# September Blockbusters

## Planes, Trains and Automobiles

In the 1987 comedy, *Planes, Trains and Automobiles*, a 1 hour and 45 minute New York-to-Chicago flight turns into a 3-day adventure.   Although this comedy of errors is chock-full of heated arguments between Steve Martin's high-strung executive character and John Candy's clumsy and eternally optimistic character, a bond between this unlikely pair eventually forms.

This movie reminds us of the various transportation modes available to us today and the impact that technology is making on them. Today, more than ever, travelers are able to stay connected whenever and wherever they are.  The era of *Smart Mobility* is here! Connectivity is key; and the Internet has become more and more accessible regardless of the mode of transportation.  Are you traveling this Labor Day?  Here are some suggestions on how to stay connected while you're away from your home or office:

**If you're traveling by plane…**
*Wi-Fi in the sky!* The demand by travelers wanting in-flight Wi-Fi service has reached new heights. Back in 2008, American, Delta, and Virgin America were the first to begin adding Wi-Fi to their aircrafts.  While most airlines are working towards the goal of equipping all their aircrafts with Wi-Fi, only AirTran and Virgin America can make this claim today. If you're flying overseas, Wi-Fi becomes even harder to get due to the need for satellite-enabled technology.  Only 279 flights from the U.S. have full-flight connectivity; however, more airlines are adding the service to their international fleets. Delta has the most total flights with Wi-Fi, representing about 65% of all its flights. Southwest and US Airways come in second and third, respectively. Some airlines, such as Southwest are also providing movies and live TV on some of their flights.  Additionally, many airport gate areas are being redesigned as well

to include power stations where travelers can recharge their devices prior to their flights so they can sit back, relax and stay connected to the world below.

**If you're traveling by train…**
*Wi-Fi on the track!* After years of criticism of the wireless service on its trains, Amtrak has upgraded its cellular-based Wi-Fi using broadband technologies to improve the speed and reliability of the Internet on its passenger cars.  Amtrak continues to provide free Wi-Fi service, routinely supporting 30-50% of passengers on a given train.  However, they will continue to limit some Internet activities and restrict data-heavy activities that could slow the service down (e.g., streaming video and music sites) and will continue to restrict file downloads larger than 10 MB.  While passengers will continue to have a better Internet experience aboard its trains, high-speed service is not available everywhere, and because the railroad uses different carriers along its routes (e.g., Verizon and AT&T), service could still be interrupted or slowed as the Wi-Fi signals switch between carriers.

Does traveling from NYC to LA in less than an hour peak your interest?  How would you like something that is self powering, immune to weather and can never crash?  Elon Musk, co-founder of PayPal, has an incredible vision—Hyperloop.  Musk describes it as a "cross between a Concorde, a rail gun, and an air hockey table."  Theoretically, Hyperloop tube travel would use magnets to take passengers aboard an underground train from one destination to another at incredible speeds. The enclosed tube would allow the capsule to travel without air resistance and very little friction. Time will tell whether technology advancements will allow us to see this in our lifetime.

## In This Issue

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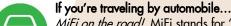
## SPECIAL OFFER

### Get Off Your Trike and Take Flight

…with Windows 7 or 8!  Don't be peddling in circles with XP.  Now's the time to review your desktop fleet and plan for a successful migration. Since every business is different, we are offering a free, no-obligation assessment of your unique environment.  Plus, if you let IT Radix help you migrate to Windows 7 or 8, you'll receive one hour of free labor on your upgrade for each XP workstation upgraded.

Call IT Radix for your free assessment and make plans today to *Get the XP Out*!

# Planes, Trains and Automobiles (cont.)

**If you're traveling by automobile…**
*MiFi on the road!* MiFi stands for "My Wi-Fi"…a wireless router that acts as a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot. A MiFi device can be connected to a mobile phone and provide Internet access for up to 10 devices, working at a distance up to 30 feet. MiFi provides Internet access for any WiFi-enabled peripheral device. Most new laptops and notebooks equipped with built-in wireless broadband devices work in the same way.

Doc's souped-up DeLorean in *Back to the Future* has met its match! This era of connectivity is leading the automotive industry in its most significant innovative phase since the creation of the automobile itself! "Connected cars" are being designed today that access, consume, create, and share digital information between businesses, people and things like other cars themselves. As cars become increasingly connected, the probability of self-driving cars is within our grasp. Does this seem far fetched to you? Well, it's not really when you consider today's leading technologies in sensors, displays, in-vehicle operating systems, wireless data communication, artificial intelligence (machine learning) and speech recognition. The benefits would include reduced accident rates, improved traffic flow, lowered emissions and a cool, new driving experience!

No matter your preferred mode of transportation, IT Radix is here to help pave the way for our clients to stay connected as we enter this new era of *Smart Mobility*!

## Our Clients Say:

*"Having remote access to our email and data is really important to our team since we are often on the road."*

Maria Filipe, The Westfield Group

"Can our software do that?"

# BYOD and COPE: Bring it On!

As mobile devices continue to evolve becoming more critical to business success, many business owners are forced to answer this question: Do you allow employees to "Bring Your Own Device" to work or do you provide "Corporate Owned, Personally Enabled" devices?

There are 3 major risks for you to consider:

- An employee's device that connects to your network could be a conduit for viruses, hackers, and thieves.

- If a device is lost or stolen, important corporate data could be compromised and you may have a legal duty to disclose the situation to your clients or vendors.

- If an employee leaves the company for any reason, they may be able to take company data and assets such as software with them.

Check out our BLOG post to learn some valuable tips shared at our recent Lunch'n'Learn from Colin Page, Esq., designed to protect business owners:
http://www.it-radix.com/byod-or-cope

# Cathy's Corner…

As summer draws to a close, I wish I was out and about cruising in a red convertible but, alas, it's business as usual. What's on our minds at IT Radix?

September is National Preparedness Month! The era of *Smart Mobility* has made it even easier to be prepared from an I.T. standpoint. With the increase in Internet connectivity options and the rise of cloud solutions, your business can continue moving forward even in an emergency.

Almost one year after Hurricane Sandy, only a small handful of our clients have pro-actively made changes to be prepared. It's not too late, and we're happy to help. Give us a call today so that we can put you on the road to readiness!

*Cathy*