



Technology Tracks with Matrix Business Solutions

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Sales: Want To Get Your Act Together?

Is managing the information on prospects and customers a challenge? Want to find a better way of sharing contact information and notes on clients? Consider using Act, which is a software package that helps maintain contact data and record activity so that others within your company can see the history of an account. Want to know more? Please give us a call at 438-5897.

Advantages Of Internet Explorer 7

Many have moved to Internet Explorer version 7, but others have not. Advantages of Internet Explorer include tabs, where one instance of the Internet Explorer application can be running and handling multiple web sites to reduce the amount of memory consumed while bouncing between web sites. Another great little feature (or adjustment) is that it will account for text that extends past the page when printing and adjust to include it – so it reduces the occurrences where the right part of the page gets cut off when printing a web page. IE 7.0 also contains a Phishing filter and additional options.

Longer Laptop Warranty Recommended

If you're purchasing a laptop, you may want to seriously consider an extended warranty. Given they travel quite a bit and they're compact, they tend to have problems. If you have to purchase a motherboard for a laptop, expect to spend around \$700. AC adapters, hard drives and power connectors tend to be frequent failure points. Spending around \$150 more for a three year warranty will be worth it.

Web Winner

PC World selected Google's GMail (www.gmail.com) as the best selection for free E-mail. It provides a lot of storage space, is fast, and has a number of small features. Unlike some of the others, it can be used in conjunction with Outlook or Outlook Express to send and receive E-mail.

Next Gen DVDs: The Battle Continues

In the war of the higher density DVDs, Blu-Ray has the edge over HD DVD with its significantly larger support by movie studios. There are more Blu-Ray format supporting drives available. The advantage for HD DVD is it much more readily supports interactivity – moving to specific locations on the disk easily. There are a few drives that will read both types of disks, if you want to cover your basis. Next Christmas will likely be where the winner forges ahead.

Scanning For Spy-ware

Want to eliminate spy-ware to help speed up your system? Check out both Spybot and Ad-Aware. Both are free for personal use and can assist with cleaning up your system. Since both applications find some spyware that the other doesn't, installing and using both is ideal. Run them once a month. For businesses, we like Spybot because it can be scheduled to automatically run.

Control Your Error Reporting

Still feeling somewhat charitable towards Microsoft where you'd like to report some errors but not all? Note that some dumps sent to Microsoft may contain information found in the document that you had open or the information that you were changing. To manage the error reporting, go to the Control Panel and select System. Then pick the Advanced tab, and you'll see the Error Reporting button down in the bottom right. On the next page, you can disable error reporting, or select other options or specify programs that you don't want to report errors for. You may find some entries that were made by applications when they were installed.

Need Computer Support?

Want us to help your company to keep the computers running? Would you like some assistance putting together an updated computer systems plan? Please call us at 438-5897 and ask for Mark Schneider. We'll arrange a visit to see how we can help.