NeoLore
NETWORKS INC.

TECHLORE

"Insider Tips To Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier And More Profitably"

"As a business owner, you don't have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That's where we shine! Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!"

-Jim Stackhouse
 NeoLore Networks Inc.

My Computer Network Doesn't Need Regular Monitoring And Maintenance, Does It?

This is probably one of the biggest and most costly misconceptions that many business owners have. Usually this is because they've been fortunate enough to never have encountered a major computer-related disaster, but that's similar to someone thinking they don't need to wear a seat belt when driving a car because they've never had an accident.

Computer networks are complex and dynamic systems that need regular updates and maintenance to stay up, runs fast and problem-free. In fact, it's surprising how fast a brand new computer will slow down after a few weeks or months of use without proper updates and maintenance. Here are just a FEW of the critical updates that need to be done on a weekly, if not daily, basis:

- Security patches applied – with NEW viruses and hacker attacks cropping up DAILY, this is a CRITICAL part of maintaining your network.

– Antivirus updates and monitoring.

- Firewall updates and monitoring.

- Backup monitoring and test restores.

- Spam-filter installation and updates.

- Spyware detection and removal.

- Monitoring disk space on workstations and servers.

-Monitoring hardware for signs of failure.

- Optimizing systems for maximum speed.

A computer is just like a car: if you don't change the oil, replace the filter, rotate the tires, flush the transmission and perform other regular maintenance, it will eventually break down and cost you FAR MORE to repair than the cost of the basic maintenance – and cars are far simpler than a computer network!
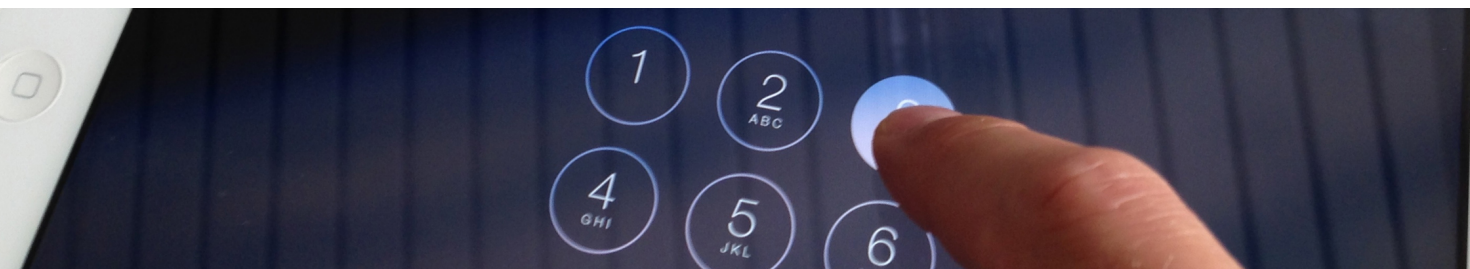
The Ultimate Small Business Guide To Setting Up A 'Work From Home' Or Remote Network Access System For Your Staff

If you are the owner of a small or medium sized business that is thinking about implementing a "work from home" program for your employees – or if you want to install a virtual network to enable you and certain key employees and managers to work on the road or from a remote office – DON'T - until you read this eye-opening guide.

Download your FREE copy today at www.neolore.com/free-stuff/reports/

7 Ways To Keep Your Tablet Secure

1. Don't leave it lying around

Although this is common sense, you've probably violated this rule more than once. Tablets are easy targets for thieves, so don't let it out of your sight when in a public place – and don't leave it in plain view in your car or you might end of up with a broken window in addition to a stolen tablet.

2. Use a passcode

Although it's not 100% hacker-proof, it will block unauthorized users from accessing your information.

3. Consider enabling automatic data erasing

You can configure your iPad to erase your data after 10 failed pass-code attempts. This is not a good solution for anyone who constantly forgets a password or for those who have kids trying to log in repeatedly.

However, if you have a Microsoft Exchange account connected to your mobile device, your IT guy can remotely wipe your mobile device as soon as you report that it has been lost.

4. Encrypt your hard drive

On your iPad, simply enabling the password will turn on encryption. All iOS devices also come with a second layer of encryption (called data protection) that protects your e-mails and attachments. This protection can't be broken, even if the passcode is stripped. On Android tablets, you need to enable hard-drive encryption in the security settings.

5. Enable iCloud Find My Phone or Android Device Manager
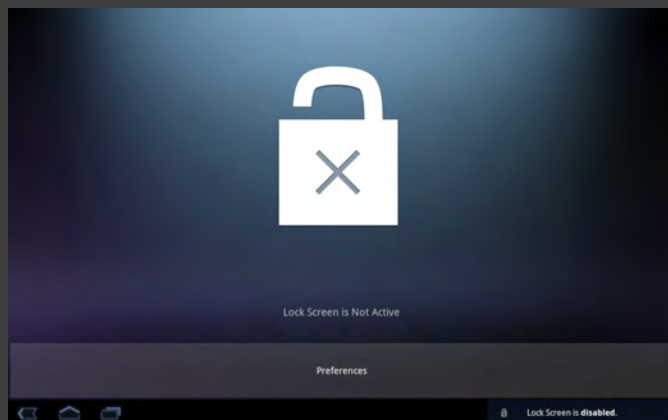
These are valuable tools to use when you misplace your tablet. Both of these services allow you to log in and find your tablet or even wipe it if you have sensitive data on it.
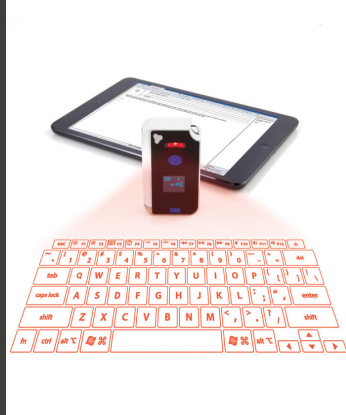
6. Install software updates

As with all software, make sure you have the latest security updates and patches installed to protect against hackers and viruses.

7. Only connect to trusted WiFi networks

Public WiFis are open territory for hackers and identity thieves. Whenever you connect, make sure it's a legitimate, secure connection.

Lock Screen is Not Active

Preferences

Lock Screen is disabled.

What The Difference Is Between Disaster Recovery And Business Continuity And Why You Should Care

Face it, downtime is depressing, difficult, and downright dumb. You can't afford to lose business, customers, and your reputation because of failed computer systems. That's why it's so important to pay attention to Disaster Recovery (DR) and Business Continuity (BC).

Almost every business depends on secure, reliable computer systems. It doesn't matter if you're a retail estabilshment, an online business, or a service provider, you rely on technology in order to perform everyday functions.

The Costs of Downtime

The cost of downtime is significant. In this Internet-connected age, most companies lose money when their services are down. Customers cannot order products, so they go elsewhere for services. It's also difficult to communicate with people when your e-mail and web sites are inaccessible. Downtime hurts your competitiveness. Eventually your company's reputation can be damaged.

This is why Business Continuity is so much more important than simple Disaster Recovery practices. You want to prevent downtime instead of recovering from it.

So, what's the difference?

Disaster Recovery is simply one part of Business Continuity. The word "disaster" indicates a situation where continuity has been broken. If you are recovering from a disaster, your computer systems are down. Your business information systems essentially failed. Typical disruptions include planned, unplanned, intentional and unintentional events. A backhoe can snap a telecom line at a nearby construction site, for example. Malware or viruses might take down your local network.

Business Continuity describes the way you eliminate disruptions. That's the big difference between DR and BC. When hard drives, servers or networks fail, BC practices ensure that duplicate systems are in place. When downtime occurs, BC systems instantly switch to copies of the same data you have been using all along.

Smart Business Continuity Solutions

These days you have several options to help keep your computers running and your information available 24/7. Storage solutions that contain backed-up, redundant hard drives, like Network Attached Storage (NAS) and Storage Area Networks (SAN) help you recover in failure situations. Your users never see that a drive failed. Their data and applications are always available, even if hardware breaks. Similarly, modern networking technologies protect organizations from networking failures. Both these hardware solutions help you maintain business continuity when things break.

However many companies don't have the latest hardware and software installed. It's important to upgrade your systems in order to take advantage of the new solutions. You need to have a plan for dealing with natural disasters, hackers, viruses, legal threats and new rules governing data protection.

3 Business Continuity Considerations

Here are some key areas to examine:

1. Consider how important computer systems are to your bottom line. Do you rely on an internet connection for payment? If you lost your customer database, would that immediately impact your business?

2. Pay attention to your storage habits. Make sure all critical data is backed up to a central server in your office AND in another physical location. Your best option for offsite storage usually is a "cloud" backup solution.

3. Think about installing a local NAS or SAN device that has several copies of your data on separate disks. Many of these devices now also have built-in cloud backup solutions. Ultimately, the data and applications you use to run your business need to be protected. Consider them vital organs to the health of your business.

Please Contact NeoLore Networks Inc. to see how we can best help you create a Disaster Recovery or Business Continuity Plan (613-594-9199 or sales@neolore.com).

The Lighter Side:
Did June Know This?

1. Did you know it is Candy Month? Go ahead and satisfy your sweet tooth – you're supposed to!

2. Also, the polar opposite: it is also the month we celebrate Fruits and Vegetables!

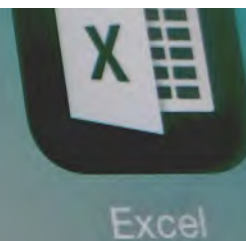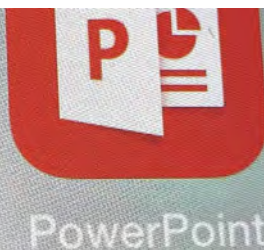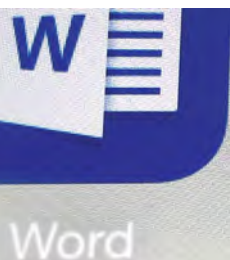3. On June 19th, 1997, Cats became the longest-running show in the history of Broadway.

4. Marilyn Monroe (Norma Jeane Baker Mortenson) was born June 1st, 1926.

5. The American War of Independence began in June of 1775 with the battle of Bunker Hill outside of Boston.

6. The very first baseball game was played on June 19th, 1845, across the Hudson River in Hoboken, New Jersey.

7. June 1st also marks the start of Atlantic Hurricane Season – be careful!

8. And, of course, we can't forget the holidays in June – Father's Day is the 19th, and the first day of summer also falls in June!

Have You Installed Microsoft Office On Your iPad?

After years of rumors, Microsoft finally unveiled Office for iPad in late March. This is a huge addition to the iPad, as demonstrated by the more than 12 million downloads of the product in the first week it was released.

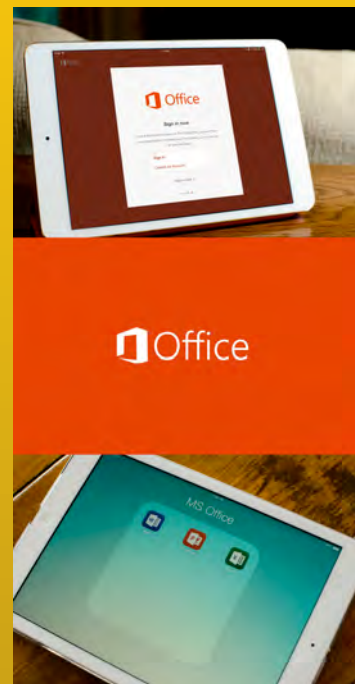**The iPad Just Got More Business-Friendly**

One of the biggest business complaints about the iPad has been that it's great as a personal device and for catching up on e-mail, but you really couldn't do real work on it. You can now use the 3 core of Word, Excel and Powerpoint on your iPad fairly seamlessly. Microsoft has integrated Office for iPad into their Office 365 suite of products with an annual fee of only $100, which includes online file storage (or, for free you can simply view files in Office for iPad, but not work on them).

A Familiar Interface And Functionality

Just about everything you're used to within the Office Suite is here on the iPad, optimized for touch screens. These three apps are feature-rich, powerful business tools, and while a menu item or two might be out of place, you'll soon quickly adapt to the user interface. If you've used an iPad and you've used Office on your desktop, you'll be just fine. Advanced features such as change tracking, find and replace are all there, and while there still may be a few things you need to do on your desktop, we're hard pressed to find many of them.

Who Else Wants To Win A $25 Gas Card?

The Grand Prize Winner of last month's Trivia Challenge Quiz is Mike B! He was the first person to correctly answer last months quiz question: What % of consumers have a smartphone?

Answer: 62%

Now, here's this month's trivia question (The answer can be found in this newsletter). The winner will receive a $25 gas card!

How Many Downloads did the Microsoft Office for iPad App have in its first week it was released?

Call (613) 594-9199 right now with your answer!