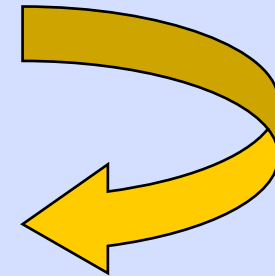
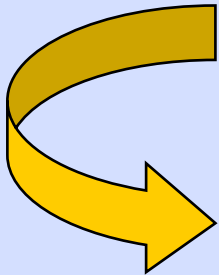




Ministry of Energy, Mining and Telecommunications (MEMT)



*“Overview of the E-Transaction Act 2006
Public Education Programme”*

Presenter: Karlene Francis, Director General



Definition: E-transactions

Electronic Transactions are technically defined as the processing and transmission of digitized information related to products and services.



Benefits of E-Commerce

- **Create new markets.** Firms have easy access to virtual market place where buyers and sellers interact. They can trade with anyone, anywhere and at anytime.
- **Lower costs:** reduction in transactional cost due to the absence of traditional physical inputs.
- **Increase efficiency, accuracy and timeliness of all contractual and financial transactions**



Benefits of E-Commerce

- **Removes barriers to entry to market.** Business can contest market share against entrenched players.
- **Better Service:** Products and services can be tailored to meet specific request by the application of new technologies.
- **Promotes Innovation:** Emphasis is on good ideas and acting on them. An increasing part of the value of goods and services is in good design.



Benefits of E-government

Government Agencies and Ministries

- **Provides lower cost channels for communicating with citizens and businesses** - e-business channels have offered an additional way of communicating with people which often costs far less, per inquiry, than other forms of service delivery; and
- **increased resource efficiency** - one of the earliest benefits for agencies has been their ability to share information with other agencies via electronic means.



Benefits of E-government

Consumers and Customers

- **faster turn-around of information requests** – individuals and businesses can now access information directly from agencies' web sites or lodge an electronic request for information;
- **faster access to documents and forms** - online service delivery channels speeding up turnaround of documents and forms is seen as extremely beneficial.



Benefits of E-government

- **24-hour service delivery** - people are able to seek information outside of business hours.
- **Wider reach of information to the community** - The penetration of ICT based capability is increasing the reach of government to citizens and business and from the community to government.
- **Better communication with rural and remote communities** - Broadband infrastructure improves the possibility for regional and rural communities to have access to information and government transactions.



ICT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

- Telecommunications Act 2000
- National ICT Strategy, 2000
- Blueprint for E-business in Jamaica, 2003
- Electronic Transaction Policy, 2003
- Electronic Transaction Bill, 2006
- Cyber Crime Bill and Data Protection Bill



PASSAGE: E-TRANSACTIONS BILL

- **Preparation of drafting Instructions 2003**
- **Consultations 2004 to 2006**
- **Legislation Committee – June 29, 2006**
- **Cabinet - July 31, 2006**
- **House of Representative - November 14, 2006**
- **Senate – December 8, 2006**
- **Enactment – April 2, 2007**



E-TRANSACTIONS BILL - OBJECTIVE

- Facilitate electronic transactions by means of reliable electronic communications;
- Promote the development of the legal and business infrastructure necessary to implement secure electronic commerce;
- Eliminate barriers to electronic commerce resulting from uncertainties over writing and signature requirements;.



E-TRANSACTIONS BILL - OBJECTIVE

- Promote public confidence in the integrity and reliability of electronic communications and electronic transactions, through the use of electronic signatures
- Establish uniformity of legal rules and standards regarding the authentication and integrity of electronic communications;
- Facilitate electronic filing of information with government entities and to promote efficient delivery of government services



PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME

- The objective is to advise Stakeholders and the general public of their roles, rights, responsibilities and the benefits under the Act.
- The Programme consist of four elements:
 - Eight Focus Group Meetings
 - Eight Regional Meetings
 - Print, radio and television advertisements
 - Production of brochures and other material



FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS

- The objective is to get feedback from key stakeholder groups in order to refine the Public Education Programme and identify recommendations to improve the regulatory framework.
- The groups include the Private sector, Telecom operators, Academia, Government, the Press, Entrepreneurs and SMES.
- The meetings will be held during the period October to November 2007 in Kingston and St. Andrews, Manadeville, Montego Bay and Ocho Rios.



REGIONAL MEETINGS

- The objective is to provide a forum to educate the general public and for the public to seek clarifications on any aspect of the ETA Act.
- The meetings will be held during the period November 2007 to January 2008 all across the island.
- Educational material will be distributed at these meetings.



ADVERTISEMENT

- The jingle will be aired on several radio stations commencing on 24th October. These radio stations include Nationwide, RJR and Fame FM, Power 106, Irie FM and Zip 103.
- Ads will be placed in Gleaner, Observer, Herald and the Star starting on Oct 28, 2007
- The radio commercials will commence on Oct 31, 2007
- The television commercials will commence on November 16, 2007



Ministry of Energy, Mining and Telecommunications

THANK YOU !!!

**Please visit our website at
www.mct.gov.jm and send your
comments to kfrancis@mct.gov.jm**