

The KCS Enquirer

Information about the Computer Revolution

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First & Second Quarters 2009

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KCS News

[Newsletter Going Electronic](#)

Unless you request a mailed hard copy of the newsletter your future newsletters will be delivered by e-mail. If we do not have a good e-mail address for you we will continue to send via ground mail until we do.

[They're Getting Trickier](#)

The virus writers are getting cleverer. One of their new tricks is disguising malicious programs as updates to an anti-virus program. Usually you will see a very official looking popup window that has a button to click to update the program. Often times this is accompanied by an ominous message that you are vulnerable to an attack or that you have already been infected. **DO NOT CLICK ON "Okay", "Update" OR ON ANY WEB SITE LINK SHOWN. If you do you are inviting trouble. The download will be a virus or the Web site will be a phony that will attempt to either capture information or infect your system.** Most legitimate anti-virus programs automatically update in the background without intervention on your part. Some, like Kaspersky may

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require a manual reboot. There are programs that will prompt you to upgrade the anti-virus definitions but it instructs you use a program function to access the update. **KCS HAS NOT INSTALLED ANY ANTI-VIRUS OR SPAM PROGRAMS THAT WILL ASK YOU TO PAY FOR AN UPDATE THROUGH A POPUP WINDOWS. Please check with us before paying for any update.**

[Backup Reminder](#)

Getting hammered by a virus or an equipment failure is an inconvenience but not having your data backed up when it happens can be a disaster.

Now is a good time to review your backup procedures. Any data that would be costly to recreate should be backed up and the backup media stored off-site. Today's backup systems are affordable and easy to use. Systems are available for servers, stand-alone workstations and laptops. For around \$100.00 you can get a backup solution for your stand-alone computer or laptop. Have your KCS technician checkout your backup situation.

[Buy Now?](#)

Since the economy is now turning around it is the ideal time to think about

purchasing new equipment. Today's equipment is better than ever but the economy has kept prices down while the cost of keeping the old stuff running is going up. Investing in new equipment now not only will keep your TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) in line but also put you in the best position to take advantage of the recovery. As business ramps up you don't want to be fighting outdated equipment along with your competition. Give us a call and we'll work out a great deal that will fit into your budget.

Small is in Big

The trend today is toward smaller footprint computers both for mobile use and workstations. As processor chips shrink in size they utilize less power thus generating less heat allowing for more compact cases. Since so many functions such as LAN connections, sound chips and graphic controllers are included on the motherboard less expansion slots are required. Most computers have also dropped parallel and in some cases serial ports and have supplanted them with much smaller USB ports. Even though these computers are smaller in size, they are big on performance. They can be purchased with processors ranging from the Intel Atom, great for Internet, remote access and office suite usage up to high performance quad core chips. We offer a full line of small footprint computers that can save you space and money. Call us if you need more information.

Product Lines

Speaking of computers we want to remind you that we offer a full line of computers including Hewlett Packard, Lenovo (previously IBM), Acer and even Dell.

Although we strongly recommend the Equus line which is manufactured locally and is a high quality, reasonable priced machine for which we offer on-site warranty support we can furnish other brands if you are interested.

MX Logic Upgrades

MX Logic has revised their pricing and product bundling. If you are using any MX Logic service you can add additional features and upgrade your protection at a very modest increase over what you are currently paying. The MX Logic services are first-rate requiring minimal management and maintenance. If you are looking to control your companies Internet usage or you need an organized, searchable archiving system for e-mails then you should look to MX Logic to augment your e-mail defense services. If you

are not using MX Logic it is worth a look. If you need additional information or a quote talk to your KCS technician or give us a call at the office.

MS News

Windows XP Just Keeps on Going

According to a leaked Hewlett Packard memo Microsoft is allowing computer manufacturers to sell new computers with Windows XP through April 2010. Not only will Microsoft allow a downgrade to XP from Vista but it will also allow an XP downgrade from Windows 7 for at least six months after its launch date. And for the first time since 2008 computer manufacturers will be allowed to advertise new systems as XP PCs. It looks like XP will be available for quite a while meaning that a jump from XP to Windows 7 will not require an intermediate step to Vista. This is good news for everyone. Even Microsoft has advised some companies to dump deployment plans for Vista and wait for the Windows 7 release on October 22nd. Microsoft also announced that purchasers of new computers with Vista will be eligible for a free upgrade to Windows 7. This program does not have an announced kick-off date but it should in June.

Exchange2010

The first public beta version of Exchange 2010 has been released and features improvements in mail handling, security, message archiving and manageability. Outlook Web Access is much improved and now browsers other than Internet Explorer such as Firefox and Safari will be supported. Text transcripts of attached voice mails will be available.

Server 2008 R2

Along with Windows 7 Microsoft has scheduled an October 22nd release for Revision 2 of the Windows 2008 Network Operating System (NOS). Improvements in virtualization, Web functions and management are promised.

Big Fix Month

Microsoft has released patches to fix 31 vulnerabilities on "Patch Tuesday" June 9th. Some of these address serious problems. Go to www.microsoft.com to obtain or see your KCS technician.

Processor News

Intel Releases Nehalem Server CPU

The new Nehalem (E5500) server processors offer more performance but are designed to use less power and run cooler. The E5500 series is designed to utilize up to four processors on one CPU (Central Processing Unit). The unit will scale power consumption based on workload. This greatly reduces power usage during times of reduced demand. Turbo Boost Technology increases processor speed on demand. Up to 144GB of memory is supported. Improved internal bandwidth speeds transmission of data between cores. Hyper-Threading Technology enables two threads per core which equals eight threads on a four core processor.

Intel Releases I7 Workstation CPU

Intel's newly released I7 processor is amongst the fastest ever. Like the Nehalem server chip, the I7 quad core has eight processing threads, Turbo-Boost Technology and improved memory access. Prices are high but so is performance.

AMD Releases Opteron Server CPU

Not to be outdone by Intel, AMD has released a new server processor available in four and six core versions (Intel will be releasing a six core CPU in the near future). It features an integrated memory controller, increased bandwidth interconnectivity, better memory throughput and power saving features. As always AMD holds the price advantage. We can furnish AMD as well as Intel powered servers and workstations.