

LANsultants Times

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SEEING MORE SPAM?

Over the past several weeks we have seen a significant increase in spam activity and the volume of messages to our clients. This is not a localized phenomena, but is happening across the Internet overall. Spam has increased 59% to over 5.3 billion messages per week, and the total message volume rose 54% to over 6.6 billion in this period.

Analysis of catch rates by the Postini Spam Team indicate that filter performance has not degraded during this period, but users may experience more unwanted messages in their inbox due to the increased activity. The Spam Team continues to work quickly to counteract spammers' new techniques. During this spam surge Postini's production systems performed well with message latency and delivery rates staying within historical norms. If you're not seeing an increase in spam in your personal e-mail account it is due to Postini doing its job.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

LANsultants will be closing at 3:00pm on Wednesday, November 22nd in Celebration of Thanksgiving and will be closed all day on Thursday, November 23rd. On Friday, November 24th a skeleton crew will be available for whatever emergencies may arise. On Friday, November 17th we will be sending an e-mail out to determine what clients plan on being open on Friday, November 24th.

LANsultants will be closing at 3:00pm on Friday, December 22nd in Celebration of Christmas and will be closed all day on Monday, December 25th.

LANsultants will be closing at 3:00pm on Friday, December 29th in Celebration of New Years and will be closed all day on Monday, January 1, 2007.

ELECTRONIC INVOICES

We are considering changing our default invoice transmittal means from postal mail to e-mail. The invoice layout would stay the same, but be provided as an Adobe PDF file and delivered to whatever e-mail address you specify. The advantages of this are quicker delivery and elimination of our postal and invoice form costs. When the cost of postage, invoice forms and envelopes are aggregated the cost per invoice is more than \$1.50 each. Though this is not exorbitant, if this cost can be minimized then our ability to provide cost competitive services is only improved. However, providing readable and easy to understand invoices is our first concern so please let us know if you would prefer to receive invoices via postal mail. In early January we will poll our clients via e-mail to determine who would prefer electronic invoices and who would prefer paper invoices.

WHAT'S NEW IN INTERNET SERVICE

If DSL Internet service by Covad or Verizon simply does not provide the reliability or bandwidth you require, then you may want to consider upgrading to true data connectivity. Frequently, an integrated T-1 used for both voice and data is less expensive than conventional telephone circuits and independent Internet service. If your telephone service is under contract then a data only T-1 maybe affordable. One new technology is Fixed Wireless. This provides a wireless connection from your building to transmitters located throughout the city and then a wired connection to your network. Airband is one company offering this service at costs of about half that of a T-1.

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