

Biztech Newsletter

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Wireless Network Security Tips

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Many people falsely believe their wireless network is secure, and that their \$150 wireless firewall/router is protecting them from all the nasties of the internet. When setting up a wireless network most people go to a computer store, buy a wireless access point off the shelf and then go home to simply plug it in and start using it.

Whilst this approach will get you up and running easily, it will also open up your computer network to a range of dangerous security holes. These security holes may allow someone to access your computer files, or use your internet connection, without you knowing it.

Out of the box, most access points have all their security features disabled. It is highly recommended that you encrypt the wireless traffic between your PC and the access point. All new wireless access points now support encryption and it is generally known as either WEP or WPA Encryption. When configuring the access point, we highly recommend you turn on *at least* 128Bit

WEP or WPA security as shown in the product's user manual. We also recommend you change the password to your access point to something other than the default one. As always, your password should be at least 6 characters long and contain both capital and lowercase letters as well as numbers. Consult your access point's user guide on how to do this.

Any PC connected to the internet should have both anti virus and anti spyware software installed. This will help prevent virus and other annoying and damaging malware software from infecting your PC. All PCs with internet access should also be protected by a firewall. Windows XP includes a firewall by default with its service pack 2 upgrade.

For a complete security solution, you should always involve specialised IT resources. Syncrize can assist you in enhancing and configuring your network security. Please don't hesitate to call us for more information.

Keep Your Cool

Even though we are coming out of a long hot summer, and heading for the cooler part of the year, it is worth having a look at the operating environment of your computers, servers, laptops and other IT assets.

We at Syncrize get many service calls to attend to problems that are caused by neglect and abuse of equipment.

It is easy to forget that these electronic devices each fight their own battles against the heat they generate as part of their normal operations. But as processor speeds increase, more heat is generated, so cooling becomes critical.

What can you do about it? First, as with most things, READ THE MANUAL. Most equipment has specific instructions about how much air space is needed around the device, but we see many times how equipment is shoved into cupboards, preventing the vital airflow needed for long life.

Laptops are particularly good at generating heat. If ever you actually used a laptop on your lap, you know it doesn't take long before the heat makes you take it off your lap. Most important for laptops is to use them on a firm, flat surface so that the minimal airspace the designers allow for underneath can actually happen.

As a rule of thumb, if you see a grille on a piece of IT, it's not there at some design whim...it is there for necessity. Clear a space, let the air in, and your equipment will have a much better chance at going the distance.

Benefits of Remote Monitoring

Feature Product

\$1170ex



HP Compaq Business Notebook nx6325



512MB, 15"XGA, 80GB, DVDRW, Windows Vista, 1 year warranty

PN: RZ774PA

Valid until 15th April 2007 or until stocks last

For more special and product information please call the sales team on (02) 6280-6998

Have you ever wondered if your backups are completing successfully? Have you ever wondered if your server is full of viruses? Have you ever run out of Hard Disk space before? Have you ever considered what you'd do if your server PC died on you? Well, with our 'Remote Server Monitoring' service you will no longer have to worry!

Remote Server Monitoring, exclusive to our SupportPak clients, is the notion of remotely monitoring our clients' server computers once a week with the aim of identifying, and resolving, any issues or problems *before* they impact directly on your business. If any critical issues arise we will inform you immediately and keep you informed regularly of the status of the issue.

Remote Server Monitoring involves checking and maintaining a diverse range of areas and components essential to effectively running an I.T. infrastructure.

The areas we include in our maintenance are:

- Checking the amount of available free Hard Disk space, and verifying that your RAID controllers are running optimally (where necessary).
- Extensively sorting through your Servers 'Event Viewer' and rectifying any issues that may pop up.
- Checking and verifying your backups complete successfully.
- The ability to run a full Anti-virus scan on your server and ensuring your Anti-virus software is up-to-date.
- Ensuring your Server is up-to-date with all the latest Microsoft updates.

If you are interested in any of our SupportPak services please do not hesitate to contact our sales department on (02) 6280-6998, or e-mail dave@biztech.com.au.

6 Reasons to Install Service Pack 2

✓ Help protect your PC from harmful attachments.

By alerting you to potentially unsafe attachments, Windows XP Service Pack 2 (SP2) helps guard your computer from viruses that can spread through Internet Explorer, Outlook Express, and Windows Messenger.

✓ Get firewall protection from startup to shutdown.

The powerful, built-in Windows Firewall is now turned on by default. This helps protect Windows XP against viruses and worms that can spread over the Internet

✓ Avoid potentially unsafe downloads.

Internet Explorer download monitoring and the Internet Explorer Information Bar warn you about potentially harmful downloads and give you the option to block files that could be malicious.

✓ Reduce annoying pop-ups.

Internet Explorer Pop-Up Blocker makes browsing the Internet more enjoyable by helping you reduce the unwanted ads and content that pop up when you're browsing the Web.

✓ Help protect your e-mail address.

Improvements to Outlook Express help reduce unwanted e-mail by limiting the possibility of your e-mail address being validated by potential spammers.

✓ Avoid potentially unsafe downloads.

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