

The KCS Enquirer

Information about the Computer Revolution

Volume 12 Issue 1 & 2

First & Second Quarter 2007

E-mail, Surf & Navigate From Your Cell Phone
Protect Your PCs *New Ways to Stop Spam*

KCS News

*Communicate Better with
Verizon*

KCS can now offer you a comprehensive wireless communication solution as a Verizon Agent. The features offered are amazing. Depending on the equipment and plan you choose in addition to phone capability you can text message, send and receive e-mails, access the Internet, check and schedule your appointments, access your address book, check your calendar, get turn by turn navigational directions and connect your laptop to the Internet - without having to search out hotspots. Other available features are push-to-talk (PTT), Field Force Manager, Fleet Administrator, Instant Messaging (IM) and entertainment functions like Mobile TV, video and music downloads and games. For a small additional monthly fee, minutes can be shared over some or all phones in the plan.

One of the most exciting things that KCS in conjunction with Verizon can offer is data transmission and synchronization. With the proper device and plan, you can send and receive e-mail from multiple accounts.

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Novell Authorized Partner

Authorized Hewlett Packard Dealer

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Certified Novell Administrator on Staff

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If you have an Exchange server you can utilize its features just like you were on your in-office network. In addition to e-mail you have access to your calendar and address book. If you get an incoming e-mail or an appointment is due the device will alert you. If you add change or delete items from either your work computer or on your wireless device you can sync them up in minutes. If you have a pocket PC device you can also sync up Word, Excel documents etc.

With a broadband access data plan high-speed Internet access is available

either on your wireless device or your laptop using your phone as a wireless modem. Typical download speeds are 400-700Kbps with a maximum of 2Mbps. Service is available in 181 major metropolitan areas that include 72 primary airports. No more searching for hotspots or having to pay for another service or ISP (Internet Service Provider). If you get a call while you are using your laptop you will be alerted and given the option to answer the call and terminate the Internet connection. Don't want to tie up your phone while you are using your laptop? Then you can use a PC or Express card

or USB modem with your laptop. Some laptops can use the built-in broadband access features. A PC card can also be used for Internet access outside the broadband coverage area.

If you do a lot of traveling your Verizon device can function as a turn by turn voice navigation device with auto-rerouting. You can also search for and get directions to over 14 million local business and attractions in the U.S. This service is available for a daily fee or on a monthly subscription. Prices are very reasonable.

Want to manage and monitor your mobile workers and/or vehicles? The Field Force Manager and Fleet Administrator services make managing and tracking a snap. Communication automation and integrated reporting increases productivity. Real time job and project reporting are available including timekeeping functions.

Verizon offers a lot at very reasonable prices. We can tailor a plan to fit your needs within your budget and integrate it with your current system. If you have a compatible surveillance systems you will even be able to view your cameras on your phone. Call us if you need more information.

Watch That Power

Along with the arrival of spring comes the arrival of power problems. Spring and summer storms, power demands due to air conditioning and heat related stress on electrical supply equipment can result in outages, spikes, brownouts and sags – none of which are any good for computer equipment. Every year we see damaged equipment and lost data due to power problems. Most of this damage can be minimized or eliminated by making sure your computers are protected from electrical fluctuations. The first line of defense is a commercial grade surge arrester. You want a unit that is well constructed and can handle a considerable spike in power. This means a \$4.99 discount store device will not do the job. A good surge protector first must quickly identify the power spike and then be able to absorb (measured in joules) and dissipate the excess energy. It uses the ground prong on the plug to channel away the excess power. That is why you must plug into a grounding outlet. As far as the joule rating you want at least 400 – the more the better. Even a top of the line surge arrester will not protect against a direct lighting strike but it will handle most power spikes and definitely moderate even a

lighting related surge. Surge arrestors should be replaced if they have absorbed several spikes since this diminishes their protective ability.

A step up from a surge protector is an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS). A UPS not only guards against surges but boosts power in cases of brownouts and supplies power to keep equipment running in case of a power failure. The better UPSs will also safely shut down your server or workstation if power is not restored in a timely fashion. A UPS can also be plugged into a surge arrester for additional protection against power spikes.

Using the proper power protection and conditioning equipment can save you thousands of dollars in equipment damage, work flow interruption or data loss due to power problems

The Spam Police

We can now offer you a service that will screen your e-mail for spam, adware, spyware, phishing and viruses, stopping them before they even reach your network. This method of e-mail filtering has several advantages. 1. The spam and virus identification programs are always up to date. 2. Since they handle the e-mail before it reaches your server the chances of your domain name being blacklisted because a spammer is relaying spam through it is very remote. 3. Your server resources are less taxed because they do not have to handle thousands of unwanted e-mail messages. 4. You can review all e-mails identified as spam and accept the ones that you want to see. These can be “white listed” so they will be let through in the future. Conversely you can “black list” e-mail senders that were not identified as spam the first time around. 5. You can fine tune your spam identification rules based on what you want to see. 6. E-mail attachments are also screened for malware and viruses. 7. DoS (Denial

of Service) and DHA (Directory Harvest Attack) attempts are stopped. 8. Once setup the service is unobtrusive and transparent to you. 9. Processing speed is virtually unchanged. 10. The cost is very reasonable. Call us if you need a demonstration.

MS News

Vista has Growing Pains

The first release of Vista has not gone as smooth as we would like to see. While this is an excellent operating system some quirks that were present in the test version that we were led to believe would be fixed in the initial release are still present. So for now we are not recommending upgrades to Vista until Service Pack 1 (SP-1) is released. We will do a reevaluation at that time.

Pricing for Office 2007

We are still very pleased with the 2007 version of Office. Our experience over the past few months has reinforced our high opinion of this version. We also offer some attractive pricing on Office. The basic edition is \$279.00, Small Business (SBE) is \$339.00 and the Professional version is \$399.00. Compare these to CDW's prices. Quantity discounts are available. Different versions can be included to qualify.

Surveillance System News

IR Cameras

Video surveillance is not just restricted to daylight or lighted areas. The current crop of infrared cameras can get a pretty good picture even in total darkness. Depending on the quality of the camera and especially the lenses a good amount of detail can be recorded even in the worst light conditions.