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NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2007
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Operating Systems in the News

Windows Vista

Microsoft has announced that Vista SP1 (service pack one) will arrive in the first quarter of 2008, with a beta version coming in the next few weeks. According to a general manager in the Windows unit, the update will be mostly a collection of existing fixes and tweaks targeted at increasing the stability and reliability of the system, and it won't have lots of new features.

Windows 7

By the time you're getting comfortable with Vista and have finally upgraded all of your software applications for full compatibility, Microsoft will be announcing the next version of Windows. More than 200 programmers are now working on Windows 7, the next version of the operating system. Called "MinWin," its core (or kernel) consists of just 100 files and weighs in at only 25 MB – compared to Vista's 5,000 files and 4 GB core. The release date for Windows 7 is expected in 2010, according to Microsoft.

Mac OS X 10.5

Apple has released "Leopard," a new incremental release of its OS X operating system. The upgrade took longer than Apple's usual target of 12-18 months between OS releases, mostly due to the push to finish the iPhone. However, despite more frequent upgrades than Windows, reviews indicate that Apple's customers tend to feel they get their money's worth.

According to Tom Kelly, a local Mac consultant and support provider, users planning to upgrade should not expect any big changes or differences. However, Kelley advises that OCS customers who also use AppleMail may need to change some settings ... so try sending yourself a test email after completing the upgrade and make sure you receive it. If not, give Tom a call at 539-2031 or via email to tomkelley@ocsnet.net and he can help you out.

Internet2

The Internet is based on the management of IP addresses, using what we might loosely call an Internet operating system. Explosive growth over the past decade has created a pending shortage of IP addresses, since every device requires its own unique address – and generally speaking they're being assigned not only to every computer but also increasingly to cell phones, vehicles, home utility meters, and even to refrigerators and many other appliances.

Continued on Side Two

Happy Thanksgiving



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To our Customers, our Families, and our Troops

The OCS home page passed 10 million hits in March 2007 – that's a great audience for local advertisers!

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Our Exeter tower also covers Badger Hill!

• VIRUSES STOPPED BY OCS SYSTEM: 1,286,330 (Oct 2007: 134)
• SPAM BLOCKED BY OCS SYSTEM: 99,661,432 (Oct 2007: 2,426,692)

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Operating Systems in the News

Continued from Side One

The current network can support over four billion unique IP addresses, but we will need many more. The move toward this upgrade began several years ago as the "Internet2" project, the infrastructure that forms the backbone of an advanced IP network that will add more capacity than can easily be described here – the number is simply too large.

If you want to do the math, it's the increase from the current 2^{32} to 2^{128} addresses, or more than 340 "undecillion."

In October the Internet2 research network announced the completion of a major upgrade to its national infrastructure, which is now operating at a huge 100 Gbps capacity that's connecting major U.S. research and educational communities, much as the original Internet and its predecessor (ARPANET) were used.

And of course, all of this will eventually make its way into common public use. Many routers and other network devices are now IPv6 compliant, but full transition will be a process spanning a number of years.

Internet Tax Held Off

For a few more years at least

The ban on taxing Internet connections was set to expire at the end of October, but a US Senate bill has passed that extends the 1998 Internet Tax Freedom Act for seven more years. There are still some details to work out since the House's bill only extends it for four years, but it's clear that an Internet tax will remain out of the picture for the near future.

In a moment of refreshing clarity one congressman actually said, "The Internet has provided a powerful economic boost to our nation, and has become an important everyday tool for millions of Americans. By keeping Internet access tax-free and affordable, Congress can encourage Internet use for distance learning, telemedicine, commerce and other important services."

WiMAX

WiMAX World 2007 was held this September in Chicago. This turned out to be one of the largest technology trade shows of the year, signaling that WiMAX may be nearly ready for primetime with its higher speeds, reliability, and options for easy portability and mobility. Many are claiming that WiMAX technology has the potential to change the scope of the Internet, and as it emerges it will be incorporated into the OCS network.

Stuck in a contract?

Show us your binding paperwork and we may be able to waive up to \$100 from your OCS startup costs...



Fan Mail

"Several of my neighbors said that OCS is the only reliable service to call for computer repair and Internet service." -DS



Help us celebrate! OCS turned 25 in February, the company was started in a home office in 1982. We've had our 25-year logo printed on a selection of glassware as gifts for our customers, please stop by the office and choose yours! We have mugs in three colors, tall mixing (pint) glasses, and etched wine glasses. While they last, limit two per customer!

I Didn't Know That!

OCS provides "A-to-Z" computer technology services:

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OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Plan Name	Average Speeds			B-M-W ¹	One-Time Fees			Monthly Service
	Min	Typ	Max		Service Activation	Install/Configure	Equipment Deposit	
1 Bandwidth-Mailboxes-Webpace (see notes)								
DIALUP	26K	40K	53K	1-5-5	25.00	-	-	24.95
Accelerator	Typically 2-5X faster			-	-	-	-	+5.00
WIRELESS STANDARD 2.4 GHz								
24 Basic	125K	500K	750K	10-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	49.95 ^{2,3}
24 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	79.95 ^{2,3}
24 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95 ^{2,3}
WIRELESS SPECIAL CASES 900 MHz (where available)								
900 Basic	125K	375K	750K	5-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	59.95 ^{4,5}
WIRELESS MISSION CRITICAL 5.8 GHz (where available)								
58 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	99.95
58 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95
58 Professional	500K	2M	3M	25-25-25	25.00	100.00	100.00	159.95
58 Corporate	750K	3M	4M	30-30-30	25.00	100.00	100.00	199.95
58 Enterprise	1M	4M	5M	40-40-40	25.00	100.00	100.00	249.95

All plans include automated central email virus scanning, email spam filtering, and website parental controls. Some plan types permit webpace for personal use only. Wireless installation and deposit package may be paid in installments upon request. All speeds are symmetrical (same for upload and download) within the OACYS network only. All plans terminate at OACYS Porterville headquarters and transport to the Internet via dual T3s over dedicated OC12 fiber optic circuit. All plans subject to change without notice. Pricing and terms are current at the date of this newsletter and supersede previous versions. For footnotes 2,3,4,5 surcharges may apply. Please check with our office for additional details.

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