Setting Up a Live Broadcast on the Internet

Broadcasting live content on the Internet isn't as difficult as people would think. In reality, it's extremely easy. All you want is definitely an audio or video source, a means of having the audio or video to the PC, a free software package supplied by Microsoft, and enough upload bandwidth to cover the broadcasting of the content.

In this tutorial, I'll try to show you the thing you need to know to help you broadcast your content on the Internet □□□□□. I'll primarily explain to you audio only, but you'll observe easy it is to complete video as you progress through this tutorial.

As this is a text only tutorial, you may wish to download the free software from Microsoft, and feel the configuration while you read this tutorial. Don't panic though. It's very easy to do. Don't let along this tutorial scare you away. The rewards of getting your live broadcast up and running should stop you motivated to stay with it.

The only slightly complicated part with this tutorial is regarding your firewall. As a result of number of firewalls on the market, I'll be very generic in my way of suggesting the thing you need to do. I'll explain this in further detail later in the tutorial.

Let's Start

First things first. You need to setup your audio source. In this example I'm using a radio scanner to broadcast Live Police from the radio scanner.

I basically have the radio scanner attached to my PC's sound card with a wire roughly 2 metres (7 Feet) in length with a 3.5mm mono plug on each end. Obviously along cable is up to you. Note: if you're broadcasting music, you'll want to use a cable that's stereo plugs instead of mono plugs. You'll also want to make sure your plugs on the cable match the audio device, Some devices may use a 2.5mm plug instead of 3.5mm. If you should be broadcasting voice only, mono plugs are better as it ensures sound comes out of both speakers for the listener.

Plug the cable in so this 1 end plugs into the headphone socket of your audio device, and one other end plugs into the Microphone socket of your sound card in your PC.

Now visit the Microsoft website and download the Windows Media Encoder 9 software. It's free. It's approximately 9.5MB. The web link to the program is situated at the bottom with this article.

Once you've installed the program, proceed and start it. You'll be offered the setup wizard. Highlight the option named Broadcast a Live Event and click OK.

You'll now maintain the window where you are able to choose your audio source and/or video source. If you're establishing video, you would leave both items ticked, however in this example,

we're just going to complete audio so proceed and untick the video option. Under the audio option utilize the drop down box and choose your sound card from the list. Then click the configure button.

In the audio properties window the only thing you really should change is the option called Pin Line. In the Drop down box, choose Microphone. Obviously you may also use Line In, but you need to make sure you've plugged the cable into the Line In of your sound card.