



MOOSE VIEWS

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Moose Views

is a monthly newsletter prepared by Moose Logic to bring you information and tips on maintaining a trouble free network.

**Issue 1
October, 2005**

If Disaster Strikes, Is Your Company Safe?

Hurricane Katrina Is A Grim Reminder

You hear it all the time from us—back up your data, keep your virus protection current, and install and maintain a firewall to protect yourself from hackers and other online threats.

However, with the recent and horrible devastations that hurricane Katrina created for businesses and home owners alike, you can see that anti-virus software isn't enough to protect your technology investments or your company's critical data and records; that is why natural disasters also need to be taken into consideration when writing your company's disaster recovery plan.

Do You Have A Disaster Recovery Plan?

We all know that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure; yet, disaster recovery planning often takes a distant second to the daily deadlines and pressures of running a business. According to a recent survey commissioned by AT&T, about one-third of 1,200 respondents said they have no business continuity plan in place. Of those who do, nearly a quarter of the companies surveyed said they hadn't updated their plans in the past 12 months, and nearly as many hadn't tested them during that time either.

That means that most businesses, including your own, may be completely vulnerable to even a bad lightening storm. Studies have also shown that most companies do not recover from a major catastrophe that involves loss of company

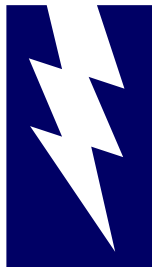
data. Here's something else to consider if you think that you don't need a disaster recovery plan for your business: "natural disasters" can also take the form of office fires or terrorist attacks, not just storms, earthquakes, floods and tornados. If an electrical problem caused a fire in your building, the parts that weren't burned beyond recovery would probably be destroyed by the firemen's efforts. Another common disaster is damage caused by ruptured water pipes.

If Katrina has you re-thinking your own disaster recovery plan or wondering what you would do in the same situation, you should take action and start protecting yourself now. The following tips will help get you started in the right direction.

Disaster Recovery Questions You Need To Answer

Most business owners shy away from creating a disaster recovery plan because they don't know where to start, or because they think it will cost them a lot of time and money. For large financial institutions or companies maintaining mission critical data or software, this may be true; however, most small and mid-size businesses only need to take a few precautionary steps to ensure their businesses will continue running in the event of a natural disaster. First, ask yourself the following questions...

1. Do you back up your company's data daily?



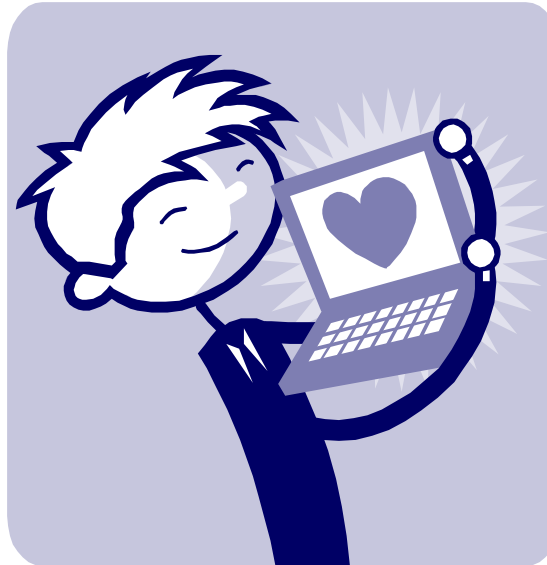
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10 Easy Ways To Protect Your Laptop From Being Stolen

Laptops are becoming a hot ticket item for thieves looking for an easy hit. When your laptop gets stolen, you lose a lot more than your computer and the cost of purchasing a replacement; you lose your documents, photos, e-mails, and database files. That is why it makes sense to take these simple steps to protect it.

1. Don't let it out of your sight. Wi-Fi hotspots like coffee shops can be distracting and are prime hangouts for laptop thieves. Don't leave it on a table to get a refill and don't put it on the floor behind your chair.
2. Don't leave it on the seat of your car. Hide it under the seat or in the trunk or you could end up with a stolen laptop AND a broken car window.
3. Don't leave it in your hotel room. If it doesn't fit in the hotel room's safe, take it with you or ask hotel management to lock it up.
4. Don't advertise your laptop by keeping it in a computer bag. Instead, carry it in a brief case, backpack, or large handbag.
5. Carve your name into the plastic shell. This will make it less attractive for resale and may deter thieves.
6. Write your laptop's serial number down and store it safely. It will help the police recover your laptop if it is stolen.
7. Get a laptop alarm. One alarm, TrackIT,

offers a portable, two-piece anti-theft system that uses a keychain and a miniature receiver with a sonic alarm. TrackIT's siren will sound when separated by more than 40 feet (12 meters) from the transmitter on your keychain. This proximity alarm will protect against security check-in theft, distraction theft, and ordinary carelessness.



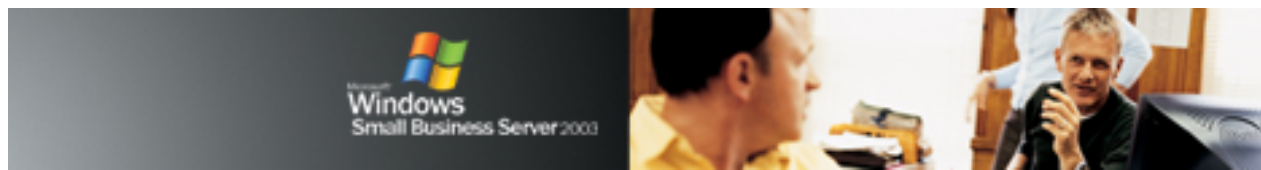
8. Get a laptop cable lock. For around \$50, you can purchase a cable and lock that will anchor your laptop to a heavy desk or piece of furniture and prevent it from being stolen by grab-and-run thieves when it is out of your sight.

9. Get a tracking device installed. Computrace or CyberAngel can be purchased for about \$60 a year and will track your laptop's location using a stealthy piece of tracking software if it is stolen. Many

even offer a guarantee.

10. Encrypt your files. A start up password will not protect someone from accessing your data since many thieves know how to bypass it. To protect your personal information from identity theft, use a program like BestCrypt or PC Encrypt to secure your personal information.

And finally, don't forget to back up your files and keep a copy of the backup in a separate location away from your laptop. Having a back up disk in your computer bag is no good if it gets stolen with your laptop.



There's a new way for small businesses to do more with less.

Introducing Windows Small Business Server 2003

Designed specifically for small businesses, Windows Small Business Server 2003 is a simple, yet powerful, solution that helps you manage your business's information behind the scenes, while you focus on running your business.

Help protect your data and take the worry out of running your business

A connection to your company network gives you the freedom of working when you want, where you want, all the while keeping you informed and helping keep your company data safe.

Save time by making your team more productive

Windows Small Business Server 2003 makes it easier for them to find, share, and remotely access their information.

Generate new sales by reaching more customers and serving them better

Host your own e-mail, establish a Web presence, and connect to your customers — all with the capabilities offered in Windows Small Business Server 2003.

A New Reduced Price

Windows Small Business Server 2003 is now being offered at a lower Estimated Retail Price. And, thanks to improved server component integration, using Windows Small Business Server has never been so easy.

Whether you're upgrading your server, or acquiring a server for the first time, we're available to assist you through the process.

*As reported in the 'Windows Small Business Server 2003 Out-Of-The Box ROI for Small Businesses Whitepaper', published 9/04 referenced at <http://www.microsoft.com/partner/sbs2003>.

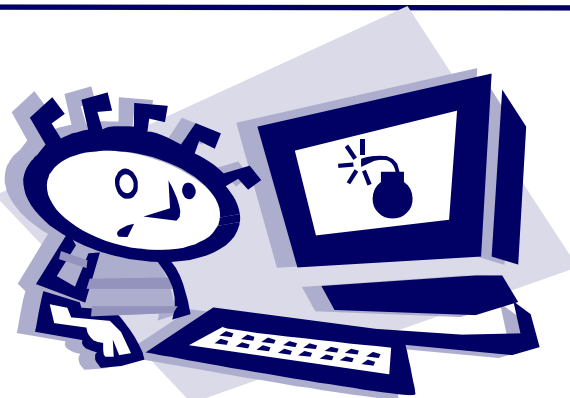
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Beware of “Fun” Web Surveys!

Tell me 10 things about your favorite pet or answer these 20 questions to discover your personality type. You might think this kind of e-mail or web form is a fun way to learn about yourself or communicate with friends, but beware! Spammers and hackers often use these forms to solicit personal information, steal your e-mail address, and spread viruses.

Part of the problem is that people forward these surveys including their friends' e-mail addresses in the text of the email. This allows hackers and spammers to steal your e-mail address and the e-mail addresses of your friends to spread viruses or simply annoy you with endless spam. Best bet: Don't fill out surveys on a web site or an e-mail unless it's with a reputable company for a legitimate reason and never forward them to others.





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Services We Offer:

- General Network Repair and Troubleshooting
- Network Design & Implementation
- Disaster Recovery
- Virus Protection & Removal
- Network Security
- E-mail & Internet Solutions
- Wireless Networking
- Secure Remote Access Solutions
- Spam Filtering
- Storage Solutions
- Voice over IP Phone Systems

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2. Do you keep a copy of your back up off site?
3. Would you have access to your data remotely if you couldn't get to the office?
4. Do you know how long it will take the IT department to retrieve a server back up? In many cases it takes days and often weeks; what would you do during that period of time?
5. Do you regularly test your back up system to make sure it is a good copy and not corrupted?
6. Do you store critical program passwords in a secure place that company officers can access if you are unavailable?
7. Do you require several data entry stations to be running to keep up with orders?
8. Do you have a UPS (uninterruptible power supply) device in place to keep your network and other critical data operations running during a power outage?

These are just a few of the questions you need to answer. Obviously, other issues like insurance coverage and operational plans should also be integral elements of your plan.

Our FREE Disaster Recovery Plan Helps You Prepare For Catastrophes and Aides Hurricane Victims

In an effort to help our clients and the victims of hurricane Katrina, we are giving away free disaster recovery plan audits to any company in the Puget Sound area that donates money to a hurricane Katrina relief effort.

All you have to do is contact our office and show that you've donated \$500 or more to a charity benefiting the

victims of hurricane Katrina and we'll audit your disaster recovery plan for FREE.

To be clear, we are not collecting money or selling any services; all you have to do is show us proof that you directly donated \$500 or more to one of the many relief efforts for this recent disaster and we'll give this service to you for free.

In doing so, we are hoping to not only help our clients and friends protect themselves from these types of disasters, but also encourage charitable donations. For more information, please contact our office at 206-774-0619, or e-mail us at info@mooselogic.com.



We'd Love To Hear From YOU!

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