

Unit 6

The Electronic World

E - Commerce

In the near future the electronic marketplace will bring customers and suppliers together in smart databases and virtual environments, with ID verification, encryption and translation. It will then implement: the billing, taxation and electronic funds transfer. The whole suite of services will be based on voice processing, allowing a natural voice interface to talk to the computer and voice synthesis technology to get the answer out.

Electronic money will be very secure and much more versatile than physical alternatives. E-cash can be completely global and could be used as a defacto standard. It does not have to be linked to any national currency, so it can be independent of local currency fluctuations. Its growing use on the net will lead to its acceptance on the street and we may hold a large proportion of our total funds in this global electronic cash.

Shops will be places where people try on clothes, but not buy them. Their exact measurements can be sent instantly to the manufacturer as soon as they have chosen an outfit. The shops may be paid by the manufacturer instead.