

## Media Release

### iiNet Withdraws from Federal Internet Filtering Trial

**23 March 2009** - iiNet, Australia's third largest Internet Service Provider, has advised the Federal Government that it is withdrawing from the proposed internet filtering trial.

iiNet's Managing Director, Michael Malone, says they only agreed to participate in the trial to demonstrate that the policy was fundamentally flawed, a waste of taxpayers' money and would not work.

Mr Malone said after drawn-out negotiations with the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE), it was clear that an agreement could not be reached.

He cites constant changes in the policy, confused explanations of the purpose of the trial and recent revelations regarding the "blacklist" as clear indications that the trial is unnecessary.

"We are not able to reconcile participation in the trial with our corporate social responsibility, our customer service objectives and our public position on censorship," says Mr. Malone.

"It became increasingly clear that the trial was not simply about restricting child pornography or other such illegal material, but a much wider range of issues including what the Government simply describes as "unwanted material" without an explanation of what that includes.

"Everyone is repulsed by, and opposed to, child pornography but this trial and policy is not the solution or even about that.

"In reality, the vast majority of online child pornography activity does not appear on public websites but is distributed over peer-to-peer networks which are not and cannot be captured by this trial or policy."

Mr Malone said the Government should re-think its approach and urgently needs to make clear what its intentions are in respect of internet censorship, this lack of communication from government and bureaucracy is rightly seen as underhand and unsavory and is now attracting international dismay as well as Australian disgust.

---

#### About iiNet

iiNet was established in 1993 and listed on the ASX in 1999 (ASX: IIN), growing from a small Perth business into the third largest Internet Service Provider in Australia. The Company now supports more than 725,000 dial up, broadband and telephony services nationwide, is on track to exceed \$400m of revenue in FY09, and proudly employs more than 1,400 people in Perth, Sydney, Auckland and Cape Town.

iiNet's goal is to lead the market with the best Internet access products and then differentiate with genuine, plain speaking customer service. The company has its own high speed ADSL2+ network reaching around 4 million households across Australia, the largest Voice over IP network in the country, and is delighted to have led yet again with Naked DSL, recognized by PC User Magazine as the 2007 Product of the Year.

#### For further information or interviews, please contact:

Steve Dalby  
iiNet Chief Regulatory Officer  
P: +61 8 9213 1371

Tim Grau  
Springboard Australia  
M: +61 438 044 598