Glossary of Terms – Website Design

Web Server – A web server is what serves files that make a web page for users in response to their request when looking something up on the web. Once a user searches for a website or anything on the web, a web server is what provides them with search results according to what they are looking for.

- This is used on/related to the MCAST website when you search up MCAST on google or any browser, you get the official school website as the first result.

Web hosting – Web hosting allows users to put their website's that they have made, available online to the web for the public. There are multiple web hosting software's and applications that allow users to launch online websites.

- Web Hosting in this case is used to make this website public and available to anyone interested, the MCAST website is available to the public.

IP Address – An IP Address is a distinct string of code given to each device linked to a computer system that communicates over the Internet Protocol (IP). Essentially, it is a digital address that enables online communication and device location, including websites.

- An IP address gives MCAST's website a distinct digital address, which allows users to easily access the website from any web browser of their choosing.

Domain Name – A Domain name is a name or title which is used by users online to look up websites online easier, rather than remembering a whole link for a website, someone can simply look up the domain name.

- The domain name for the official MCAST website would be considered 'mcast.edu'.

DNS – DNS (Domain Name System) is used to convert website and domain names into IP addresses so that the user's device can know and understand what is being searched.

- In this case, a user searching MCAST or mcast.edu would trigger the DNS into providing them with the official website.

HTTP/HTTPS protocol – HTTP and HTTPS are the main protocol that a web browser and a website employ to exchange data between each other. HTTP(S) stands for Hypertext transfer protocol (secure), HTTPS is safer and guarantees you safety with your data online, when HTTP can be risky as these websites tend to be quite unsafe.

- The MCAST website uses HTTPS protocol, meaning it is safe to use and will not steal your data, when you are on the website it will also show a closed lock to signal that it is a safe website.

SSL/TLS certificate - Passwords, credit card numbers, and personal information cannot be accessed by unauthorised parties thanks to SSL/TLS certificates, which encrypt data sent between a browser and a website.

- SSL/TSL are used in the MCAST website to protect and encrypt user's online login credentials protecting them from being stolen and used by unauthorised users.

Internet Services

Like any other website, MCAST makes use of common internet services. It doesn't depend on any, uncommon, or special services. Several browsers, such as Google Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Microsoft Internet Explorer, can visit the website. These are popular web browsers for general internet access.

About UseNet - The abbreviation for the User Network is Usenet. Users can upload articles or postings on a variety of themes, and it looks a lot like a bulletin board system.

Newsgroups on the Usenet are hierarchical, much like the Domain Name System. A set of user-submitted postings or articles on a variety of themes and issues that are uploaded to servers on a global network is known as a UseNet.

UseNet is a client/server component that enables users to communicate with the news sites by downloading a list of accessible news sources while using client software like

Google Chrome. Usenet newsgroups on the server, read messages already posted there, respond to messages already there, or add new messages.

UseNet can be improved by finding ways to make newsgroup responses quicker, since newsgroups are and can be posted by individuals who may lack knowledge on the subject, so it would be good to implement a bot of some sort that can answer FAQ's or simple questions by gathering data from verified information.

About CDN - A geographically dispersed collection of computers that caches content near end users is known as a content delivery network (CDN). The assets required to load Internet content, such as HTML pages, JavaScript files, stylesheets, photos, and videos, can be transferred quickly with a CDN.

The main advantages of using a CDN for most users can be divided into four categories, even though the advantages vary based on the size and requirements of an Internet property. For example, users experience faster page loading times when content is distributed closer to them by using a nearby CDN server, among other optimisations.

One important concern and disadvantage is CDN security. Although the replica servers by themselves defend the original server from attacks, there are additional entry points for hackers, so businesses must exercise caution, particularly when handling sensitive data.