

- First of all, I'd like to thank the Office of Technology for all the work they did on our Y2K readiness project – Y2"OK"
- It's like a lot of the work they do here – it's behind the scenes, sometimes invisible, but without it, we'd have a lot of very visible problems.
- We tend to take computers and the systems behind them for granted, but for our administration – for all our departments and agencies, all over the state - the Office of Technology is essential.
- More than 80-percent of Minnesotans now use computers at home or at work.
- If citizens want a service, a permit or information from a government agency . . . they deserve the choice of whether to go on-line, or wait in a long line.
- High technology ties in with everything these days – business, government, education, even transportation – (every person who telecommutes stays off the highways)
- The high technology era is here – and we have a lot of work to do:
 1. Maximize the efficiency of government services and operations
 2. Make sure every area of Minnesota is wired and ready to go
 3. Revamp our laws and public policies to catch up with the 21st century.

Now I'd like to introduce my Chief Information Officer – Commissioner David Fisher.

###