

THE NetworkGuy

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Tech Update for 2025

Technology is always evolving and improving, so it's no surprise that this year is likely to bring some newly popular terms. Here are a few of the words that will bring much attention, along with a brief explanation of each:

Hybrid Computing: This type of computing combines various technologies to solve complex computational problems. One example is hybrid cloud computing, which combines a private cloud (on-premises infrastructure) with a public cloud, allowing data and applications to move between the two.

Spatial Computing: The digitization of activities involving machines, people, objects, and the environments in which they take place. Examples are smart glasses and virtual reality, where users experience content in a virtual environment.

Multifunctional Robots: These robots are machines that can perform different tasks following human instructions or examples. They will likely improve productivity, especially in warehouses and manufacturing.

Quantum Bases and Quantum Security: Quantum security refers to the use of quantum mechanics to secure the transfer of data. It has the potential to secure information in ways that were previously thought impossible and protect against cyber threats.

The Network Guy Quiz Challenge

PenTeleData is giving one lucky winner a \$150 Amazon Gift Card. Just visit www.ptd.net/quiz-challenge by **January 31, 2025** to answer the contest question. We will select a winner at random from all correct entries. **Good Luck!**

Click the **Quiz Challenge** link and choose which choice can help keep gaming consoles more secure.



Learn from The Network Guy

My children received a gaming console for Christmas. Since it's a connected device, what can I do to recognize the risks and keep them as safe as possible?

The Network Guy:

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency sums it up in a few steps. Here's what you need to know:

- **Keep a clean machine.** *Gaming systems are simply computers with software that needs to be kept up to date.*
- **Protect your personal information.**
- **Protect your privacy.** *Some online games offer geo-tagging functionality that can reveal you or your child's exact location. If possible, disable these geo-tagging features.*
- **Make passwords long and strong.**
- **Empower your children to handle problems.** *Many gaming systems allow players to interact with other people across the globe. Make sure your children know how to block or report an issue.*



Things That Make You Go Hmmm...

As of October 2024, there were 5.52 billion Internet users worldwide, which amounted to 67.5 percent of the global population. Of this total, 5.22 billion, or 63.8 percent of the world's population, were social media users.

Connecting billions of people worldwide, the Internet is a core pillar of the modern information society. Northern Europe ranked first among worldwide regions by the share of the population using the Internet in 2024.

In The Netherlands, Norway and Saudi Arabia, 99 percent of the population used the Internet as of April 2024. North Korea was at the opposite end of the spectrum, with virtually no Internet usage penetration among the general population, ranking last worldwide.

Asia was home to the largest number of online users worldwide – over 2.93 billion at the latest count. Europe ranked second, with around 750 million Internet users.

China, India, and the United States rank ahead of other countries worldwide by the number of Internet users.

As of 2023, the share of female Internet users worldwide was 65 percent, five percent less than that of men. Gender disparity in internet usage was bigger in the Arab States and Africa, with around a ten percent difference. Worldwide regions, like the Commonwealth of Independent States and Europe, showed a smaller gender gap.

As of 2023, global Internet usage was higher among individuals between 15 and 24 years across all regions, with young people in Europe representing the most significant usage penetration, 98 percent. In comparison, the worldwide average for the age group 15–24 years was 79 percent. The income level of the countries was also an essential factor for Internet access, as 93 percent of the population of the countries with high income reportedly used the Internet, as opposed to only 27 percent of the low-income markets.

Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/617136/digital-population-worldwide/>

"No amount of money ever bought a second of time."

- Tony Stark, Avengers: Endgame

PenTeleData is Proud to Serve Dingmans Ferry, PA

In 1735, a Dutchman named Andrew Dingman moved from New York to Pennsylvania. He was a pioneer settler on the bank of the Delaware River, in a place that became known as Dingmans Choice. Andrew Dingman saw potential for growth in this area and built a ferry boat from trees that he cut with a hand ax. He ran the ferry crossing himself at first, then hired Joseph Ennis to operate it. The business grew as roads were built leading to the ferry on both sides of the river. During the French and Indian War, many settlers used the ferry to escape to safety in New Jersey.

As the area grew, there were problems with the ferry service. High water, ice chunks in the river, and timber rafts floating down the river all caused challenges for the ferry. People also grew impatient with the delays when the ferry was busy. In 1834, Daniel Dingman and several others took action to incorporate the Dingmans Choice and Delaware Bridge Company with a charter enacted by both Pennsylvania and New Jersey. By 1836, a wooden covered bridge was built and the ferry was retired.

The bridge was destroyed by heavy winds and rebuilt three times. As a result, the ferry was once again put into operation. In 1868, the post office department changed the name of the town from Dingmans Choice to Dingmans Ferry, as it is still called today.

The ferry service continued until 1900, when the owners of the Horseheads Bridge Company in Horseheads, New York became interested in it. The three owners—brothers James, Will and E.A. Perkins—were in possession of an old railroad bridge that had once crossed the Susquehanna River in Muncy, Pennsylvania. This truss bridge was made of pin-hung wrought iron, and originally consisted of five spans. The Perkins brothers brought three spans of this bridge to Dingmans Ferry and erected them at the same location as the previous three bridges, but on new piers that were six feet higher than the old ones. This bridge has remained in service now for roughly 115 years at its current location.

The Dingmans Choice and Delaware Bridge Company has remained privately owned. Most of its 50-some shareholders are descendants of the Perkins brothers from Horseheads. In 2003, the Federal Highway Authority listed only 16 privately owned toll bridges in the country.

In the early 1960's, the Army Corp. of Engineers devised a plan to dam the river just south of Dingmans Bridge, at Tocks Island. They acquired the land by eminent domain in the mid-twentieth century for the creation of the proposed Tocks Island Dam project and relocated the community further up the hill. Local objections to the dam and purchasing of land had delayed the project for years, but preparations ended for certain when it was learned that the proposed dam site was on a fault line. Instead, the land purchased by the Corps was converted to the Delaware National Recreation Area.

<https://scenicwilddelawareriver.com/entries/dingmans-bridge-dingmans-ferry-pa/125b7033-62fd-47e7-9f95-66303376b97c>

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