

LANsultants Times

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UPGRADED DISASTER RECOVERY SOLUTION

For all our clients with dedicated servers we are recommending supplementing your current tape backup or online backup service with swappable external hard drives. These drives will be configured to make images of the server daily or weekly. With the introduction of high speed external drives using eSATA technology this is both fast and affordable. The advantage for you is in the event of catastrophic server failure, the "image" on the external hard drive can be used to quickly restore the server.

Two 1TB eSATA hard drives with a controller card for your server and shielded cabling will cost approximately \$550 installed and configured.

On some systems these drives can also be used for real time backups during the work day using MS-Volume Shadow Copy Service, eliminating the problem of losing a file on the day of its creation.

AmEx, Visa & Master Card

Though we will continue to accept Visa and Master Card, the 3.25% processing fee charged by American Express makes continued acceptance of this payment means a financial burden. With narrowing margins, a 3.25% payment fee increased costs so greatly that continued acceptance of AmEx would require either charging back AmEx users the 3.25% or an across the board cost increase, neither of which seem like good solutions. For those few clients who preferred to pay by AmEx, we apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

LANsultants, Inc. will be closed on Monday, September 7th in celebration of Labor Day. No emergency service will be provided on the 7th. Regular weekend service will be provided on Saturday the 5th and Sunday the 6th.

WINDOWS 7 RELEASE DATE: 10/22/2009

Windows 7 is what Vista was suppose to be, and, unlike Vista, is getting good reviews. Though Vista never gained traction in the business environment, Windows 7 likely will replace Windows XP Pro on new PC's and notebooks. Some of the highlights of Windows 7 are greater reliability and performance over Vista and improved legacy hardware compatibility. Windows 7 introduces a new interface and ways to manage data. As many programs and operating systems have done well in testing and less well in real world usage we are withholding final judgement.

Notebook users will enjoy location-aware printing, which eases the switch between home and office devices, and the ease of connecting to networks.

Being 64-bit, Windows 7 takes full advantage of the processors in modern computers, and can access more than 3.4 GB of RAM.

Windows 7 also features improved System Restore functionality to recover from crashes.

And if an application is not fully Windows 7 compatible, an optional Windows XP mode is available.

For more on Windows 7 visit:
<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows7/products/features>

For the office, Windows 7 Professional is recommended. Ultimate will work, but for most users, it includes features that are not required for office usage.

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