

# INVITATION LECTURE

Crime Science Twente / CTIT / IGS

**Speaker : Wouter Stol**  
**Chair Cybersafety, NHL University**  
**Chair Police Studies, Open University**

**Date : January 31, 2011**  
**Time : 14:00 - 15:30 PM hours**  
**Location : Carré 1C**

**HOST : Pieter Hartel**

**UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.**

## **TITLE:**

**Child Pornography on the Internet: from Amsterdam to Zandvoort**

## **ABSTRACT:**

People use the Internet for a lot of good but this new 'technology of freedom' (De Sola Pool, 1983) has a dark side too. Child pornography on the internet is one of the biggest social problems today. Every serious incident in this sphere creates a righteous general indignation. The Amsterdam (2010) and the Zandvoort (1998) case for example, shocked the Dutch society and made politicians come into action. The Dutch police, as do police forces in other countries, give a high priority to the fight against child pornography on the internet, but they have a lack of knowledge in the area of crime in a digital world. That is a problem since, according to police policy, policing must be 'knowledge based'. Consequently, here lies a task for academics such as criminologists, lawyers, police scholars and information scientists.

In his lecture, Wouter Stol will discuss academic research in the field of child pornography on the internet (punishable under the Dutch Penal Code, section 240b). Subjects that will be addressed include the definition of child pornography, (inter)national law, the person of the offender and his modus operandi, the police organization against cybercrime, police powers on the internet and the typical problems the police are confronted with when fighting cyber crime. Also the effectiveness of the filtering and blocking ('black listing') of websites that contain child pornographic material will be discussed, as well as the technique of 'deep packet inspection' a technique that recently was in the news again after a member of the Dutch Lower Chamber asked questions about this to the minister of Safety and Justice (December 2010). Attention will also be paid to the research finding that, in police files, about 25 percent of all suspects for child porn crimes on the internet are between 12 and 24 years old. The lecture will close with some suggestions for further research – and an invitation to all to cooperate on this emerging field of cyber safety studies.

## **BIOGRAPHY:**

Prof. dr. Wouter Stol (1958) has a back ground in the police (Amsterdam, 1981-1992) and in Sociology. Main theme in his research and publications is the interconnection between safety, police and modern technologies. Currently he holds the chair Cybersafety at the NHL University of applied sciences and the Police Academy as well as the chair Police Studies at the Open University.