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DAN ARMENDARIZ

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Six US senators say Comcast/Time Warner Cable merger should be blocked

Al Franken and others call on FCC and DOJ to block $45.2 billion cable deal.

by **Jon Brodkin** - Apr 21, 2015 1:17pm EDT

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Six US senators today urged the Federal Communications Commission and Department of Justice to block Comcast's proposed $45.2 billion acquisition of Time Warner Cable.

As Comcast prepares for a meeting tomorrow with DOJ antitrust officials, the senators wrote a letter to FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler and Attorney General Eric Holder, saying, "we believe that Comcast-TWC's unmatched power in the telecommunications industry would lead to higher prices, fewer choices, and poorer quality services for Americans—inhibiting US consumers' ability to fully benefit from modern technologies and American businesses' capacity to innovate and compete on a global scale."

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$45 billion Time Warner Cable buy has taken longer than Comcast expected.

The letter was signed by Sens. Al Franken (D-Minn.), Bernard Sanders (I-Vt.), Edward Markey (D-Mass.), Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), and Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.).

As we wrote yesterday, "DOJ antitrust lawyers are reportedly close to recommending that the government block the deal. Comcast might be able to save the merger by agreeing to conditions, but the cable company could also walk away from the deal if the government asks for conditions to which it

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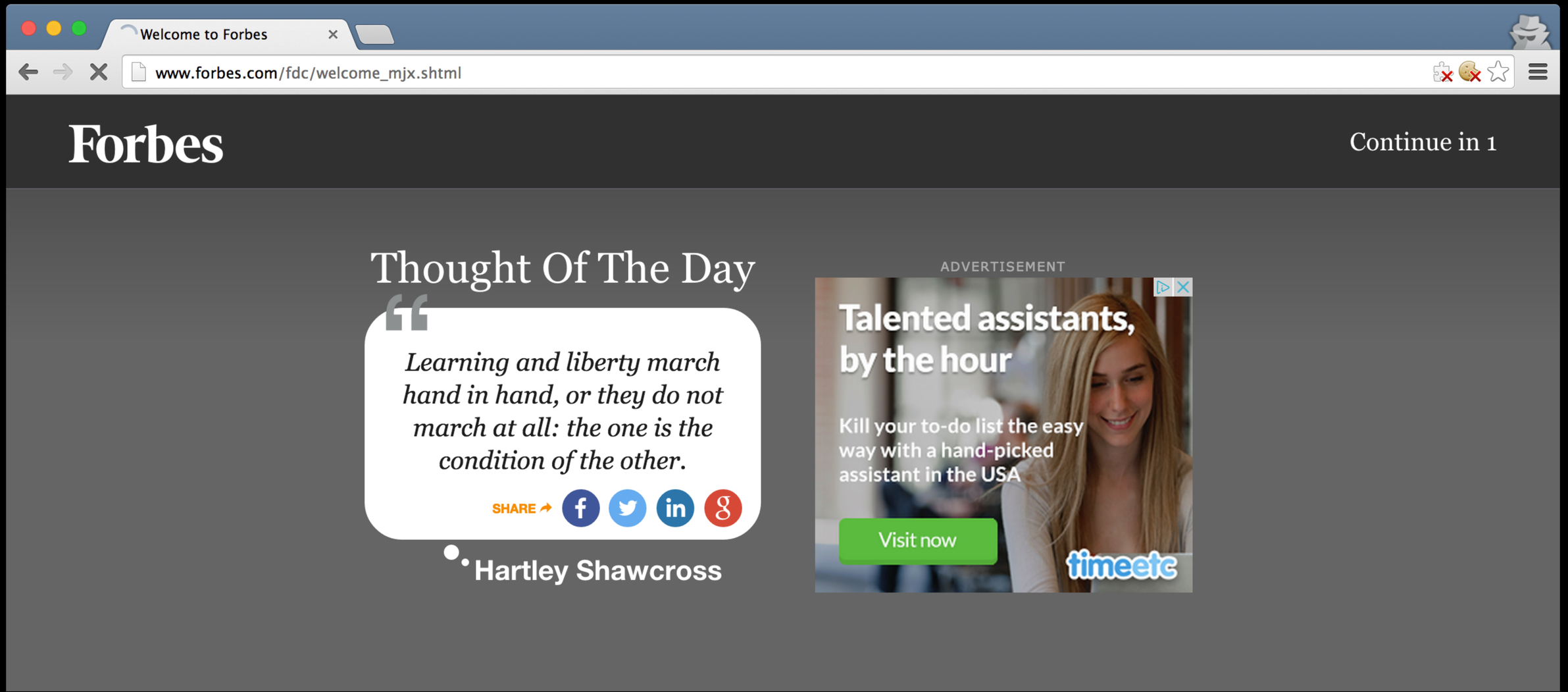

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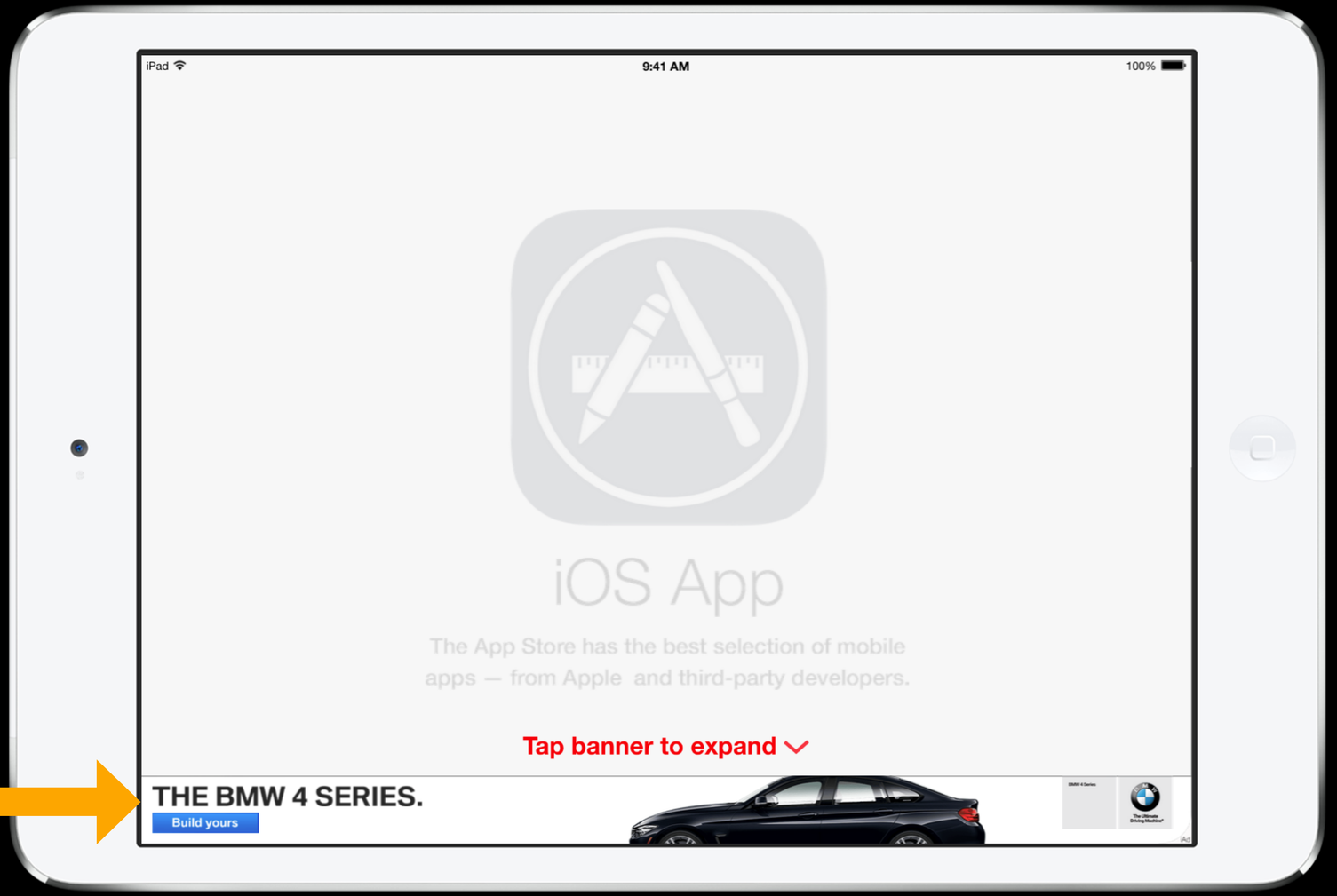

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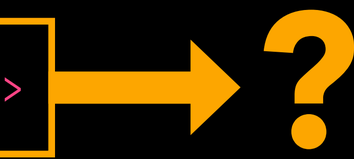

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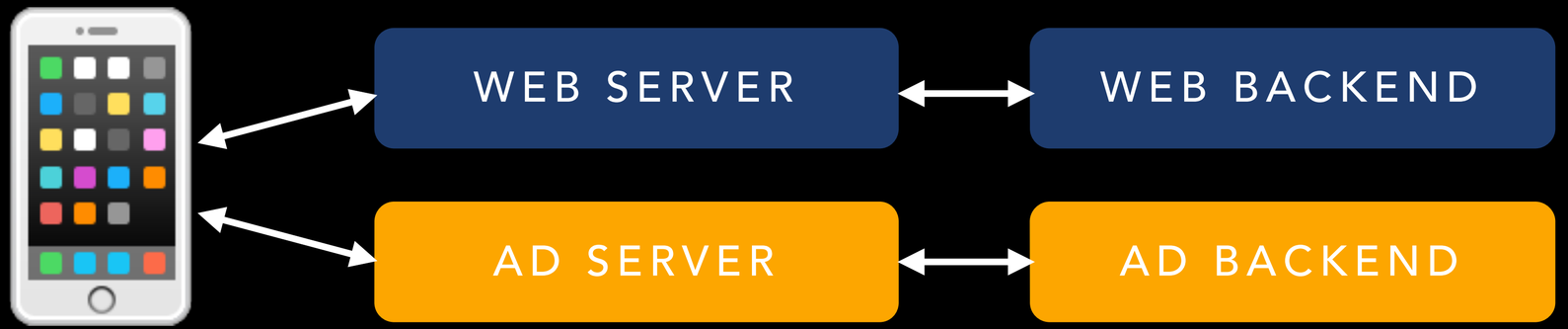

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Separate the implementation of a system from
its usage through the use of an **interface**

ABSTRACTION

The interface provides a **barrier** that users should not break.

Why not?

ABSTRACTION BARRIER

Deciding on the abstraction level can be key;
sometimes an abstraction gets in the way.

If it does, we might say something is
over-engineered.

“Should we run our product in the cloud?”

EXAMPLE ABSTRACTION DECISION

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