

LANsultants Times

Your official Source for LANsultants News

Vol. 7 No. 10

215-546-3124

November/December 2005

THANKS

2005 has proved to be another successful year for LANsultants. Our staff has grown by 5% to 20 people, revenues increased to new records, and we expanded into new technologies including VoIP and e-mail archive solutions. None of this would have been possible without you, our clients. From time to time I have an opportunity to meet with my peers at technical seminars and trade shows, and when I hear the issues other network integrators experience with their clients I realize how special our clients are. No one has contributed to the success of LANsultants as much as you have. It is very appreciated.

John S. Miller

WHAT'S NEW IN BACKUP SYSTEMS

The biggest news in backup systems is the increasing capacity of tape drives. In 2005 DAT 72 (36 GB Native/72 GB Compressed) became very popular, Super DLTS 600 with 300GB Native/600 GB Compressed capacity shipped as did LTO-3 drives with 400GB Native/800GB Compressed capacity. Online backup solutions gained popularity from such vendors as eVault and eSilo. But possibly the most exciting new technology is Sonicwall's Lasso device.

Lasso combines the best features of a online backup service with real-time backup of all data to an onsite external hard drive. This means if a file created at 10:15am is deleted at 3:15pm on the same day it has been backed up. As an online service is integrated with Lasso your data is securely stored off site, protecting you from catastrophic data loss in the event of a building disaster.

PROPER BACKUP PROCEDURES

LANsultants' recommended data backup procedures are as follows:

Have a data backup system, whether a CDRW, DVDRW, tape drive or online service, with adequate capacity to make total unattended backups of your system each business day. This is generally scheduled to run late at night when no one is using your computer system.

Have sufficient backup media, whether CD's, DVD's, tapes or online storage capacity to have a full month's rotation.

Monthly archive a CD, DVD, tape or online storage for one year. Annually, at the end of your tax year, permanently archive a CD, DVD, tape or online storage.

Use a log form to record who has checked the backup system's performance and any reported errors.

NEWS LETTER

After 7 years of writing a monthly column you probably noticed that I skipped August and November this year indicating that I am finally running out of things to say. Instead of having this newsletter degrade and use filler we will be moving to an "every other month" format, with issues published in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

LANsultants will be closing at 3:00pm on Friday, December 23rd and will be closed all Day on Monday, December 26th in celebration of Christmas and Hannukkah. We will close at 3:00pm on Friday, December 30th and will be closed all day on Monday, January 2nd in celebration of New Years .