

# Tech Tips

## No 2: Tech Lingo

Lingo...Schmingo! What's in a name, really? Podcasts, vodcasts, blogs, wikis, URLs, XML! Makes your head spin, doesn't it?

In this issue, we'll take some of the mystery out of recent tech vocabulary and explore what these technologies actually do.



A **blog** is an easy-to-use web site, where you can quickly post thoughts, and interact with people. A blog can contain text, hyper-text, images, and links (to other web pages or to comments, for example). Podcasts are a type of blog that contain audio or video content. To search for blogs of interest to you, or create your own, visit <http://blogsearch.google.com>



**Podcasting** is the distribution of audio and video over the Internet and made available via subscription. Podcasting enables individuals to create self-published, syndicated "radio shows". Google searches of the word "podcast" in late 2004 resulted in 24 hits. As of November 14, 2005 Google reported 99,700,000 hits for "podcasts". Learn more: <http://www.apple.com/itunes/podcasts>



A **wiki** is a type of website that allows users to easily add and edit text and is especially suited for online collaborative writing. The name is based on the Hawaiian term wiki, meaning "quick". The best known example of a wiki is Wikipedia, the collaborative encyclopedia, publicly editable in more than 35 languages: <http://www.wikipedia.org>



**del.icio.us** is a social bookmarking service for storing and sharing web bookmarks. Everything posted to del.icio.us can be made publicly viewable. del.icio.us users "tag" their bookmarks with keywords to allow for categorization and searching. It's a great place to find bookmarks that users with common interests have discovered and posted. Go to <http://del.icio.us>



**Flickr** is a website for sharing digital photos. In addition to being popular with users sharing personal images, the service is widely used by bloggers as a photo repository. Use flickr to store, organize, and share digital images: <http://www.flickr.com>