

# Google Scrambles To Salvage Internet License In China

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AP Business Writers

BEIJING — China is threatening to revoke Google's business license over the company's decision to redirect Chinese traffic to computers in Hong Kong that are not governed by the communist government's censorship practices.

The latest skirmish between Beijing and the Internet search leader threatens to cripple the company in one of the Web's biggest markets.

Google agreed Tuesday to dismantle the virtual bridge to its Hong site that was created in March, but it was unclear whether that will be enough to stay in business in China. The license is required for the company to continue providing its mapping and music services in China.

Google hopes to keep its license by turning its Chinese website into a so-called "landing page" anchored by a link that users must click on to send visitors to the Hong Kong search service. The company has no plans to revert back to its previous practice of

omitting search results that the Chinese government considers subversive or pornographic. "This new approach is consistent with our commitment not to self-censor and, we believe, with local law," David Drummond, Google's top lawyer, wrote in a blog post.

A foreign ministry spokesman, Qin Gang, said he had not seen Google's announcement and could not comment on it. However, he added, "I would like to stress that the Chinese government encourages foreign enterprises to operate in China according to law."

The impasse could drag on for months, analysts predicted, as both Google and the Chinese government jostle in a heavyweight wrestling match unfolding on an international stage.

Google Inc. announced in January that it would no longer comply with Chinese censorship after being hit by a hacking attack traced to China. The high-profile challenge irritated Chinese leaders, even though they want foreign companies to help develop the country's technology industry.

Google met a Wednesday deadline to apply to renew its Internet

license in China. It's not clear how long the Chinese government will take to review the application, but BGC Financial analyst Colin Gillis expects the company "to twist in the wind for a while."

Google's uncertain fate in China could become a distraction for management, but it's one that is probably worth the trouble, said Gartner Inc. analyst Whit Andrews.

That's because China already has about 400 million people online, making it the world's largest Internet market, and that figure is expected to steadily grow for decades to come.

"Google knows its shareholders think it's important to be in China, and a lot of its future value is riding on that," Andrews said. And China's government knows it has to flex its muscle because "if it looks like Google is running the show, it could affect their power."

Google shares fell \$17.82, or nearly 4 percent, to \$454.26 on a rough day throughout the stock market.

China has not produced a big windfall for Google yet, partly because it's one of the few markets where the company's search engine is not the most popular.

# EVENTS

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"Sacred Heart School sent me a critique on the event that we are looking at, getting students' perspective," she said. "They had a couple suggestions that we are considering, but otherwise, they gave the event a glowing report."

Robb also expressed appreciation for the organizations, businesses and volunteers that support all three events. "Many of the same people have been helping for years," she said.

Crofton teacher Tom Vollmer said his students learned a great deal from the school festival.

"My students got something out of the trip," he said. "The fish parade was No. 1 on the hit parade for my students."

Sacred Heart School science teacher Marcia Olnes likewise found enthusiasm among her 30 seventh graders who attended the school festival.

"It was a great event, even more hands-on than last year," she said. "It's definitely their favorite way to 'get the message' in science!"

The school festival provided a valuable hands-on exposure not only with river life but with possible careers, said Gene Bormann with the Corps of Engineers. Students showed strong interest in this year's exhibits, he said.

"The Yankton Watershed Festival is an excellent opportunity for students and teachers to become familiar with at least 15 different aspects of the Missouri River and its watershed," he said.

Reaching the younger generation will have benefits for years to come, said Dugan Smith, a park ranger with the National Park Service (NPS). He foresees today's students returning to future festivals as parents with their own children.

"The kids learned a lot," he

said. "What if they never had this festival? How long would it take them to learn these things on their own?"

Smith organized the seventh annual river clean-up, expressing pleasure with the outcome. He sees a continuing need and would like to expand the clean-up in terms of both time and distance.

Missouri River Relief, based in Columbia, Mo., has brought a crew and heavy equipment to assist the local clean-up. To justify her organization's time and expense, MRR leader Vicki Richmond has asked about extending the local clean-up effort from Thursday through Sunday.

The Saturday clean-up would still use local volunteers, but Richmond's crew and equipment would take on larger projects while in the area on the other days. Richmond said she would need funding to help cover expenses, and Smith said the local organizing committee could work on grants and donations.

"Right now, we cover seven or eight miles (of clean-up) from the Riverside Park boat ramp to Gavins Point Dam," Smith said. "If we started on Thursday, Missouri River Relief could attack sites downriver. And on Saturday, if we had 100 boats, we could spread out with 50 boats upstream and 50 boats downstream."

Smith remains optimistic the public would respond to an expanded clean-up. He pointed to the NPS public land day in September, when Vermillion High School students take part in clean-up at Clay County Park.

"We have 30 to 50 students who pick up trash at the Mulberry Bend overlook, plant trees and clear hiking trails," he said.

The challenge lies in maintaining general public support of the clean-up, Smith said. However, he noted a number of people have

participated in every one of the Missouri River clean-up efforts at Yankton.

"We need to keep it interesting and keep people excited about it," he said. "Trash is not too glamorous, but we need to keep trash out of the river. It's important to educate people about the importance of this clean-up."

Education likewise plays an important role in the Clean Boat Event, Lepisto said. Because of the crucial need to reach the public, this year's event worked seven ramps and doubled its time to eight hours. He sees the potential for reaching 250 to 300 boaters in future years.

At first, boaters and anglers were surprised to learn of the local concern about invasive species, Lepisto said. Now, public awareness has grown tremendously in the event's short life, he said.

"We hope they become disciples and take the message forward to friends and neighbors who fish and boat," he said.

The effort seems to be working, as invasive species have been kept at bay in local waters, Lepisto said.

"We have Asian clams in the reservoir," he said. "But as far as know, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission have not documented any positive identification of Asian carp or zebra mussel above Gavins Point Dam."

The Missouri River events will hopefully strengthen the bond between the public and the river, Lepisto said.

"We want people to buy into it, so they have that sense of ownership or possession," he said. "We want them to believe that this is 'my' river. I care about it, and I want it to be healthy and a good place for fish and wildlife."

# AVERA

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flowed directly into the hospital's HIS using the HL7 system.

"Patient data seamlessly and automatically flows from SureSigns VS3 vital signs monitors to our existing Meditech HIS," said Chris Nelson, ASHH technology manager. "If we hadn't found an interface solution, nursing staff would have had to perform an additional step to verify data before it was forwarded to the Meditech system. The solution works especially well when the VS3 remains attached to the patient, automatically taking vital sign measurements at selected intervals in the continuous mode."

Nurses appreciate the immediacy of the information they're obtaining from patients. They also find release from the responsibility to accurately make handwritten notes and input data in the HIS in a timely manner.

"The process is certainly better for patients," Surgical Floor Clinical Coordinator Jan Arens said. "Our facility is patient centered. Anything that allows nurses to focus more directly on patients is an asset."

Philips Healthcare Product Manager John Hoyt said his company developed this new capability for the VS3 vital signs mon-

itors in the goal to assist health-care facilities with improving the quality of patient care by reducing documentation time and charting transcription errors without upsetting nursing workflow.

"We know that nurses need a simple way to record vital signs data, including observations and assessments at the bedside, do so accurately and make it as readily available to doctors as possible," Hoyt said. "That's the basic premise of QuickCapture, a new aspect of the VS3 monitors."

"We selected Avera Sacred Heart Hospital as our test site because we found them to be very competent. They were also very cooperative in the software-testing phase. The nurses involved in the project provided highly valuable insight and feed-


back that has allowed our company to develop a very valuable bedside workflow efficiency tool."

Rezac added: "I'm very proud of what our staff has accomplished in this collaborative effort with Philips Healthcare. We'll be working to make SureSigns VS3 available to all the patients treated here at Avera Sacred Heart."

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