**Volume III, Issue IV**
**April 2010**

# XPERTECHS®

## Inside This Issue…

# XperText

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

# Spring Clean Your Computer for Maximum Performance

With Spring in the air, now is a good time to do an annual clean up of the computers, servers and electronic equipment in your office, both inside and out.

Failure to thoroughly clean your computer at least once or twice a year will result in decreased performance and possibly even system failures. Here's why:

- Dust clogs the computer's cooling system causing it to heat up, damaging sensitive electronic equipment. Dust can also cause fan noise and (believe it or not) slow performance!
- Crumbs and dirt in your keyboard can cause keys to stick and crunchy sounds when typing. Plus, it's just gross and unhealthy; do you know there are more germs on your computer keyboard than the average public toilet?
- Dust, fingerprints and dirt build-up will make your computer monitor dim and fuzzy.

**But the physical "dirt" is only the beginning…**

- Delete temporary files and unused programs taking up space and slowing things down.
- Defrag your hard drive (Start > All Programs > Accessories > System Tools > Disk Defragmenter).
- Get rid of clutter on your desktop by removing shortcuts and files you don't need.
- Make sure you have the latest security patches and updates installed and configured properly.
- Check your backups and conduct an emergency "restore" of the data. Remember, the best time to check your backups is when you DON'T desperately need to recover your data!

** *Want XPERTECHS To Spring Clean Your Network??
See the ORANGE Insert Inside for More Details!!**

**Get More Free Tips, Tools, and Services at Our Website:
www.XPERTECHS.com**

## Client Spotlight:

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity is a membership organization based out of Baltimore, MD that promotes brotherhood & academic excellence while providing service and advocacy for our communities.

Alpha Phi Alpha (APA) joined our XperCARE Managed Services program in the fall of 2009. After a few months of getting their systems in place, they decided to install a new Backup & Disaster Recovery (BDR) system and are currently implementing a new File Server. They are also upgrading their Internet connectivity to high-speed broad-band. Once the server is fully deployed APA will begin replacing "old" PCs with state-of-the-art HP desktops and laptops.

The full roll-out of XperCARE and the new network infrastructure will provide APA with increased productivity and improved end-user experience. **WAY TO GO!!!**

## Proper Disposal of All Things Electronic

As much as you'd like to, it's really not safe to just throw away old computers, network equipment, or any electronics like TV's, cell phones, and DVD players. If disposed of improperly, these items contain toxic chemicals, like arsenic and mercury that can harm the environment. How do you dispose of these things properly? Check out these tips:

1) **Reuse.** This is the most environmentally friendly of the disposal methods. Find another use for your old equipment. For example, you might be able to use an old PC as a firewall, run a basic program like an older voicemail system, or make it a toy for your kids or grandkids to beat up.

2) **E-cycle.** Some major retailers, like Best Buy and Dell, offer recycling programs for computers and home electronics. If it's your cell phone you are looking to get rid of, you can find a local program by going to www.earth911.org or www.mygreenelectronics.org

3) **Local Landfills.** Most landfills have designated computer recycling areas.

# From Michael's Desk…

Spring has finally arrived, and we are busy here at XPERTECHS!  We are especially excited this month about a new addition to the XPERTECHS team!  My son, Michael Mellott Jr. joins our team from Deloitte Consulting, where he was a Senior Consultant working with Fortune 100 and 500 clients across the manufacturing, financial services, and technology industry sectors.
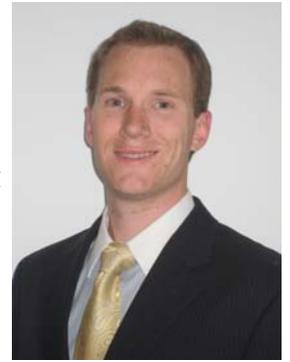
**Michael Mellott, Jr.**
**Project Manager**

Mike has assumed the role of Project Manager and will be responsible for the expert care and support of each of our XperCARE accounts.  A graduate of Villanova University School of Business, he has a B.S. in Finance and Management Information Systems. Mike is also an alum of Mount St. Joseph High School in Baltimore.

Throughout his 6+ years at Deloitte Consulting, Mike specialized in the planning, design, and implementation of IT enabled business solutions.  His project and client expertise, together with our current XPERTECHS team will exceed your expectations for quality and service.

Mike has watched XPERTECHS develop and grow for many years. His desire to join a business that he admires only adds to his enthusiasm to contribute to the busy Spring and Summer seasons that we have ahead.

## Stay Connected with XPERTECHS!

facebook  Linked in

twitter  Blogger

**Get More Free Tips, Tools, and Services at Our Website:**
**www.XPERTECHS.com**

# Could Buying A Computer Actually *Increase* Your Cash Flow?

Buying a new computer isn't cheap. Sure, the computer itself is pretty inexpensive, but then you have to purchase software and peripherals. Before you know it, you've tied up at least $1,200 of your cash on the thing. Then there's the labor to install it. If you're not under an all-inclusive type of IT service plan, the labor could run you a few hundred dollars more. Of course, the situation worsens when you have more than one system to replace.

### What's A Business Owner To Do?

Until recently, if you needed a new computer right away, but didn't want to tie up your cash, your only option was to lease it. Not anymore. The recent credit crunch took the option of leasing new equipment off the table for many businesses. This means that you either have to part with the cash, or forgo the new technology you need.

"Hardware as a service," otherwise known as "HaaS" is a new way business owners can gain financial benefits and peace of mind when purchasing computers, servers, and network equipment.

Like businesses who lease their computer equipment, HaaS customers also pay monthly for their infrastructure. This allows them to keep more cash in their pocket and gives them the tax advantage of converting a typical capital expense into an operational expense. But unlike leasing, HaaS can also alleviate computer headaches in these 3 ways:

**1) No More Expensive Surprise Upgrades.** If your computers or server don't meet the minimum hardware requirements when your line of business software releases an upgrade, you could be forced to lay out thousands of dollars that weren't in your budget. With HaaS, your computers are automatically replaced with new ones every 3-4 years, ensuring compatibility with almost any software refresh.

**2) Dealing With Warranties Are A Thing of The Past.** With a HaaS program, you get your equipment AND the service included in the monthly cost. Anything that goes wrong with the computer (like the inevitable computer crash just days after your warranty expires), is the provider's problem to resolve. Plus, since HaaS computers are replaced regularly by your provider, you don't have to settle for refurbished parts or old computers for very long.

**3) One Easy To Understand Invoice.** Simpler *is* better. Instead of receiving different invoices for hardware and labor, a HaaS plan means you get one invoice for virtually all your IT needs, giving you a truer budget number for IT related expenses.Think of it like this: Purchasing your computers with a HaaS program is like having a condo. You get control of what goes in it, yet you don't have to worry about maintenance, building code issues, or updating the façade. Plus all your services and amenities are included in just one monthly fee.

## Want new computers without the big upfront outlay of cash?

Call us today to learn more about HaaS and find out if it's right for you.

**410-884-0225 or e-mail us at marketing@xpertechs.com**

**Get More Free Tips, Tools, and Services at Our Website:
www.XPERTECHS.com**