

Welcome



Year of the Monkey 2004, according to the Chinese Zodiac. Monkeys are always cheerful and energetic, but also clever, creative, and generous.

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year! It is that time again; to get things in order for another productive year and move forward.

To help with this, we have extended our fall promotion for an additional month: to the end of January 2004! If you have not received a placard like the one pictured above, please send an email to info@busix.com and we'll have one delivered immediately.

Office Humor



Effective immediately the following rules will be adhered to!

1. If you can't get your work done in the first 24hrs, work nights.
2. Don't be irreplaceable, if you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.
3. It doesn't matter what you do, it only matters what you say you've done and what you're going to do.
4. If at first you don't succeed, try again. Then quit. No use being a fool about it!
5. No matter how much you do, you never do enough.
6. If it wasn't for the last minute, nothing would get done.

Read the rest of this joke and more at www.tech-sol.net/humor/

Brands



What's in a name? We've all pondered this question for years; but how does it relate to computer parts, and why are some products more expensive than other similar ones?

Take hard drives for example, a modest 40GB drive can range from \$70 to \$120 depending on the manufacturer. So which one do you buy?

A manufacturer's reputation is what you must rely on. Only a few short years ago there was one particular hard drive that was far cheaper than any competitor so many businesses to buy them and save a fortune by the sheer volume of their purchases. This seemed like a good idea at the time, but now, only a few years later, these drives are dropping like flies, and so are the company budgets just to replace them.

What about warranty? While some of the drives were still under warranty; data is never covered. Where proper backup strategies were not in place, data was lost, and so were jobs.

Seagate and Maxtor drives constantly dominate Top 10 lists in magazines and tech sites.

Trivia



Answer this and get 15% off any package for a year!

What is the file extension GIF and acronym for?

Clean Install?



Should I upgrade to the newest version of Windows™ or do a clean install?

Quite often, people opt to do an *upgrade* by installing the new version of Windows™ on top of their old setup in the hopes that all their personal files and settings will be retained. While the *chances* of this happening are greater in this case; many problems arise in doing so. Many users become victim to “misidentified hardware, unexplained reboots and crashes, and [lack of] hardware and software vendors [support]”. The easiest solution is rarely the best.

The recommended method of *upgrading* to a new version is a *clean install*. This means backing up all user data and personal settings (careful: they’re hidden throughout the hard drive), wiping the hard drive clean, and installing the full version of Windows™ to the empty drive. Once all the devices have been detected and their drivers installed; programs can be reinstalled using their original media, data can be restored from backup, and personal settings brought back either from backup or by recreating them manually.

The *clean install* method might seem arduous, but it is well worth it in the long run. Your system will have more disk space, a clean registry, and no misbehaving devices.

At Busix, we do this routinely for Business and Personal computers alike, so you don’t miss a thing and won’t realize you forgot a file two weeks later when a report is due!

File Swapping



So how is that RIAA copyright battle going anyway?

In the recent months, the Recording Industry Association of America was given the power to subpoena communications companies for personal information about persons running file swapping software, even before a law suit is issued. This has lead to many interesting stories including the elderly lady sued for her son’s activity on a store-bought version of Kazaa.

This power has since been revoke in a series court movements which pointed out that some of the earlier decisions were illegal to begin with and must be stopped. Read more at news.com.com/2100-1027-5129687.html

Top 10



Top 10 Digital Cameras

Looking to buy a camera but don’t know what’s out there? PC World selected these ones from the field.

1. Nikon Coolpix 3100
2. Canon PowerShot A70
3. Canon PowerShot SD100 Digital Elph
4. Kodak EasyShare DX6440
5. Pentax Optio 555
6. Sony Cyber-shot DSC-P10
7. Kyocera Finecam L3v

Get full reviews, specs, and prices at www.pcworld.com/reviews/

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