessment:** The Group will focus on the ways to address identity theft across all network devices and domains. Initiatives in this area include development of attack vector and threat matrixes.

**Technology Evaluation and Strategy Development:** The Group will assess current and emerging market requirements vis-à-vis Liberty specifications. This will include looking at how Liberty's current specifications can be deployed with or as an integral part of leading security solutions. The group may also assess how expansions

## Upcoming Events

**Identity Theft Workshop:** In the spirit of collaborative activity, Liberty will host its first Identity Theft Workshop on July 20, 2005 in Chicago. This workshop will bring together several organizations that are working on various identity theft issues to analyze some of the most pressing online identity theft problems organizations and consumers are facing every day. A thorough analysis of an identity theft attack vector matrix, in addition to proposed counter-measures and solutions, will be conducted, with the goal of producing a definitive document that reflects the knowledge and experience of all of the groups in attendance. The workshop will have representatives from government agencies, consumer groups, law enforcement agencies and industry. This is the first of many collaborative activities planned by Liberty.

## How to Get Involved

Whether you're an individual, a law enforcement official or part of a large enterprise organization, there are many ways to get involved with Liberty's Identity Theft Prevention Group.

Liberty has also established a liaison program to ensure that Liberty's Identity Theft Prevention Group is leveraging the work and accomplishments of the many regional, national and global organizations working to battle identity theft and fraud.

For more information, please contact Andrew Shikiar at [andrew@projectliberty.org](mailto:andrew@projectliberty.org).

## About the Liberty Alliance

Liberty Alliance ([www.projectliberty.org](http://www.projectliberty.org)) is an alliance of more than 150 companies, non-profit and government organizations from around the globe. The consortium is committed to developing an open standard for federated network identity that supports all current and emerging network devices. Federated identity offers businesses, governments, employees and consumers a more convenient and secure way to control identity information in today's digital economy, and is a key component in driving the use of e-commerce, personalized data services, as well as Web-based services. Membership is open to all commercial and non-commercial organizations.