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World Wide Wedding

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Coming to a Wedding Near You

Russell and Peachtree Presbyterian aren't the only ones streaming video for newlyweds. Throughout the country, videographers are adding the wedding webcast to their menu of services.

Just ask Robert Ponder, owner of Alternative Image, an entertainment and multimedia production house based in Memphis, Tenn. Currently, streaming media makes up a small portion of his total business. But, increasingly, couples and other clients are requesting the service.

"Right now, it's a nice high-tech touch we've added to our wedding packages," said Ponder. "But I'm certain that, before long, streaming media will become a popular addition to more traditional videotape and photography services."



Karen and Albert Wong wave to distant relatives as their wedding is streamed over the Internet. Click on the bandwidth selections below to see a clip of this streaming video using Windows Media Technologies.

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Albert Wong would agree. In 1998, Wong's company -- San Francisco-based Media Pro -- gave him a little wedding present. They webcast his wedding live over the Internet. As a result, Wong's Canadian relatives who couldn't attend the wedding gathered in cyber cafes from Vancouver to Calgary to Toronto to watch him get married.

Just as cool, Media Pro saved the wedding file to a server. So by the next day, Wong and his wife Karen could relive

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their wedding by connecting to the Internet through their home PC.

"Streaming video lets people attend events that, otherwise, they couldn't attend," said Wong. "If it weren't for this technology, there's no way my entire family could have shared my wedding day."

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