



# *Technology Tracks with Matrix Business Solutions*

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## Cleaning Up Your Desktop

Do you have a number of icons, or shortcuts, on your desktop that you don't need? The Desktop Cleanup wizard is a convenient feature that moves unused icons to a folder so that you don't have to do it manually. By default, Windows XP and Vista prompts you to run the Desktop Cleanup wizard every 60 days. If you can't wait, just right-click on the desktop and choose Properties. Under the Desktop tab is a Customize Desktop button. Once you click on it, you'll see the Desktop Cleanup utility. You may also check out the other options available – you'll find some other useful features.

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## Windows Vista Service Pack 1

Microsoft has started to distribute a release candidate for Windows Vista service pack 1. This is a preliminary version of the first service pack for Vista. Its focus is to improve performance, reliability and security. The release candidate intended for users who want need to test the changes for future deployment to a number of systems within an organization. It's not intended for normal business systems – that will be the final version of service pack 1.

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## Update on Windows XP

Microsoft has extended the availability to purchase Windows XP through June 30, 2008. This is a five month extension of previous plans. If you visit your local retailer, though, you'll probably find Windows Vista on all of the systems. Microsoft has just released a beta of Windows XP Service Pack 3 for testing. It's currently targeted for general availability early next year.

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## Web Winner

If you're looking for ideas for Christmas presents, use the following link to start checking out some ideas - [http://holidays.about.com/od/giftideasshoppingtips/Gift\\_Ideas\\_Shopping\\_Tips.htm](http://holidays.about.com/od/giftideasshoppingtips/Gift_Ideas_Shopping_Tips.htm)

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## Television Generation

As of February 17, 2009, the generation of analog televisions will require a converter in order to handle television signals from stations through the air waves. Digital televisions (including HDTV) will work fine. The first converters approved hit the market with retail costs of \$60 - \$70. Other analog to digital converters are under development with anticipated availability in 2008. The government has a plan in the works to provide coupons for discount on the purchase of converters for households that have analog televisions.

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## Screen Capture

Have you encountered an error or received a message that you need to record to send to us? You can capture the computer screen by pressing the Prnt Scrn key on the keyboard, then pasting the image into an E-mail or another application like Word. If you press the Alt key and then the Prnt Scrn key, the system will capture the current window (instead of the whole screen).

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## Cell Telephone ICE

Some are using a convention in their cell phone to put in an entry with the name/description of ICE, which stands for In Case of Emergency, and entering the number of the person to be called in case of emergency. If you are in an accident or lose the phone, it's a way for the person who finds the phone to more easily locate someone who knows you and can help.

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## Need A System Checkup?

Would you like a check up on your systems to see if there are any pending surprises? Please call us at 438-5897 and ask for Mark Schneider. We'll arrange a visit to see how we can help.