From: Judith Kittinger
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2010 12:15 PM
To: WebMaster
Subject: Financial Industry Technology

I don't know where to direct this comment, and request that you do so if you deem it pertinent:

One of the issues that arose when the Dow recently plunged 900 points was the "validity" of the computer technology that drives the reported statistics. Realize that my training is 15 years old, and that I am no longer certified; however:

- I've noticed that the statistics I see momentarily displayed in consideration to reported transactions appear to fluctuate substantially—usually in that the reported figures drop— possibly in consideration to timing as related to system usage.
- I believe the in-use technology that continues to control—from the bottom up (Sorry, people.)— used to be end user via either twisted pair to fiber optic, or fiber optic direct; upload to ISP file server, upload to regional file server, upload distributed to source.
- If any of the source servers were over-burdened with transactions, they would either (1) drop the last received transaction, not necessarily notifying the sender; (2) drop the oldest transaction, not necessarily notifying the sender; or (3) store the transaction depending upon available hard drive space to be forwarded the source when the system became capable.
- Generally, what the recipient system did with the overload was determined by the programming, except that the additional issue became whether or not the recipient system— regardless its position in the hierarchy— was capable to acknowledge the transaction in consideration to platform compatibility. If that was a factor, the transaction dropped off regardless.
- In some instances, there was also the consideration that the transaction "reported," but did not account the module required to complete the financial activity. (This issue would acknowledge that the transaction reached the source for which it was ultimately intended; and that its system was not capable at that given time for any number of reasons.)
- There is also the issue that an entirely closed system would presumably not find it necessary to address the issues IF the file folders for those entities so designated to be part of the "trading environment" were isolated to (1) preferential treatment; and (2) fire wall isolation once they removed from the sender.
- Obviously, the platform (language) compatibility issues would remain regardless.

I run PDT/PST depending upon the time of the year. West Coast on-line trading is evidently phenomenally present to a community by which you can almost set a clock in consideration to their activities. SOME of the fluctuations that occur COULD attribute as discussed. And there is the additional difficulty that if the end user runs a computer in coordination to his on-screen (TV) observation. What I find really questionable about the situation is that I've noticed that the carrier representatives are apparently aware of it.