

Speech to the Annual Bar Association Meeting.

Mr. President, Members of the Bar Council, colleagues.

In the last few years, the phenomenon of the Internet has blasted its way into our daily lives and we have all been changed by it.

What is important too for us as practitioners, is to stay on top of this technological development as it has an important part to play in the way that we practice our profession. Equally important is the fact that it has already become a vital tool for our own clients operations as well.

I propose for the next few minutes to highlight a few of the legal issues which arise in respect of eCommerce.

What is this thing called Electronic Commerce? One simplistic explanation is that it is the same old buying and selling, only now, we would be doing it electronically.

Definition:

But let us look at this definition in practical terms.

Let us say that one of you logs on to a web-site, the ever popular Amazon.com and buys a few CD's - this kind of eCommerce is one where the transaction is conducted digitally but the product is delivered physically by post or courier.

01 Jun, 2000