# **Technology Times**



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

October 2013



"As a business owner, I know 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!"

**David Downs,** Owner Pro Computer Solutions

## Inside This Issue...

Scariest Network Threats	_Page 1
Halloween Fun Facts	_Page 2
Moving From Apple To Android	_Page 3
Shiny New Gadget	_Page 3
Tough Mudder	_Page 4
Win An iPAD MINI!	_Page 4
\$25 Gift Card Quiz	_Page 4
<b>A</b>	



# THE 3 SCARIEST THREATS TO SMALL BUSINESS NETWORKS

While spam, pop-ups, and hackers are a real threat to any small business network, there are 3 security measures that you should be focusing on FIRST before you do anything else...

## Worry About E-mail Attachments, Not Spam

Sure, spam is annoying and wastes your time, but the REAL danger with spam is in the attachments. Viruses and worms are malicious programs that are spread primarily through cleverly disguised attachments to messages that trick you (or your employees) into opening them.



Another huge threat is phishing e-mails that trick the user by appearing to be legitimate e-mails from your bank, eBay, or other password-protected entity.

Here are 2 things you must have in place to avoid this nightmare:

#1 Keep your anti-virus up to date and enabled. Okay, this sounds like a nobrainer, but it's not uncommon for an employee to disable their anti-virus software unbeknownst to you. Which brings us to #2...

#2 Train employees on what they are (and aren't) permitted to do with the company's computer, e-mail, Internet access, etc. One thing that should be on the list is that they should NEVER open suspicious attachments or respond to phishing e-mails. We highly recommend creating an AUP (acceptable use policy) to teach your staff what NOT to do.

Put monitoring software in place to not only maintain the health of employees' desktops, but also to automatically "police" employees from accidentally (or intentionally) visiting a phishing web site, downloading a virus, or visiting questionable web sites and content online.

## Fear Downloads Before Pop-Ups

Did you know that most computers and networks get infected with viruses because the user actually invited the threat in by downloading a file (screen saver, music file, PDF document, pictures, etc.)? Again, this comes down to training the

Continued on Next Page...

Get More Free Tips, Tools, and Services: www.procomputersolutions.com.

## Spooky Silliness



Knock knock. Who's there? Phillip. Phillip who? Phillip my bag with candy, please!

Why didn't the skeleton go trick or treating? *Because he had no guts!* 

What's a mummy's favorite kind of music? *Wrap*.

How do monsters tell their future?

They read their horrorscope.

What is a vampire's favorite sport? *Casketball*.

Why do mummies have trouble keeping friends? They're too wrapped up in themselves.

What kind of streets do zombies like the best? *Dead ends*.

What is a skeleton's favorite musical instrument?

A trombone...

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

staff on what they can and cannot do with your computer network; but the best way to avoid this from happening is to remove the temptation by installing monitoring software that will prevent employees from downloading unsavory items to YOUR network. We also recommend installing and maintaining a good firewall, which will block Internet traffic to and from dangerous sites.

## **Lose Sleep Over Backups Before Hackers**

You are more likely to lose data from hardware failure, accidental deletion (human error), flood, fire, natural disaster or software corruption than a hacker. Sure, you should do everything to keep hackers out of your network, but not backing up your data to a remote location is crazy. At a minimum, you should have an onsite AND offsite copy of your data, and you should be testing your data backups regularly to make sure your data CAN be restored in the event of an emergency.

# No More Excuses! Our Free Network Health Check Will "Exorcise" The Demons Hiding In Your Computer Network

Since Halloween is just around the corner, we've decided to "treat" all of our friends to a FREE Network Health Check (\$297 Value) between now and October 31.

## For FREE, We Will Come To Your Office And...

- Check your firewall, anti-virus, and security settings, as well as scan for spyware and hidden viruses.
- Check your backup to see if it's working properly and accurately.
- Verify that you have the most up -to-date security patches installed properly; miss one critical update and you're a "sitting duck."
- Diagnose slow, unstable PCs.
- Perform a quick network "tuneup" to make programs and files load faster.



To get your FREE, no-strings-attached Network Health Check, call my office at 816-229-2290. After we receive your request, we'll schedule a convenient time for one of our technicians to come onsite and conduct a complete health check of your network. When we're done, we'll give you a comprehensive, easy-to-read report that will show any problems, threats, or vulnerable areas that need to be addressed.

Call: 816-229-2290

Or Visit: www.procomputersolutions.com/halloween

## Shiny New Gadget Of The Month



## The Flip-Pal

The Flip Pal Mobile scanner has no wires and scans directly to a SD Card (just like a camera).

Have you ever come across a picture that you wanted to scan but were afraid to take it out of the album because it was stuck? With the Flip Pal, you can leave it in the album and place the scanner right over the picture and get the scan without having to disturb anything.

The scanner has a built in screen so that you can see the scan before you are done.

The Flip Pal is battery powered, compact and lightweight. It produces high quality digital scans in 300 or 600 dpi and can scan in color. The scanner only weighs 1.5 pounds which makes it easy to carry around.

The software that comes with the Flip Pal allows you to take a number of scans and digitally stitch them together into one large picture.

The Flip-Pal retails for \$149.99.

If you would like more information, you can go to www.flip-pal.com.

## 5 Steps To Moving From Your iPhone To An Android Phone

Were you unimpressed by Apple's reveal of the iPhones 5S and 5C last month? Are you considering a switch to Android? Android phones have come a long way in the last few years, and the Apple iPhone may have lost a bit of the pizazz that it had just a few years back as the new phone on the block.

If you're thinking of making the jump from iPhone to Android, here are 5 critical areas of your phone you need to consider before you move:

1. E-mail, Contacts and Calendars. If you're using Microsoft Exchange for e-mail, then this step should be a breeze. All of your e-mail, calendars and contacts should be housed on your Exchange server and will populate automatically once you set up your account. If you're using Google Apps for these services, it will be even more seamless!



- 2. **Apps.** Your iOS apps are going to be stuck on your iPhone and not transferable. You'll certainly find the Android version of these same apps on the other side, but be sure to check this out ahead of time so that you're not stuck searching for a workaround for a critical work function upon arrival.
- 3. Music. The easiest way to move your music from iTunes onto your Android phone is by creating a Google Music account on the same computer where iTunes is installed. You can then use Music Manager's iTunes option during setup. You can even continue to use iTunes and sync any new purchases with your Google Music account automatically.
- 4. **Photos and Videos.** Your best option to move photos and videos is to simply download them from your iPhone to your computer and then re-upload whatever you want/need to your new phone. Another option is to use a cloud sharing service such as Dropbox to move these files wirelessly across devices.
- 5. **Text Messages.** If you must move text messages, use the free iSMS2droid app. Or use the Samsung Kies software to restore an iPhone backup (if you have a Samsung Android phone).

Finally, if you're really thinking about moving from your old iPhone to an Android phone, make sure to pick a higher-end Android phone, such as the Samsung Galaxy. To be happy with your decision, you're going to need to feel like you've actually upgraded.

## iPad Mini Referral Contest

Refer a friend to Pro Computer Solutions by November 30th for a chance to win a new iPad Mini! We will pay you \$25 for anyone that you refer to us with whom we get an appointment. For each referral that turns into an appointment, we will enter your name into the drawing for an iPad Mini. If your referral becomes a client, we will pay you an additional \$50 AND we will give your referral \$100 off their purchase.

### 1. PICK ONE

- $\Rightarrow$  816-229-2290
- ⇒ referral@pcsiweb.com
- ⇒ www.pcsiweb.com/referral

### 2. REFER A FRIEND



### 3. GET MONEY



### 4. GET A CHANCE TO WIN





## **Tough Mudder**

#### Hello Readers,

We survived the 2013 Kansas Tough Mudder. James, our wives, some other friends, and I braved the muck and the monumental flatness of Topeka to complete our 11-mile trek last month. The Tough Mudder is a 10-12 mile obstacle course that has something to challenge just about anybody. We braved swimming in ice water, running through fire, leaping from great heights, getting shocked while crawling through water in complete darkness, tons of mud, and running almost 11 miles. We also experienced the triumph of working together as a team to overcome an epic challenge. I recommend eve-



rybody try this at least once. Next local Tough Mudder is the first weekend in May next year. Let me know if you want to be on our Crossfit Blue Springs team.







## Who Else Wants To Win A \$25 Gift Card?

The Grand Prize Winner of last month's Trivia Challenge Quiz is **Damien Bowersock!** He was the first person to correctly answer my quiz question from last month: Which of these American historical events took place during the month of September?

The correct answer was d) All of the above. Now, here's this month's trivia question. The winner will receive a gift card to 54th Street Bar & Grill.

#### What is the most expensive object ever constructed?

a) The Empire State Building b) The International Space Station c) The Panama Canal d) Mount Rushmore

## Call us right now with your answer! 816-229-2290



"Like" our **Pro Computer Solutions** page on Facebook for tech news and company announcements throughout the month!