



editor's note

We didn't set out to write an issue about protecting ourselves from the vagaries and villains of the world, but as I sit down to write this note, I notice that's exactly what we've done. Fear must be in the air. Jung would feel vindicated; the collective unconscious was never so apparent. Although we at *Digital IQ* try to serve as a weathervane, this month it seems we've presented something of a barometer.

Last month's mandatory requiem got us all thinking that life is a scary and perilous trip. Ask anyone and they'll tell you that lately it seems even scarier. Well, maybe it is and maybe it isn't. If you could find a prehistoric man to sit down with — maybe over a soy mocha latte — I bet he'd tell you that 21st Century life looks pretty cush. Still, if you watch the news or read the papers you can't help but be amazed that the sun has the chutzpah to solo-climb the horizon, that any of us can possibly summon the valor to commute to the office for a staff meeting. Fear is the contagion and none of us are immune.

For our cover story I talked with Gov. Mike Leavitt about technology's role in homeland security and how Utah is being looked at as a model of interoperability and cooperation. In another one of our features we met a Salt Lake City law firm that's trying to protect our in-boxes from intrusive and unwanted advertising. In a special section on commercial real estate, we explored how architects, builders, and designers help us erect walls, vast metal and glass fortresses where we can sit in safety and comfort behind our computers.

Even as I wonder when we became such fraidy cats, I'm presented with the fool's bargain of trading freedom for safety. It's been a long time since I heard the adventurer's maxim that a ship is safe in the harbor, but that is not what a ship is for. Despite all the earnest initiatives aimed at making my life a bit safer, my hard drive less cluttered, and my workspace more pleasant, I have to remind myself that the real killer app is the hope and awe that allows us to tackle the whole buggy program every day. As Jim Morrison said, "No one here gets out alive."

Bill Kerig
Editor in Chief