

What do they  
think they are  
doing?

When Security meets  
Usability...



Stop watching bad movies.

+Add Friends

Welcome, testflixster | My Account | Logout

Friends Online (0) Recent Talk Messages

- Home
- Movies
- Actors
- News
- Profile
- My Friends
- Meet People
- Fun Stuff

Movies, actors, directors SEARCH

**Connect with Friends**  
 The whole point of Flixster is to share movie ratings with friends. See which of your friends may already be on Flixster.  
 (Of course, you don't have to invite any friends, but don't blame us if you get bored and lonely.)

Which address book would you like to check? You will be able to choose which friends to invite on the following pages.



Select >



testflixster@mail.yahoo.com

Select >



Select >



Select >

---- OR ----

Copy and paste the text below into an email. Send the email to friends to invite them.

```
Hi,

I just took a movie quiz at Flixster.com. If you come take it too we can see if
we like the same movies.

http://www.flixster.com/servlet/invite/693013361wnjABCm

Test
```

[Or click here and we can send the emails for you.](#)



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Movies, actors, directors SEARCH

### Get Address Book

Enter your Yahoo details below. On the next page you will be able to select who to connect with.

**Yahoo Email Address:**

**Yahoo Password:**



**Note:** Flixster does not store this information in any way.

unexpected  
invitations



<slashdot>

**Spamming in  
plain sight!**



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Movies, actors, directors

SEARCH

### Get Address Book

Enter your Yahoo details below. On the next page you will be able to select who to connect with.

Yahoo Email Address: testflixster@mail.yahoo.com

Yahoo Password:

Continue >

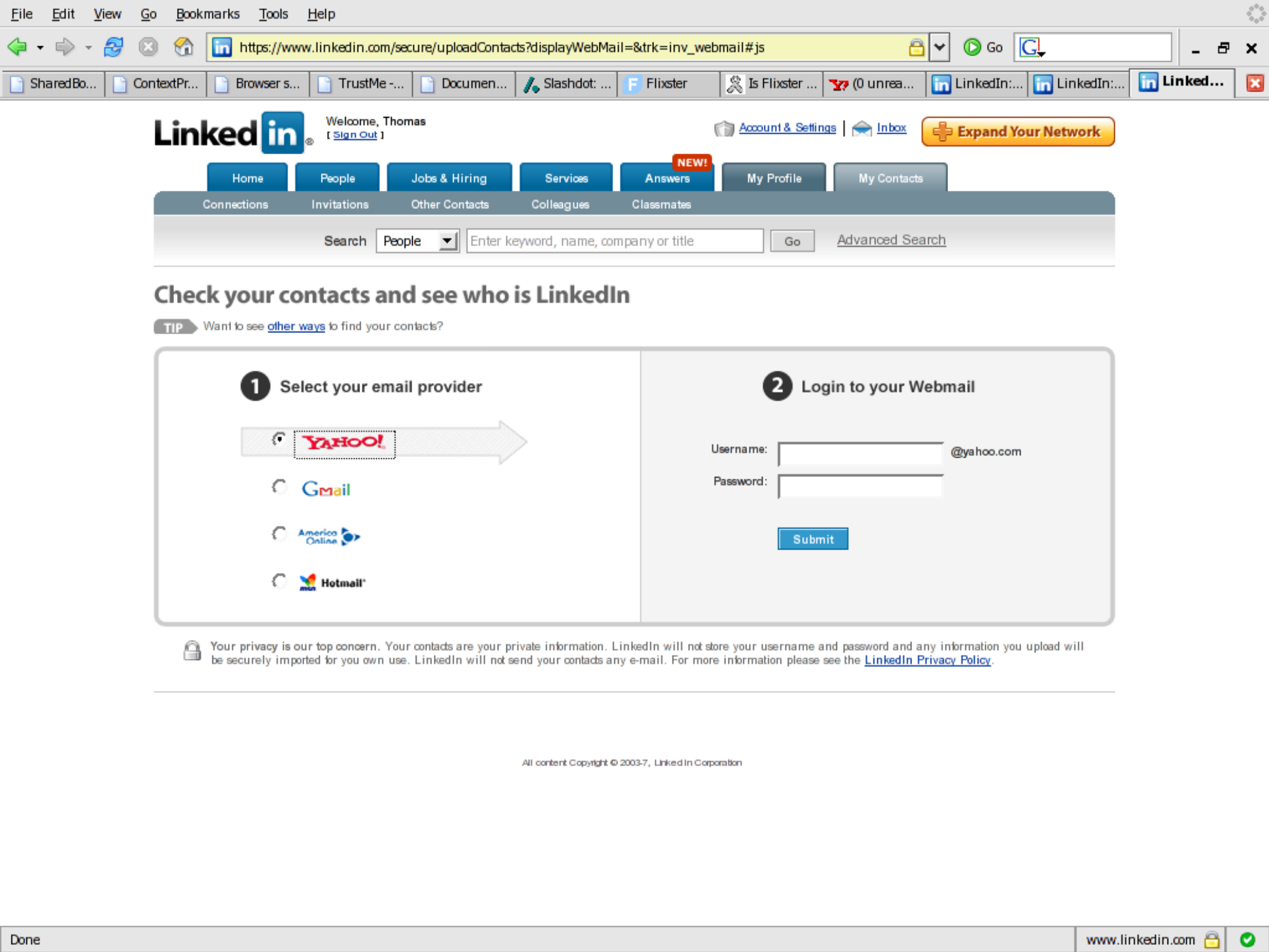


**Note:** Flixster does not store this information in any way.

**Phishing in  
plain sight!**



**“But hey, it's  
common practice!”**



Welcome, Thomas  
[ Sign Out ]

[Account & Settings](#) | [Inbox](#)

[Expand Your Network](#)

- Home
- People
- Jobs & Hiring
- Services
- Answers **NEW!**
- My Profile
- My Contacts

- Connections
- Invitations
- Other Contacts
- Colleagues
- Classmates

Search People   [Advanced Search](#)

## Check your contacts and see who is LinkedIn

**TIP** Want to see [other ways](#) to find your contacts?

### 1 Select your email provider

- YAHOO!**
- Gmail
- America Online
- Hotmail

### 2 Login to your Webmail

Username:  @yahoo.com

Password:

Your privacy is our top concern. Your contacts are your private information. LinkedIn will not store your username and password and any information you upload will be securely imported for your own use. LinkedIn will not send your contacts any e-mail. For more information please see the [LinkedIn Privacy Policy](#).

It's all about **trust**.

It's about what  
people **think** is  
happening.

“Digital identity systems must be designed so the disclosure of identifying information is limited to parties having a **necessary and justifiable** place in a given identity relationship.”

(Kim Cameron, The Laws Of Identity)

“Nor were users clamoring for a single Microsoft identity service to be aware of all their Internet activities. As a result, Passport failed in its mission of being an identity system for the Internet.”

(Kim Cameron, *The Laws Of Identity*)

**Flixster and  
LinkedIn?**

**justifiable!**



engineer user trust

### Get Address Book

Enter your Yahoo details below. On the next page you will be able to select who to connect with.

**Yahoo Email Address:**

**Yahoo Password:**



**Note:** Flixster does not store this information in any way.

<concern>

Will Flixster store my  
credentials?

</concern>



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### Get Address Book

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**Yahoo Email Address:**

**Yahoo Password:**



**Note:** Flixster does not store this information in any way.

http://

+Add Friends

Welcome, testflixster | [My Account](#) | [Logout](#)

Friends Online (0) Recent Talk Messages

News Profile My Friends Meet People Fun Stuff

Movies, actors, directors SEARCH

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Yahoo Email Address: testflixster@mail.yahoo.com

Yahoo Password:

Continue >



**Note:** Flixster does not store this information in any way.

http://



Demande de Carte

- Renseignements personnels
- Renseignements professionnels
- Cartes
- Domiciliation Bancaire
- Demande de Carte Supplémentaire
- Relevés de Compte
- Demande d'adhésion à Membership Rewards®

Demandez la Carte Personnelle

Besoin d'aide pour remplir votre formulaire?  
0800-99 316 - Belgique  
00 32 800 99 316 -

Par mesure de sécurité, aucune des données que vous introduirez dans ces formulaires ne sera transmise sur Internet.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 *Suivant*

Renseignements personnels

Titre:

M.  Mme

Nom:

Prénom:

Adresse:

N° / Boîte:

 / 

Code Postal:

Localité:

Adresse e-mail:

Téléphone privé:

Date de naissance:

Etat Civil:

Célibataire  Marié(e)  Cohabitant  
 Divorcé(e)  Veuf/Veuve

Nombre de personnes à charge:

Habitation:

Propriétaire  Locataire

Depuis :

 (mois/année)

Nom agence bancaire:

Depuis (approximativement):

 (mois/année)

Adresse:

N° de compte personnel:

Prénom de votre mère:

 (par mesure de sécurité)

<concern>

That's a lot of private information. Do I trust the Internet with it?

</concern>



“For security reasons,  
the information you  
enter into this Web  
form will never be  
transmitted over the  
Internet.”

http://

reputable sites teach

users trust content

even if the content is  
**implausible**

“For security reasons,  
the information you  
enter into this Web  
form will never be  
transmitted over the  
Internet.”

<idea>

if users trust content

...



can content be an  
indicator?

**personalize** your  
bank's appearance!



<teaching>

“If it's **your** photo,  
then it's **safe** to  
enter your  
**password!**”

**WRONG**

Schechter, Dhamija,  
Ozment, Fischer  
(2007): *The Emperor's  
New Security  
Indicators*

reputable sites teach



users trust content

disregard **other**  
indicators

users trust content

“The photo server  
will be back up  
shortly. We're sorry  
for the  
inconvenience.”

password: \_

password: \* \_

password: \* \* \_

password: \* \* \* \* \*



attack **successful**

**<Browsers>**

Downs, Holbrook,  
Cranor (2006):  
*Decision Strategies  
and Susceptibility to  
Phishing*

**mental models  
meet  
security indicators**

“Huh, I'm really not certain, but I'm intrigued by it.”

“Well, I mean, I'm figuring like, based off what it seemed like an encrypted page kind of, I don't know, like walks out or crypts into the circle so that it can't be read.”

<wisdom>

Web Site Certified by an Unknown Authority



Unable to verify the identity of people.w3.org as a trusted site.

Possible reasons for this error:

- Your browser does not recognize the Certificate Authority that issued the site's certificate.
- The site's certificate is incomplete due to a server misconfiguration.
- You are connected to a site pretending to be people.w3.org, possibly to obtain your confidential information.


Please notify the site's webmaster about this problem.

Before accepting this certificate, you should examine this site's certificate carefully. Are you willing to to accept this certificate for the purpose of identifying the web site people.w3.org?

Examine Certificate...

- Accept this certificate permanently
- Accept this certificate temporarily for this session
- Do not accept this certificate and do not connect to this web site

 Help

 Cancel

 OK



<speculation>

“Possible Reasons for  
this Error”

</speculation>

<jargon>

Certification  
Authority ...

Certificate

</jargon>

<jargon>

server

misconfiguration

</jargon>

<oops>

there *might* be an  
attack, and it is  
*possibly* malicious

</oops>

This is your last line  
of defense against  
the guy running  
**ettercap** right now.

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- Accept this certificate permanently
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- Do not accept this certificate and do not connect to this web site

 Help

 Cancel

 OK

<impossible>

Please contact the  
site's webmaster

</impossible>

<impossible>

you should examine  
this certificate  
carefully

</impossible>



Web Site Certified by an Unknown Authority



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- Do not accept this certificate and do not connect to this web site

 Help

 Cancel

 OK

Certificate Viewer: "people.w3.org"

General Details

**Could not verify this certificate because the issuer is unknown.****Issued To**

Common Name (CN)	people.w3.org
Organization (O)	<Not Part Of Certificate>
Organizational Unit (OU)	<Not Part Of Certificate>
Serial Number	01:E3:F6

**Issued By**

Common Name (CN)	CA Cert Signing Authority
Organization (O)	Root CA
Organizational Unit (OU)	http://www.cacert.org

**Validity**

Issued On	05/02/06
Expires On	04/08/06

**Fingerprints**

SHA1 Fingerprint	F1:A2:7D:F4:90:5D:DE:06:F8:18:71:47:5E:9B:53:BD:3D:67:7F:70
MD5 Fingerprint	CD:5F:EF:4D:ED:BC:0D:30:1B:21:70:55:39:2A:BB:E7

Help

Close

“Could not verify this  
certificate because  
the issuer is  
*unknown.*”

“Issued By”

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General Details

**Could not verify this certificate because the issuer is unknown.****Issued To**

Common Name (CN)	people.w3.org
Organization (O)	<Not Part Of Certificate>
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Serial Number	01:E3:F6

**Issued By**

Common Name (CN)	CA Cert Signing Authority
Organization (O)	Root CA
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**Validity**

Issued On	05/02/06
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**Fingerprints**

SHA1 Fingerprint	F1:A2:7D:F4:90:5D:DE:06:F8:18:71:47:5E:9B:53:BD:3D:67:7F:70
MD5 Fingerprint	CD:5F:EF:4D:ED:BC:0D:30:1B:21:70:55:39:2A:BB:E7

Help

Close

Downs, Holbrook,  
Cranor (2006):  
*Decision Strategies  
and Susceptibility to  
Phishing*

“Basically that it’s kind of like the **elevator certificate**. For whatever reason, they don’t have it. But at that point sometimes when you go into the elevators you can see if their certificate is up to date or if it’s not current. And that’s kind of what that meant for me.”

**Elevator Certificate:** The writing on the wall that you read while your elevator is in free fall.

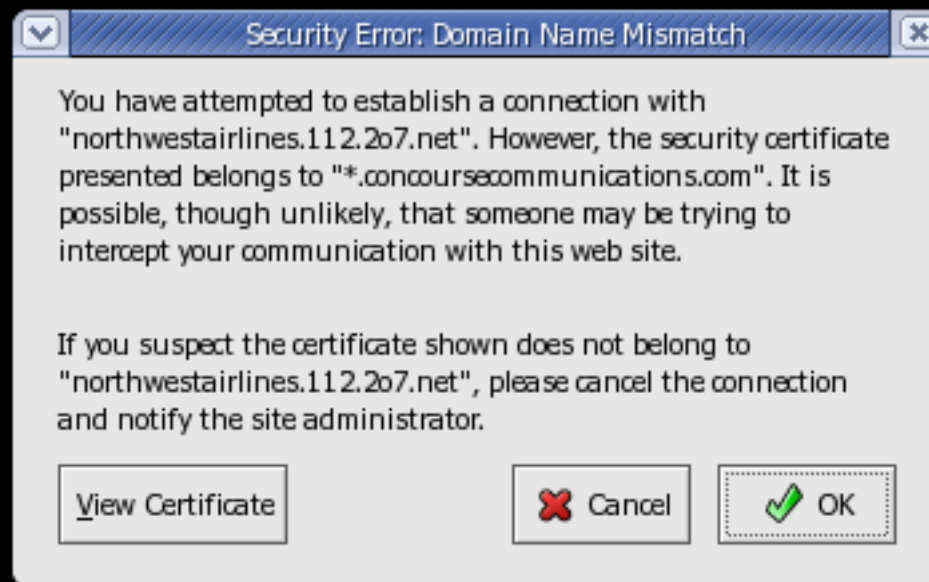


users trust content

useless security  
indicators teach

**disregard advice**

<attack>



You have attempted to establish a connection with "northwestairlines.112.2o7.net".

However, the security certificate presented belongs to

"\*.concoursecommunications.com". It is **possible, though unlikely**, that someone may be trying to intercept your communication with this web site.

“possible, though  
unlikely”

**WRONG**



If you suspect the certificate shown does not belong to “northwestairlines.112.2o7.net”, please cancel the connection and notify the site administrator.

**good advice!**

**WRONG**

In this case:  
“attacked” by a  
hotspot

“legitimate” attack

“legitimate” attacks  
teach

users trust content

**disregard advice**



but **they shouldn't  
need to**

there is often good  
information available

there is often good  
advice to be given

<<http://www.w3.org/2006/WSC/>>

W3C Web Security  
Context Working  
Group

What can we tell  
users to help them  
make the right  
decisions?

how?

**hard problems**



DANGEROUS  
CLIFF EDGE

DANGEROUS  
CLIFF EDGE

CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED  
AT ALL TIMES  
SURVEILLENZ VOS ENFANTS  
EN TOUTES CIRCONSTANCES

CLIFF EDGE



**security usability:**  
much research to be  
done

What decisions should  
users make at all?

What decisions should  
we keep away from  
them?

Key continuity  
management for TLS?

Don't let the attacker  
control your  
security UI.

Steer users toward  
known sites when  
they interact with  
forms?

<future>





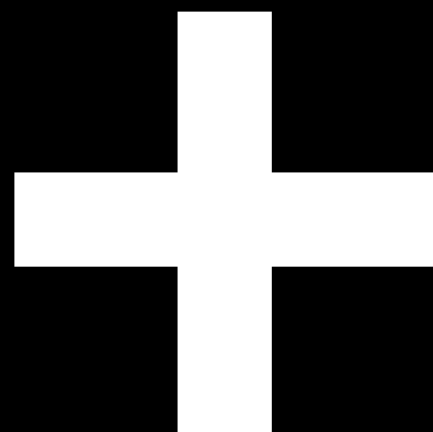
ALKIN

**platform**

applications

**local**

(Widgets)



**remote**

(mash-ups)

**ubiquitous**

scan

print

find your kids

open your safe

turn off the fridge

listen to your spouse

(if using a VOIP phone)

file for divorce



Google™

<security>

**RESTRICT!**

</security>

been there  
done that

e.g.,

same-origin policy

so

Flixster won't get at  
your Webmail!

but Flixster got the  
password!

~~technical defense~~

attack the human!



think about it...



Thomas Roessler

[tlr@w3.org](mailto:tlr@w3.org)