# The Tech Inquirer

What's New

With Spring Break on the horizon—that brings us to the topic of Security. Here are a few tips and tricks to help you stay safe while working remotely:

1.) Using Office365? Than accessing your files will be a walk on the beach- literally. Access all of your files in the cloud, from any device!

2.) Secure Luggage: Are you checking your laptop or carrying on? Even if you're carrying your bag, it's still a good idea to add a lock on your laptop bag.

3.) Practice Good Policy: Check your company policies prior to travelling.

Safe Travels!

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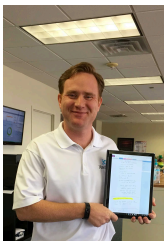
Wayne and his Surface Pro 4

I have found the Surface Pro 4 paired with OneNote to be a huge time saver. I am able to take notes on the fly, track tasks quickly during phone calls, and manage notes for accounts throughout the week. If you are interested in talking about the Surface Pro as a productivity solution for you, let's chat, 847-995-9800!

Relying On A Good Luck Charm?

Carrying a four-leaf clover might work for leprechauns. But when it comes to Internet abuse by employees, you're gonna need more than sheer luck…

Did you know that…
- 70% of all web traffic to Internet pornography sites occurs during the work hours of 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Non-work-related Internet surfing results in up to a 40% loss in productivity each year at American businesses.
- According to a survey by International Data Corp (IDC), 30% to 40% of Internet access is spent on non-work-related browsing, and a staggering 60% of all online purchases are made during working hours.

The list goes on, and the costs to your company can be staggering. What types of web sites present the greatest risk? Categories include abortion, alcohol, dating, death/gore, drugs, gambling, lingerie/swimsuits, mature, nudity, pornography, profanity, proxy, suicide, tobacco and weapons.

Risks these types of web sites expose your business to include malware, viruses, fraud, violence, lawsuits, loss of confidential and/or proprietary data and more. Even social sites, while perhaps not quite as risky, can have a major impact on productivity.

Barriers that once stood at the edges of your office network have been annihilated by digital media. Web content filtering is now crucial to network security – not to mention employee productivity – in this emerging environment. It can be deployed in a number of ways, but basically they boil down to two: inline and endpoint filtering.

Inline Web Filtering
One way to filter web content is to control it at the entry point or

gateway to your network. This technique intercepts all web traffic and applies filters that allow or block web access requests. Because the entire network is filtered, no access to the user's device is required.

With inline web filtering, there's no need to expend resources managing content at each endpoint – your employees and their computers, whether desktop or mobile.

Inline filtering not only saves bandwidth, it goes a long way toward mitigating cyberthreats. For securing activities that take place within your network, it's a critical and potent strategy.

Yet, with the shift away from traditional office-bound work routines to a work-from-anywhere culture, the effectiveness of inline filtering has diminished. When employees access the web outside your network's gateways – via home networks, hotels, coffee shops, etc. – their devices become vulnerable to attack.

And any employee can carry an infected machine into and out of your company's building and network on any given day, exposing your entire intranet to infections. And that's why so many companies are moving to endpoint-based web filtering to complement their inline filtering.

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Endpoint-Based Web Filtering

Endpoint-based filtering protects employee devices from infections, no matter where they connect to the web. Software at the endpoint – your employee's device – carries a predefined filtering policy from the central server that can be intranet-based or cloud-based.

The endpoint filter is then updated periodically from your company network. This method assures that web filtering is always active, no matter which gateway the machine connects through. The downside is that it must be rolled out and maintained at all endpoints.

That being said, one advantage of endpoint-based filtering is that it addresses stringent employee privacy regulations that are quickly becoming the norm in Europe and elsewhere around the world. Because it keeps browsing-pattern information within the user's device, endpoint-based filtering provides a fairly non-intrusive way to handle employee privacy concerns.

And finally, while endpoint-based filtering really is the only way to protect a network without boundaries, as most companies now have, ideally it works hand in glove with inline filtering.

Forget The Charms – You Can Bet On This

We highly recommend rolling out not only inline and endpoint filtering, but also an effective training program for your staff to encourage best practices and assure compliance with your company's web security policies and procedures.

Want to make sure all gaps are sealed and you won't have to count on a four-leaf clover, a rabbit's foot or knocking on wood to keep your network secure? Contact us today at 847-995-9800 or Wayne.Chapin@Xerillion.com for a customized Web Content Filtering Review and Analytical Report on your system.

Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:

New App Tames Expense Tracking

Business Travel and Entertainment is one of those expenses that can bleed cash from company coffers – IF you or your CFO don't keep an eagle eye on it.

And no wonder: it often entails hand-entered data, widely disparate vendors, no real time reporting and, until now, an out-of-office transaction with no mobile reporting back to a central corporate database.

Enter Concur. This automated, mobile expense management system lets business travelers focus on their jobs while giving finance leaders complete and real-time visibility into spend. It automatically captures and categorizes company credit-card transactions, making it simple for traveling employees to review, reconcile and submit statements for approval.

At the same time the immediate insight it provides helps you and your finance team stop bad spending decisions before they happen, manage budgets more effectively and drive better business performance. Learn more at Concur.com.

How To Use Cloud Computing To Cut IT Costs, Eliminate Expensive Server Upgrades & The Need For Disaster Recovery.

Xerillion | **Microsoft Partner** Silver Small and Midmarket Cloud Solutions Silver Midmarket Solution Provider

You're Invited to a FREE Executive webinar.

When:Thursday, March 17th 12:00-1:00PM CST
Who:If you are the CEO or Executive of a company that would like to find out if all or parts of your network can be hosted in the cloud to save you some money, and simplify IT, then this is a "must attend" event.

Register: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5172331768430914052

During This Seminar We'll Cover:

•Cloud computing 101: What it is, how it works and the pros and cons of integrating cloud into your organization. We'll answer the most commonly asked questions in simple terms (not "geek-speak") about cloud, including cost saving strategies, security policies and the protections you must have in place. If you're planning on upgrading or refreshing your computer network within the next 6 months, you'll find this to be invaluable information to have.

•How You Can Cut Your IT Costs in ½! We'll discuss how using cloud technologies may elimate the cost, complexity, and problems of managing your own in-house server. In turn, giving you more freedom, lowered costs, tighter security and instant disaster recovery.

•iPads, laptops, tablets, Oh my! What are the BEST mobile devices for working remote? We'll discuss pros and cons of the various devices and operating systems, what the limitations are of each and discuss how to properly plan your next network upgrade to take advantage of the latest mobile and cloud technologies without exposing yourself to more costs and risks.

And even if you decide not to move your network to the cloud, you'll find the information we share with you to be extremely valuable and eye-opening, when you make future decisions about IT. After all, it NEVER hurts to get a third-party "checkup" of your IT system's security, backups and stability, as well as a cost analysis.

Please sign up today, space is very limited.

Is Google siphoning off worker productivity?

Your employees may be doing work-related searches online. Or they may be checking out a hot new vacation package, or the next episode of their favorite TV show. It's tempting to think of personal browsing on company time as stealing from the company. Yet cracking down can backfire on you. Instead, focus on personal work outcomes. If employees get all their work done on schedule in spite of wasting half the day, it may be time to add more duties to their job descriptions. On the other hand, if productivity is in the pits, a focus on discipline rather than policing minute-by-minute activities will likely yield a greater payoff.   *-Inc.com*

You, an "In-box Zero" hero!

E-mail management tool Sane-Box makes it easy to keep your e-mail under control. It looks at your e-mail history when you first set it up and then drops only important e-mails into your SaneBox. E-mails from addresses you don't normally mail to go into the "SaneLater" folder. You can drag e-mails you never want to see again into the "SaneBlackHole." SaneBox is supersmart and doesn't need training, but if you see an e-mail in SaneLater that you wanted to see now, just drag it into your in-box, and SaneBox will remember. It works with web mail as well as accounts hosted on IMAP and Exchange servers. You can try it free for 14 days at SaneBox.com.
-Entrepreneur-ideas.org

Wake up your web site with these 3 simple steps.

Does your company web site reflect its current success and position it for future growth? To be sure it does, do this: 1) Focus your main message on customer needs. The only thing visitors care about is what your company can do for them. Make that clear upfront and they'll stay and engage. 2) Delete the self-praise and let your best customers speak for you with testimonials. 3) Create a single call to action. Don't just let visitors wander around. Entice them to take action by offering a low-risk, high-value item, such as a free e-book, webinar, resource list, etc., in exchange for their contact information. Now you've got a web site that works!   *-Inc.com*

The future is here, with 3-D video holographics.

Imagine summoning up a rotating image of the Death Star… Or, more practically, an attention-grabbing 3-D demo of your latest product… Or a striking 3-D video logo advertising your brand… London-based Kino-mo develops hi-tech smart visual displays. Their floating-in-the-air video holographics engage and fascinate prospects, increasing sales. These ultra-bright, eye-catching 3-D videos can also generate a high level of brand awareness. Until now, holograms have been extremely expensive and required time-consuming installations in a dedicated space. Kino-mo Holo Displays are the first to offer an affordable, "plug-and-play" holographic solution. And perhaps the perfect way to grab attention and boost your bottom line.   *-Kino-mo.com*