



# Technology Tracks Matrix Business Solutions

November - December 2009

Volume 7 Number 6

## Text/E-mail On Your Cell Phone

We learned on 9/11 and after Hurricane Katrina, when land line and cell phone connections go down or are jammed to overcapacity, short text messages (150 characters maximum) can often get through. This is because person-to-person voice phone calls basically require an “open pipe” while text messages occupy very little bandwidth and can be “lined up” for delivery. The easiest way to send a text message is cell phone to cell phone (for instructions on how to do so, we suggest you find a 13 year old – they all appear to be quite capable of texting).

You can also use your computer or Blackberry-type device to send a text message, also known as SMS, to a cell phone, just like a regular email. Here are the exact email addresses you can use to send computer-to-cell phone emails (the x’s represent the cell phone’s area code and phone number, without the “1” and without any dashes):

Sprint - [xxxxxxxxx@messaging.sprintpcs.com](mailto:xxxxxxxxx@messaging.sprintpcs.com)  
Nextel- [xxxxxxxxx@messaging.nextel.com](mailto:xxxxxxxxx@messaging.nextel.com)  
T-Mobile- [xxxxxxxxx@tmomail.net](mailto:xxxxxxxxx@tmomail.net)  
Verizon- [xxxxxxxxx@vtext.com](mailto:xxxxxxxxx@vtext.com)  
AT&T- [xxxxxxxxx@txt.att.net](mailto:xxxxxxxxx@txt.att.net)

For a complete list of all cell phone company "texting domains", go to <http://sms411.net>.

For example, you can E-mail a text message to the cell phone of Mark Schneider of Matrix by sending an E-mail to [9375466510@txt.att.net](mailto:9375466510@txt.att.net).

NOTES: Depending upon the recipient’s cell phone contract, they may pay a few cents to send or receive a text message. Usually computer-to-cell phone text message are nearly instantaneous, but at times they can take hours to go through the system.

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## Need A Web Site?

If you need a web site or updates to an existing web site, please give us a call – we would be glad to help. We can register domains, provide and manage hosting, develop web sites and handle E-mail.

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## Web Winner

Do you need to look up a postal zip code for an address? The United States Postal Service site has a page where you can enter the address and get the Zip plus 4 zip code. To use the page, go to <http://zip4.usps.com/zip4/welcome.jsp>

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## Tips & Tricks

If you have Outlook 2007 or 2003 for E-mail, then you can help your system to figure out the good E-mail from the bad (Spam). This can be done by blocking or “whitelisting” senders. To do this, identify an e-mail in your Inbox that’s from someone that you don’t want to receive E-mail from (usually a spammer). Right click on the message, then select Junk E-mail, and then Add Sender to Block Sender’s List – or flag everyone from that domain by selecting Add Sender’s Domain to Block Sender’s List. Be careful, though – that means all of the e-mail from that person will always be flagged as spam.

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## Solid State Drives

Systems are starting to move from the traditional hard drive to solid state drives, using technology like the smaller flash drives that have replaced floppy disks. Right now, the technology is maturing. The drives have faster read times, helping to speed up the boot process, but slower write/save times.

A 64 gigabyte solid state drive runs around \$150 and a 256 gigabyte drive runs around \$500. They’ll continue to drop in price, so keep watching them.

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## Need to Review Your IT Strategy?

If you would like us to review your use of computer systems and make sure that you have the right backups, please call us at (937) 438-5897.