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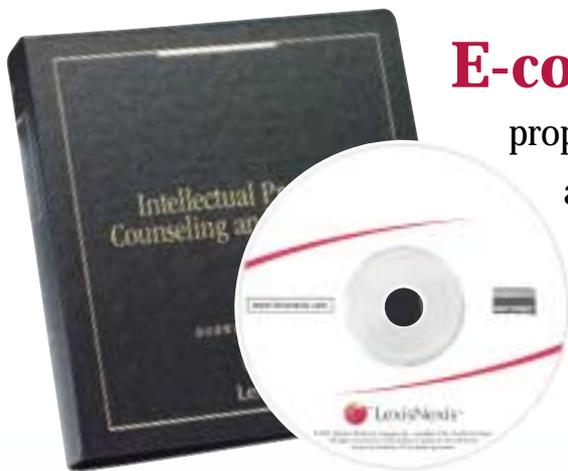
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# E-COMMERCE AND COMMUNICATIONS: Transactions in Digital Information



**E-commerce** raises critical issues about the nature of property (intellectual and otherwise), liability, identity, privacy, and authentication — and about how the digital revolution's flawless copies of easy-to-distribute information products are disrupting our legal assumptions about what these concepts mean for today's and tomorrow's online transactions.

### About the Author

**Stephen Y. Chow** is a partner at Perkins, Smith & Cohen, LLP, Boston, Massachusetts, and chairs the firm's E-Commerce & Communications Group. A registered attorney with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, he is a member of the NCCUSL (National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws) committees that drafted UCITA (formerly UCC 2B) and UETA. Mr. Chow has developed patent portfolios and strategies for venture-backed telecommunications infrastructure and e-commerce enterprises and has advised telecom carriers and financial institutions on e-commerce issues — including commercial and regulatory legislation and rulemaking. He teaches at Suffolk Law School the perennially popular courses, "Litigating Technology Disputes" and "Counseling Technology-Leading Emerging Enterprises," and is an active member of the American Law Institute on commercial and intellectual property law projects.



### Master e-commerce's I.P., commercial, and communications dimensions

Stephen Y. Chow's timely **E-Commerce and Communications: Transactions in Digital Information** tackles these concerns with unprecedented authority — focusing on the collision of intellectual property and commercial and communications law in cyberspace. Drawing on his experience helping to draft both UETA (Uniform Electronic Transactions Act) and the controversial UCITA (Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act), he addresses such urgent questions as:

- How do parties enter enforceable contracts in the absence of printed documents and written signatures?
- Who should hold property rights to "personally-identified data" — those who store it, such as hospitals and insurance companies, or those who create it, such as patients and policy holders?
- What impact will UETA, UCITA, and E-Sign (the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act) have on companies and consumers doing business online?
- How can firms guard against large scale unauthorized use of the digital information products they market and distribute?

Throughout, Chow evaluates all the fundamentals of e-commerce — often starting with how issues are resolved

in "real space" and then moving to resolving comparable disputes in "cyberspace." He quotes extensively from relevant statutory provisions and even delves into differences in international e-commerce. (The complete text of UETA, UCITA, and E-Sign are included.)



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**Impact of related statutes** — such as the Uniform Commercial Code, the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and state contract law initiatives

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