



## WEBbeams Newsletter

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### WEBBEAMS WELCOMES NEW HOTSPOT

Beanzie's Gourmet Coffee Co. recently became the newest WEBbeams hotspot. Located in Avon, Indiana, Beanzie's includes a bakeshop, espresso bar, and casual seating area with a cozy fireplace. The master roaster at Beanzie's roasts the shop's coffee, ensuring only the freshest beans are served in the coffeeshop and sold for home brewing. For more information, visit <http://www.beanzies.com>.

### TOP WI-FI CITIES IN U.S. AND WORLD

JiWire released a survey in January showing the prevalence of public Wi-Fi hotspots throughout the world. According to the survey, the United States leads the world with 37,073 hotspots, followed by the United Kingdom, South Korea, Germany, and Japan. Within the United States, California has the most public Wi-Fi hotspots, followed by Texas, Florida, New York, and Illinois. There are now more than 100,000 hotspots throughout the world.

### WI-FI-ENABLED MP3 PLAYERS

For months there have been rumors flying around about whether Apple will release a Wi-Fi-enabled iPod. So far, there's no solid evidence that we'll see one in the near future. At the Consumer Electronic Show in Las Vegas last month, two other companies

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did unveil their own MP3 players with Wi-Fi, though: Giant International displayed the Tao and RCA showcased the Lyra MusicGremlin. These players will allow users within range of a hotspot to purchase and download music.

## **BUSH TAX PROPOSAL CALLS FOR \$3.6 BILLION WI-FI TAX**

The president's 2007 budget proposal to Congress, released just last week, includes fees that would cost the Wi-Fi industry an estimated \$3.6 billion during the next 10 years. Bush has asked the Federal Communications Commission to begin charging for the previously unauctioned spectrum licenses used by broadband and Wi-Fi companies. The Bush Administration claims the fees will help promote efficient use of the spectrum and equalize spectrum assignments between companies who wish to use them. To read more about this just-emerging story, check out this TelecomWeb article: <http://www.telecomweb.com/news/1139342990.htm>.

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