

# MEDIA STATEMENT



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## Crack down on Cyber Paedophiles

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Is your child spending a lot of time on the Internet? Have you found inappropriate material on your computer? Your child may be at risk of chatting to a sexual predator.

Educating children, parents and carers about safe and secure internet and technology use is a key priority for Telstra and Carine MLA Tony Krsticevic is highlighting the emphasis of safe internet use.

"With the constant increase in internet use and fast changing technology, students are spending more time on-line, so Internet safety is a serious issue facing our children," Mr Krsticevic said.

"It is vital we educate children about the dangers of disclosing personal information in chatrooms or on websites."

There are hundreds of chat rooms and social networking websites on the internet, including Facebook, MySpace, MSN Messenger, Yahoo! Chat and Twitter.

"Young users must be very careful of what information they do make public on profiles," Mr Krsticevic said.

"When you say what school (and sport clubs) you attend, it makes it pretty easy for someone to track you down.

"Predators know how to find this information."

Telstra has provided some tips to promote online safety. These include:

- Don't open things from people you don't know;
- Never give out personal information such as address, phone number, password, photographs or birthdates;
- Remember to change your password regularly;
- Install security software and update regularly.

For a copy of these tips, please contact Mr Krsticevic's office on 9246 1800 or visit <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au>.

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