

Messaging Platforms

Craig Given
Information Technology
Public Broadcasting Service

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference



Overview of Messaging Platforms

- FirstClass Portal
- FirstClass at Stations
- Exchange at Stations

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference



Messaging Platforms


- Launched FirstClass email system and PBSExpress+ in 1995.
- Pre-Y2K - began exploration of expanded options.

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference




Three Options

- FirstClass
 - ◆ Existing Infrastructure
- Internet protocol based
 - ◆ Exchange, Lotus Notes, etc.
 - ◆ Via NNTP, SMTP, LDAP
- PBS-hosted Portal

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference


FC Portal

- Launched in 1999
- Accounts hosted on FirstClass server located here at PBS.
- High reliability and availability
- PBS administrated hardware and software.
- Station controls local content.

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference

FC Portal

- Since launch:
 - ◆ No unscheduled downtime
 - ◆ 23 stations hosted
 - ◆ 707 total users
- Low cost
 - ◆ \$5 per user, per month

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference


Case Study

- Great economic sense
 - ◆ A small station with 20 users can be hosted for \$100 per month.
 - ◆ A large station with 200 users can be hosted for \$1000 per month.

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference

What This Means

- Each station has their choice of three options, and can pick what is right for them.
- Maximum Flexibility, Maximum Benefit

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference

Coming Next...

- Taking advantage of FirstClass features
- Benefits of Exchange in a station environment

 PBS 2001 Technology Conference
