

<http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2212093/home-working-children-sme>

Site search  
Newsletters

Home News Jobs Blogs Audio/Video Reviews White papers Downloads Forums Shopping Mobile

Hot topics: security | communications | ebusiness | innovation | strategy



Where am I? > Home > News > Telecoms

## Home working 'not about the kids'

Small firms value greater flexibility and less commuting

Written by **Ian Williams**  
[vnunet.com](http://vnunet.com), 14 Mar 2008

Have your say    Send to a friend    Share

Suggestions that many people work from home as it allows them to spend more time with the children may not be entirely accurate, according to research by UK Online.

The ISP investigated how small businesses and sole traders in the UK are using the internet.

The results point to greater flexibility and less commuting as the major driving factors, rather than family commitments.

Only six per cent of people rated seeing the children as the most appealing aspect of home working, compared with more than 60 per cent who placed greater flexibility at the top of their list.

More than 80 per cent of small business owners use the internet for home working, suggesting that the practice is becoming increasingly common among this sector.

"Traditionally flexible working has really been for parents and carers wanting to spend more time at home, but the internet offers many more opportunities to work away from the office," said Chris Stening, managing director of UK Online.

"These findings show a definite shift in perception. Remote working is becoming the norm and working from home no longer means sitting at your static desktop PC."

The survey also looked at some of the major challenges of working online. Almost half of respondents cited too many irrelevant emails as the biggest frustration with the internet.

"Email remains one of the key uses for the internet, and the management and hosting of email has never been as critical as it is for the growing numbers of remote workers," explained Stening.

The blurring of boundaries between work and home life was also cited as a major problem with working from home. Many respondents said that they had to create a strict structure in order to maintain a good work/life balance.

Have your say    Send to a friend    Share

[previous](#)

Tags: [Sme](#) [Home Working](#) [Internet](#) [Communications](#) [Integration](#)

### Further reading

Most read    Most commented    Popular topics

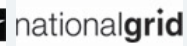
BBC issues fix for hacked iPlayer  
Popular porn site hacked by prudes  
AVG Anti-Virus Free 7.5.519  
Google to advertise on the moon  
Cyber-attack launched from 10,000 web pages

[More](#)

advertisement

Job of the week    Companies hiring    IT jobs

Hiring now on ComputingCareers:



[More companies](#) | [Upload your CV](#) | [Create job alert](#)

advertisement

<http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2212093/home-working-children-sme>

**BT calls for honest ISP advertising**  
Advertised and actual speeds vary wildly, says broadband supplier [More...](#)

**Orange extends Business Everywhere deals**  
Mobile service now includes 'unlimited' and 'daily unlimited' packages [More...](#)

**Graduates bemused by low-tech offices**  
New generation wants IM and webcams, not phones and meetings [More...](#)

**Municipal Wi-Fi coverage to soar**  
30,000 square miles by 2012, predicts ABI [More...](#)



### DO YOU AGREE?

Have your say on Home working 'not about the kids'

[What is this?](#)

### POLL

#### STEVE WOZNAK IPHONE POLL

Is Steve Wozniak right to slam the iPhone?

- It's admirable that he speaks his mind
- The iPhone is a design icon. Who cares about 3G?
- The battery gains are an acceptable trade off
- The overall package makes it a good choice
- I'm with Woz and prefer another handset

[Previous poll results](#)

[Vote](#)

[Newsletter signup](#) Existing user

Sign up for our range of FREE newsletters:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SME Advisor         | <input type="checkbox"/> Product News       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breaking Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Software Downloads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E-Business Advisor  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile & Wireless  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vnunet Linux News   | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Software  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly News Review  | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Hardware  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Security            |   |

[Submit](#)

### SPOTLIGHT



#### Berners-Lee calls time on Google

Next-generation web apps could blow away search giant [More...](#)

advertisement



#### BT calls for honest ISP advertising

Advertised and actual speeds vary wildly, says broadband supplier [More...](#)

advertisement



#### BBC issues fix for hacked iPlayer

Corporation thwarts access to rights-protected content [More...](#)



#### Antitrust regulators probe Windows 7

Vista successor will be monitored to ensure Microsoft toes the... [More...](#)

# Computing

Web Site : Computing

Date : 15/03/2008

Security copy : -1848204054.pdf

Copyright : Computing

<http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2212093/home-working-children-sme>

**Site credentials:** [About vnunet.com](#) | [About Incisive Media](#) | [Privacy policy](#) | [Terms and conditions](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Contact us](#) | [RSS feeds](#) | [Site map](#)  
| [Legal](#) | [Accessibility](#)

**Business & technology websites:** [Technology news](#) | [Computer reseller news](#) | [IT news](#) | [Information science news](#) | [Electronics news](#)  
| [Search engine news](#) | [Online marketing news](#)

**Blogs & community:** [Latest gadgets](#) | [Silicon Valley](#) | [Mac stuff](#) | [Security](#) | [Software downloads](#) | [All blogs](#) | [Forums](#) | [vnunet TV](#)

**Software downloads:** [Antivirus & Firewalls](#) | [Audio & Video Players](#) | [Backup Tools](#) | [Browsers & Browser Companions](#) | [Desktop Tools](#) | [Developer](#)  
| [Internet Tools](#) | [Office Applications](#) | [Plugins & Tools](#) | [Privacy Tools](#)

**Hardware reviews:** [Back-up Storage](#) | [CPUs](#) | [Desktops](#) | [Firewalls](#) | [Hard Drive](#) | [Hubs and Switches](#) | [Memory](#) | [Motherboards](#) | [Network Cards](#)  
| [Network Tools](#) | [Notebooks & Tablet PCs](#) | [Overclocking](#) | [Routers](#) | [Servers](#) | [VoIP](#) | [Wireless](#)

**Tools & resources:** [Downloads](#) | [Recruitment agency directory](#) | [IT salary calculator](#) | [Web seminars](#) | [Whitepapers](#)

© Incisive Media Ltd. 2008. Incisive Media Limited, Haymarket House, 28-29 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RX, is a company registered in the United Kingdom with company registration number 04038503