

# E-Center News

Spring '06

**Please welcome our newest tenant company—  
WideNet Consulting, LLC**

## **WideNet Company Overview**

WideNet creates highly professional websites that grant content control to the website owner. WideNet was started on January 1, 2005 and serves such high profile clients as the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, Tapecraft Corporation, Jacksonville State University College of Commerce and Business Administration, and many others. WideNet also serves clients in Louisiana, Tennessee, and Idaho.

WideNet stands out from its competition because the company has developed a Control Panel that gives the website owner easy control over their website content- text, photos, products, news, events, etc. 24/7. With WideNet there's no more waiting on your website company to get around to making your updates for you. If you can use Microsoft Word, you can use the WideNet Control Panel. WideNet sites also include an e-newsletter system and a contact management system.

The Standard Package includes all of the functionality above in addition to unlimited web pages and unlimited email accounts, hosting, and a custom design. Investment is \$295 setup and \$49 a month with no long-term contracts. WideNet also creates highly customized and performance intensive database driven websites based on custom quotes.



Pictured above from left to right are Derek Brown, Jeff Williams, & Chris Williams of WideNet Consulting, LLC.

Watch for several other very high profile WideNet websites to go live in coming weeks and months.

"We take pride in being a company that provides a much needed and affordable service to businesses in and around Calhoun County." said company partner Chris Williams.

WideNet is owned by Chris Williams and Jeff Williams of Oxford and Derek Conrad Brown of Jacksonville. To learn more about WideNet, visit their website at [www.widenetconsulting.com](http://www.widenetconsulting.com)



# Recent Events



E-Center tenants discuss their company with the group moderated by Dr. Cynthia McCarty and Giles McDaniel (February 06)



Dr. Cynthia McCarty, Associate Professor from the Department of Finance, Economics & Accounting at Jacksonville State University



Youth Leadership Calhoun County (YLCC) make their annual trip to the Entrepreneurial Center (January 06)



Scott Schwabe of Changer & Dresser Corp. talks to YLCC.

**Please visit the links on this site for more information about the Entrepreneurial Center or contact us at (256) 831-5215.**



Often neglected by business training courses are all the things a start-up business owner must know about administrative support of their business. For example, how to effectively operate their computer. This might include not just getting an IP provider and hiring someone to develop and maintain your company website, but simply keeping your computer up-to-date with the latest security from viruses and spyware. Most of the time, the small business owner does not know about or take action on these things until a problem has occurred. As dependant as we are today upon computers—for specific software applications, email- for communication, the internet- for information, --we thought the following might be useful to you:

### **Department of Homeland Security and National Cyber Security Alliance Collaboration Produces Emerging Security Threats and the Best Practices to Keep Consumers Stay Safe Online**

WASHINGTON, DC – February 15, 2006 – The National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), a central clearinghouse for cyber security awareness and education for home users, small businesses, and the education community, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, has identified the top emerging Internet threats and online preparedness practices for U.S. consumers to stay secure while conducting online activity in 2006.

According to the 2006 Department of Homeland Security and NCSA Emerging Internet Threat List

(<http://www.staysafeonline.org/basics/Internetthreatlist06.html>) viruses continue to pose a threat to consumers, as malicious codes become more sophisticated and targeted towards popular activities, such as Instant Messenger and text messaging. Wireless devices, such as PDAs and cell phones are also becoming increasingly more vulnerable to hackers and viruses. Phishing continues to be an ongoing threat to consumers as they become more prevalent and sophisticated in obtaining consumers' personal and financial information. Five online preparedness best practices are also highlighted to offer consumers the necessary tips on how to take action against cyber thieves and avoid becoming victim to Internet crime this year.

#### **Emerging Threats for 2006:**

- Hackers use Instant Messaging to spread viruses and worms
- Phishing fraud becomes more prevalent and sophisticated
- Viruses attack cell phones and PDAs
- Hackers target online brokerage accounts
- Internet crimes go unreported

#### **Online Preparedness Practices:**

- Practice the core three protections – install, configure, regularly update
- Do not open unexpected emails
- Do not download attachments in unsolicited emails
- Take precautions to protect your mobile devices
- Reporter Internet crimes to proper authorities