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NEWSLETTER APRIL 2010
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT NEWSLETTERS, NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES, OR TO SIGN UP FOR NEWSLETTERS VIA EMAIL

Tens of millions still open junk e-mail

In this day and age of technological advancement and digital lifestyles, and despite all the publicity, it is incredible that nearly half of a large survey group said they intentionally open junk e-mail (aka spam).



The results of the March 2010 IPSOS survey showed that nearly half of the respondents had opened spam, clicked on a link in spam, opened a spam attachment, or replied to or forwarded spam—all activities that leave consumers susceptible to fraud,

phishing, identity theft, and virus infection.

Almost half of those who replied to spam did so intentionally. Most wanted to unsubscribe or complain, either by clicking on a link or as a reply to the sender.

Despite the efforts of anti-virus software vendors, spam remains a major headache for users. Not surprisingly, the users who tended toward riskier reactions to spam were also the most likely to have been infected with a virus.

The findings were also consistent with a survey last year, when fully 80% of respondents said they were aware of malicious viruses transmitted via spam—yet few believed they were susceptible to becoming a victim.

OCS advises that if you receive an email that looks like spam, **do not respond in any way—just delete it!** If it is asking you to provide personal information of any kind, like account numbers or passwords, **don't do it!** You can simply call the alleged sender to verify whether they actually sent it or if they need this information—it's a safe bet they'll say no.

Summarized from CNET.com and IPSOS reports

EMAIL CHANGE ALERT - SEE OUR WEBSITE

Wireless customers are now being transitioned tower-by-tower

OVER 396 MILLION VIRUSES, SPAM, AND PHISHING ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN STOPPED BY THE OCS CENTRAL SYSTEM - 4 MILLION IN JUST THE LAST MONTH! CALL US ABOUT OCS OFFICE SCAN!

Weak and stale passwords

A March 2010 survey showed that 63 percent of respondents don't change their passwords very often, 45 percent use a few passwords that they alternate for all accounts, and some 10 percent don't change their passwords at all.

Forty-four percent of respondents said they have more than 20 accounts that require a password. Many use words that can be easily guessed, such as their name, their spouse's name, their birthday, or their pet's name.

An effective password is one that's hard to guess and yet easy for the owner to remember, preferably using a mix of numbers, letters, punctuation, and symbols. For example, in the word "sunshine" each "s" might be replaced by \$ and the "e" by number 3, resulting in hard-to-guess "\$un\$hin3".

Summarized from CNET.com and Symantec reports

Real-time file backup and version control without using bandwidth

Story on Page Two

Work from home!

OCS can connect your home to your office or tie multiple offices together at high speed and with full VPN security, anywhere in the Valley or beyond...



The OCS home page has received more than 13.7 million hits – contact us for local advertising information!

OCS service plans are described at www.porterville.com

Internet Plans and Pricing

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Our Military Men & Women

AMERICASUPPORTSYOU.MIL
SUPPORT OUR MILITARY
= SUPPORT THEIR MISSION

THE NATIONWIDE OCS REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you refer a friend, family, or business associate to OCS, tell them to mention your name and you'll receive up to a month of free service! **Our subscribers have earned \$59,231 so far** – click Referrals on our home page for details! Your friends may simply click *Subscribe* to sign up online.



Real-time file backup and version control without using bandwidth

Viable alternatives to Carbonite, Mozy, and other online backup solutions

In last month's newsletter we discussed bandwidth policies and why usage limitations are necessary and important in order to maintain overall network reliability and performance for the benefit of all subscribers.

In addition to obvious high-bandwidth uses like watching movies online, we also mentioned online backup as an example of a useful service which can nevertheless rack up potentially high excess usage surcharges. Carbonite, Mozy, and several others advertise these services heavily.

The concept is that subscribers can simply forget about backing up their computers, while utility software runs quietly in the background and sends a copy of every new or changed file over the Internet for safekeeping at a remote storage location.

In addition to the high bandwidth this consumes (especially if you take lots of digital photos), it can also be very slow—it's not uncommon for an initial backup to take a few weeks, and the same if a complete restore is required. Many people are also

uncomfortable with the thought of storing their valuable business and personal records at some distant location.

A great alternative solution lies in similar software that runs on your own computer, automatically making a copy of every file change. Since this runs in the background in real time, there is no need to schedule your backups—the process runs continuously.

These utilities also commonly keep multiple copies of each file. Called "version control," this allows you to recover a backup from several steps back, avoiding the common problem where a one-and-only backup is just as corrupted as the master file.

When coupled with an inexpensive portable hard or flash drive (from around \$50 and up), regular backup becomes fast, automatic, free of Internet bandwidth usage, and nearby if you need it.

Windows programs for real-time backup with version control include **Genie Timeline** (much like the Mac Time Machine, at genie-soft.com), **File Hamster** (filehamster.com) and **CascadePoint** (jpsoft.com). All offer free or trial versions, or more fully-featured options at very low cost.



Stuck in a contract?

Bring in your binding paperwork and we may be able to waive up to \$100 from your OCS startup costs to help offset early termination penalties with another provider.

WIRELESS SERVICE AREAS

- Porterville
- Springville
- Pleasant Valley
- River Island
- Globe Drive
- Strathmore
- Terra Bella
- Lindsay
- Exeter
- Badger Hill
- Visalia East
- Yokohl Valley
- Camp Nelson
- Success Valley
- Richgrove
- Delano East



Fan Mail

"Your field service crew came out today. They were really great and did a terrific job!" -PP
"I wanted to thank your field techs. They were very polite and on time, and that doesn't happen too often. I am very grateful for your service!" -DG

OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

One-Time Fees

| 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.

I Didn't Know That!

- OCS provides "A-to-Z" technology services
- Complete computer service and repair shop
- Variety of Internet access plans and packages
- Professional website development and hosting
- Programming and custom development
- eCommerce solutions
- Computer and Internet technology consulting
- Secure branch office inter-networking
- Internet-based "VOIP" telephone services

*To set Account Preferences or make Payments Online, click **UserAdmin** on our website*

On the road? Call our toll-free support at 888-OACYS.COM