NEOLORE
NETWORKS INC.

TECHLORE

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

"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.

This Halloween…Who's Keeping An Eye On Your Computer Network?

Many business owners and managers we work with wait FAR too long to have us check and update their computer network's health and security. Unless we are actively performing regular maintenance, a nasty virus, malicious hacker, unexpected software corruption, hardware failure or dozens of other problems could catch you off guard and result in extensive downtime, data loss and expensive data recovery efforts.

That's because many businesses do not perform regular maintenance on their network and therefore are overlooking many serious threats that are increasing all the time. At some point, disaster strikes and they find themselves in a real mess, with a network down and employees sitting idle, waiting to get back to work.

By then the damage is done, and it can cost thousands of dollars to get the network back to normal, if that's even possible. What saddens me even more is the fact that almost every one of these costly disasters could have easily been prevented if someone had checked their network's security and health to remove these threats on a regular basis.

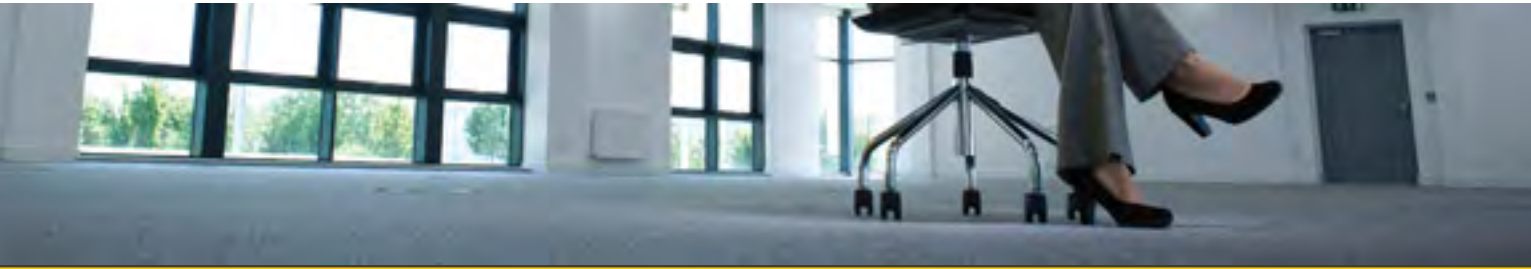**No More Excuses! Our Free Network Checkup Will "Exorcise" The Demons Hiding In Your Computer Network**

From now until Halloween (October 31st), we're offering all clients and newsletter recipients a FREE Network Checkup ($497 value) so that you have no excuse for not making sure your computer network is safe and sound. Schedule your FREE Network Checkup to "see" if you are truly safe from spyware, viruses, hackers and other SPOOKY disasters by calling our office at 613-594-9199

Don't Make These 3 Mistakes With Your Next Office Move

Moving is always a pain in the rump, but it doesn't have to be a horrific, expensive experience. The No. 1 lament from someone who has experienced a "bad" move is "I didn't know I needed to…" followed closely by "I completely forgot that…" In other words, it's what you don't do that makes the move a disaster. To make your move easy and effortless, here are the 3 most common mistakes you want to avoid:

Mistake #1 — Trying To Save Money By Using Your Employees To Move Your Computer Network

Don't ask your staff to disconnect, move and reconnect computers, phones and other devices just to save a few bucks. You'll frustrate them and end up with phones ringing at the wrong extension, lost cables and PCs that get dropped. You don't want to let your movers do this job either; they may be great at moving furniture, but a network is a lot more sophisticated and sensitive. Be smart and hire an IT pro to pack and move your network.

Mistake #2 — Not Hiring The RIGHT IT Firm To Move Your Network

While we're on the topic, make sure you know what to look for when outsourcing the move. A few things to look for would include references from other clients, proof of insurance (get them to fax you a copy), a service-level guarantee limiting the amount of time you are down and a professional, organized approach to quoting the move. A real pro will insist on visiting your current location as well as your new location to conduct a detailed site survey. NEVER hire anyone who wants to quote moving your network over the phone.

Mistake #3 — Not Giving Your Phone, Internet And Cable Vendors Enough Advance Notice

80% of unexpected communications blackouts and cost overruns on network moves are caused by failure to properly plan voice, data and electrical installation in advance. Just because the prior tenant had computers and telephones is no guarantee that the cabling is suitable for your phones and your computer network. Allow at least 6 weeks for Internet and telephone connections to be installed. Advance planning will help you avoid emergency rush fees or band-aid fixes to make things work.

A projector that turns any wall into a touchscreen. A new handheld projector from TouchJet offers a new twist on the handheld projector market; it has the ability to turn any flat surface into an interactive screen. This white hand-sized device can project an up to 854x480 pixel 80 inch image on any wall. It lights up a room with 150 lumens and comes with a special stylus. One end of the stylus has an infared switcher, and the projecter has an infared camera, which means it can track the movement of the pen in front of the TouchPico's screen, allowing you to interact with any on-screen objects. TouchPico is expected to list for under $379 and is expected to ship in October. Currently there is an ongoing Indiegogo campaign to help fund manufacturing. Click here to visit the Indiegogo page!

The Business Innovation Technique of Blending

Entrepreneurs are natural innovators, but even the most forward-thinking people sometimes need a little nudge to help open their minds to new possibilities for growth.

One of the best ways to think outside of the box is to start asking "what if" questions. Here's a "what if" question I've been kicking around lately: What if we took 2 disparate businesses and blended them to make something new? I'm not talking about merging or partnering with another company; I'm talking about blending business methodologies from 2 (or more) industries to create a new business, or dramatically improve an existing business.

A classic example of this is Commerce Bank. Founded by Vernon Hill in 1973, Commerce Bank blended 2 industries: fast-food restaurants and banking.

Vernon Hill, the owner of a fast-food restaurant franchise, came up with the idea to bring the convenience and perks of fast food to banking.

For example, fast-food restaurants are open every day, and they start early and close late; Hill implemented extended hours at Commerce Bank and kept the doors open 7 days a week. No other bank had done this before. Hill blended other systems from his fast-food franchise when he launched his blended business. He installed a "Penny Arcade" coin-counting machine in his lobby, which had the same effect as video games in family restaurants. Kids could count money and win a prize, and the adults loved it too.

One of my favorite examples of Hill's blending genius is when you use the drive-thru window at Commerce Bank and get a treat for your dog, just like the toy in a kid's meal. Is it any wonder people call it "McBank"? By blending 2 industries, Hill created the fastest-growing bank ever.

Commerce Bank grew from one location to more than 400, and the franchise sold for $8.5 billion in 2007. See what a little game of "what if" can spark?

What if you blended your business with hallmarks from another industry? Start thinking WAY outside of the box, looking at winning concepts from industries that may seem to have nothing to do with your business. (Of course, you do have something in common with businesses in ALL industries: customers.) You never know— you just might make billions.

The Lighter Side:
Halloween Rib-Ticklers

Why didn't the skeleton cross the road? He didn't have the guts!

What do ghosts serve for dessert? Ice scream!

Why do witches fly on brooms? Because vacuum cleaner cords aren't long enough!

When is it bad luck to meet a black cat? When you're a mouse!

What was the witch's favorite subject in school? Spelling!

What do you call a skeleton who won't work? Lazy Bones!

What do you call a fat Jack-O-Lantern? Plumpkin!

Where do baby ghosts go during the day? Daycare centers!

Who won the skeleton beauty contest? No body!

Inbox (1)

5 Tools To Better Manage Your Inbox

In 2013, over 100 billion business e-mails were sent every day. According to the Radicati Group, that number is expected to exceed 132 billion e-mails per day by 2017.

That means approximately 100 e-mails hit your inbox per day. No wonder it's so hard to keep your inbox relatively clean.

Here are some tools that can help:

Mailbox. Mailbox makes it easy to organize your inbox from your smartphone. You can quickly archive, delete or save messages for later. You can even add e-mails to your to-do list so you never forget about a message you don't have time to address when it first arrives.

The Email Game. The Email Game turns responding to and archiving e-mails into – you guessed it – a game. Skip an e-mail and you lose 25 points; respond to one and you gain 175 points. You can also challenge yourself to sort through your e-mail in a set time period.

Unroll.me. Sorting through all the e-mail you've subscribed to (or been subscribed to) can be tough. This service takes all your subscription-based e-mails and transforms them into a daily digest.

SaneBox. SaneBox moves unimportant e-mails out of sight so you can focus on your most important tasks. SaneBox uses an algorithm to filter through your e-mails and put nonessentials into a folder for you to look at later; that way you can focus on the important stuff.

ActiveInbox. If you use Gmail, ActiveInbox turns e-mail into a task management system. You can categorize tasks as "action," "waiting on" or "overdue." If you need something done on a certain day, you can schedule it on your calendar and receive a reminder.

Who Else Wants To Win A $25 Gas Card?

The Grand Prize Winner of last month's Trivia Challenge Quiz is John T! He was the first person to correctly answer last months quiz question: If you use wordpress for your company website, what is the chance percentage your site is vulnerable to be hacked?

A: 73%

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

Question: How much time should you give for your internet and telephone connections to be installed following a move?

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