



README.TXT

A Newsletter from
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Gas Prices Affecting Your Business?

If the high price of gas is affecting your business, we'd like to brain-storm about ways to help you cut costs.

With modern technology, there are many **remote worker** options. Terminal services and other technologies allow your employees and clients to work from where they are, rather than driving to your office.

And Microsoft has certain license programs that allow you to provide employees with legal copies of the Microsoft Office software they use at work for no additional charge.

Finally, you might also consider the various Virtual Assistant services that can help you get a lot of work done by outsourcing it. With modern technology, you can get help from around the world!


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Notes From The Field

By Karl W. Palachuk, CEO



 **Hope You Had a Good 4th of July.** As we come back to work, we're looking forward to a new fiscal quarter. Ever so slowly, it looks like the economy will be picking up for the remainder of the year.

 **If you missed a quarterly "Roadmap"** meeting, please email manuel@kpenenterprises.com to get one scheduled. Whether you're expanding, contracting, or just rolling with the flow, we want to make sure the technology portion of your long term plan is consistent with the rest of your business.

 **Backup Strategies** continue to evolve. If you haven't read my blog series on backups, see <http://kpenews.blogspot.com>. Comments welcome, of course.

 **And if we can help . . .** Give us a call. 916-928-0888

When Does Your Domain Name Expire And Is That Hurting Your Search Results?

The exact formulas for search engine rankings are a bit of a mystery, especially since the criteria change all the time. But consider this factor: If your domain name is only registered for another 1-2 years, the search engines might lower your ranking.

Unfortunately, a lot of people register a domain name for only one year, use the domain to run a quick marketing program, and then let it die.

The search engines have easy access to basic information about your domain, such as when it expires. They can tell the difference between your legitimate business and Cousin Larry's Fly By Night Internet Scam.

Registering your business for a number of years also saves you money in the long run. All registrars give discounts for multiple year renewals. Your domain should extend at least five years.

Call us if you need assistance.



Networking Infrastructure Solutions

How to Get The Most Out of Your Managed I.T. Support



Join our free online webinar Thursday, July 17th at 12 Noon.

Ideally, your computer systems will work better every day and your computer systems will contribute to your profitability. But people are people, businesses change, and computers are computers. So sometimes you need tech support.

Join us and learn the most effective ways to get the support you need. After all, your computer consultant is your outsourced I.T. Department. Use us like one!

For More Information, and to register, visit www.SacBizTech.com.

Check for Fixes to Your Vista Problems

Every once in a while, Vista has a problem.

But, unlike earlier versions of Windows, Vista is practically self-maintaining. When it has to close a problem, it normally asks whether you want to restart the program.

Whenever this happens, Vista keeps track of the problem. So, while you're working, it goes off to look for the answers. If the problem happens again, Vista may pop up a window that says "We have a fix for your problem. Would you like to check it out?"+

You can also go look at problem statuses yourself and manually ask Windows to go look for solutions. It's easy, of course. Here's how.

Open **Control Panel**. There you'll see a link called **System and Maintenance**. Click on the System and Maintenance link.

Within System and Maintenance you'll find a link called **Problem Reports and Solutions**. Click on that. There you'll be able to view a list of problems reported, possible fixes, and even new information about old fixes already installed. Poke around. You can't break anything.

Cell Phones New Law Effective July 1st

Are you hands free yet? You better be.

Effective July 1st, you must not operate a car while holding a phone to your ear.

But don't worry too much. You can still do all of the following:

- Dial the phone
- Send a text message
- Enter your GPS data
- Read your GPS data
- Apply make-up
- Read a book
- Eat Chinese food with chopsticks
- Curl your eyelashes
- Change CDs
- Operate a laptop on the seat next to you.



System and Maintenance

Get started with Windows

Back up your computer



Problem Reports and Solutions

Check for new solutions | Choose how to check for solutions



Google / Yahoo / Microsoft Triangle



Some lessons in losing money because business becomes personal.



Have you lost track of where we are?

Microsoft (Steve Balmer) hates Google. Maybe part of it is related to a belief that Google wants in on Microsoft's territory. But, essentially, it's personal.

So Steve goes to buy Yahoo in order to buy up a search engine and (along with MSN Search), own a majority of the search market. But Jerry Yang of Yahoo hates Microsoft. No rational business here, just emotions.

Microsoft offered way too much money for Yahoo. About 30% more than they were worth. After all, Yahoo is a second rate search engine with a diminishing future. Microsoft already owns a second rate search engine!

As a Microsoft stock holder, I'm glad that deal fell apart.

Next, Yahoo and Google strike a deal to fend off Microsoft. And when it's clear that the offer is no longer any good, and the dust settles, the stock holders at Yahoo are justifiably upset. After all, their stock is now in the toilet!

It's one thing to see petty personal differences affect tiny companies. But, somehow, it would be nice to think that the larger companies won't fall into such traps. Apparently not.



Email/Text Message Privacy at Work

The details are not yet clear, but the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has made a ruling that may affect your ability to monitor employee emails and text messages.

The Court ruled that employers who contract an outside business to transmit text or email messages can't read them unless the worker agrees.

Up to this point, the legal world has worked under the assumption that the employer who owns the equipment has an absolute right to the contents of that equipment.

In this ruling, employees have a "reasonable expectation of privacy" with regard to text messages or email that go through an outside provider. There are two pieces of this that may affect you.

Email: If your email is in-house (which is true for most of you), then you probably continue to have the right to monitor and read employee emails. It is important that you consult an attorney and include a notice in your employee handbook regarding your policy about email privacy.

Text Messages: Everyone who uses text messages goes through a cell phone provider. Therefore, even if you own the cell phones and pay for the service, you cannot read the text messages without the employee's permission.

As is common with the 9th Circuit, the judges had few precedents for their ruling. The case will certainly be appealed. And the 9th Circuit is the most-overturned court in America, this might all be reversed.

In the meantime, your business needs to take appropriate precautions. If you do not have appropriate policies in place, this is the time to start writing them. If you need assistance, would like to make changes, or need a referral to a good attorney, give us a call.



Be More Productive Today

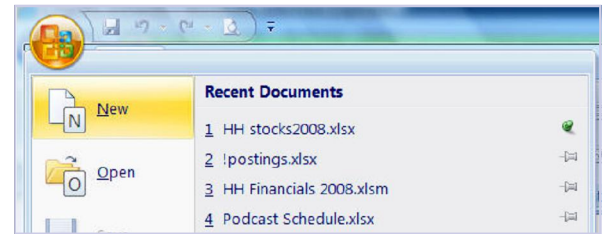
Save Those Favorite Office Documents



You've probably noticed the list of files when you select the File Open menu in a Microsoft Office product. See the example on the right.

Normally, this list includes the most recently opened files.

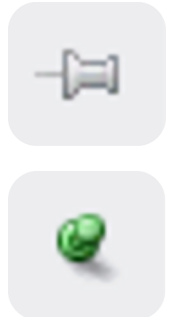
Now take a close look at the graphic on the right. Beside each file name is a graphic of a Push Pin in gray. If you click on the push pin, it changes to a graphic of a green pin that is pressed in.



When you see the green pin, it means that that document will not be removed from this list. This is very handy when you use certain documents again and again, such as templates or financial reports.

In this way, your favorite documents are always easily available to you.

You can adjust the number of files displayed on this list. When you see this menu, click the Options button at the bottom of the menu (Excel Option, Word Options, etc.). Under the Advanced settings, find the setting label **Show This Number Of Recent Documents**.



If we can help with anything, give us a call. 916-928-0888.

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