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XperText

“Insider Tips To Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier, And More Profitably”

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8 Amazing Facts About Mobile Computing

Over fifty percent of CIO's and IT professionals believe mobility will impact their organizations as much or more than the internet did in the 1990's.

“It has become appallingly obvious, Albert Einstein once observed, that our technology has exceeded our humanity.” If that's how the legendary 20th century physicist perceived technology in his day, then you can only wonder what he'd make of the vast ubiquitous presence of mobile technology today. Indeed, it's difficult to think of how we functioned as a society before smartphones, tablets and other devices emerged as mainstream tools.

CIO's and other managers, of course, have much at stake here. As reported previously, more and more organizations are carefully examining their mobile strategies. They want to ensure that their employees have the most productive, user-friendly tools at their disposal to further business goals. And they view mobility as a critical pathway toward greater customer connectivity and engagement. Given this, we present the following current facts about mobility usage and enterprise-focused trends. They were compiled from a

number of online resources such as those posted by the Radicati Group and Kinvey.

1. **Vision Void** – 85% of enterprises still have no plans to employ a single leader for mobility, despite mobile's anticipated impact upon their organizations.
2. **Well Populated** – The number of worldwide business consumer mobile users will increase to 6.2 billion by the end of 2018 – accounting for 84% of people on Earth.
3. **Gadget Growth** – The number of devices will grow from 7.7 billion in 2014 to 12.1 billion by the conclusion of 2018.
4. **BYOD-Mania** – One-half of companies will require employees to use their own device for work by 2017.
5. **OMG!** – The mobile IM Market will grow to more than 3.8 billion accounts by the end of 2018; up from 1.4 billion now.
6. **App Explosion** – 4.4 billion people will use mobile apps by the conclusion of 2017, growing by nearly 30% every year.

7. **Prime Opportunity** – 64% of users with smartphones have made a mobile purchase after seeing a mobile ad.
8. **Top Mobile Activities for U.S. Users** –
 - Social networking: 76%
 - Obtaining local information: 73%
 - Getting news updates: 68%
 - Playing music: 63%
 - Playing games: 61%



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Don't Make These 3 Mistakes With Your Next Office Move

Moving is always a pain in the rump, but it doesn't have to be a horrific, expensive experience. The No. 1 lament from someone who's experienced a “bad” move is “I didn't know I needed to...” followed closely by “I completely forgot that...” In other words, *it's what you don't do that makes the move a disaster*. To make your move easy and effortless, here are the 3 most common mistakes you want to avoid:

Mistake #1 — Trying To Save Money By Using Your Employees To Move Your Computer Network

Don't ask your staff to disconnect, move and reconnect computers, phones and other devices just to save a few bucks. You'll frustrate them and end up with phones ringing at the wrong extension, lost cables and PCs that get dropped. You don't want to let your movers do this job either; they may be great at moving furniture, but a network is a lot more sophisticated and sensitive. *Be smart and hire an IT pro to pack and move your network.*

Mistake #2 — Not Hiring The RIGHT IT Firm To Move Your Network

While we're on the topic, make sure you know what to look for when outsourcing the move. A few things to look for would include references from other clients, proof of insurance (get them to fax you a copy), a service-level guarantee limiting the amount of time you are down and a professional, organized approach to quoting the move. A real pro will insist on visiting your current location as well as your new location to conduct a detailed site survey. NEVER hire anyone who wants to quote moving your network over the phone.

Mistake #3 — Not Giving Your Phone, Internet And Cable Vendors Enough Advance Notice

80% of unexpected communications blackouts and cost overruns on network moves are caused by failure to properly plan voice, data and electrical installation *in advance*. Just because the prior tenant had computers and telephones is no guarantee that the cabling is suitable for *your* phones and *your* computer network. Allow at least 6 weeks for Internet and telephone connections to be installed. Advance planning will help you avoid emergency rush fees or Band-Aid fixes to make things work.



Congratulations to the Baltimore Orioles!

The Baltimore Orioles are American League East Division champs!

Now that the Orioles (XPERTECHS' client for 15+ years) have made the Post Season Playoffs, XPERTECHS has begun to prepare for the significant increase in the demand for bandwidth and IT services. The Scope of Work includes the provisioning of additional Internet access to various media, broadcasting and industry partners, due to the increased number of national media that will be present during the Post Season. In addition, MLB requires live utilization reports on all the Internet circuits for the duration of the Post Season. This project includes enhanced firewalls, bandwidth shaping devices and IT security in addition to the added IT services manpower.

We want to wish the Orioles continued success during the Playoffs!



Shiny New Gadget Of The Month



Neo Grab

It's amazing how quickly our technology evolves. When the GPS devices for cars first came out, could we imagine that our phones would quickly take over that job? More and more, we see people using their phones to navigate in the car, but holding on to the phone while driving can be dangerous. The result has been a series of phone-holding apparatuses that cling to the car in the same manner our GPS's did.

Finally there is one that is not only functional, but also beautiful, and it battles one of the biggest problems with car phone holders. The NEO GRAB allows you to mount and remove your phone one-handed, and it works for you in ways unimaginable, not only in the car, but also in the kitchen, office, bathroom, bedroom, garage, at work, etc. With its extreme suction cup, the NEO GRAB is easy to attach to any smooth, non-porous surface, like glass, drywall, plastic, wood and metal.

The NEO GRAB fits devices with LCD screens up to 6 inches and can be used for smartphones, mini-tablets and even your GPS device. Needless to say, this is the ideal accessory for any smartphone user.

It comes in 5 colors and can be purchased for \$34.99 from www.SkyMall.com.



The Business Innovation Technique of Blending

Entrepreneurs are natural innovators, but even the most forward-thinking people sometimes need a little nudge to help open their minds to new possibilities for growth.

One of the best ways to think outside of the box is to start asking "what if" questions. Here's a "what if" question I've been kicking about lately: What if we took 2 disparate businesses and blended them to make something new? I'm not talking about merging or partnering with another company; I'm talking about blending business methodologies from 2 (or more) industries to create a new business, or dramatically improve an existing business.

A classic example of this is Commerce Bank. Founded by Vernon Hill in 1973, Commerce Bank blended 2 industries: fast-food restaurants and banking. The owner of a fast-food restaurant franchise, Vernon Hill's bright idea was to bring the convenience and perks of fast food to banking.

For example, fast-food restaurants are open every day, and they start early and close late; Hill implemented extended hours at Commerce Bank and kept the doors open 7 days a week. No other bank had done this before.

Hill blended other systems from his fast-food franchise when he launched his blended business. He installed a "Penny Arcade" coin-counting machine in his lobby, which had the same effect as video games in family restaurants. Kids could count money and win a prize, and the adults loved it too.

One of my favorite examples of Hill's blending genius is when you use the drive-thru window at Commerce Bank and get a treat for your dog, just like the toy in a kid's meal. Is it any wonder people call it "McBank"? By blending 2 industries, Hill created the fastest-growing bank ever.

Commerce Bank grew from one location to more than 400, and the franchise sold for \$8.5 billion in 2007. See what a little game of "what if" can spark?

What if you blended your business with hallmarks from another industry? Start thinking WAY outside of the box, looking at winning concepts from industries that may seem to have nothing to do with your business. (Of course, you do have something in common with businesses in ALL industries: customers.) You never know—you just might make billions. Consider yourself nudged.

MIKE MICHALOWICZ started his first business at the age of 24 and is the CEO of Provendus Group.



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Halloween Graveyard Story from Vienna



Chris Cross, a tourist in Vienna, is going past Vienna's Zentralfriedhof churchyard on October 31st. Suddenly he hears some music. No one is around, so he starts searching for the source. Chris finally locates the origin and finds it is coming from a grave with a headstone that reads: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827. Then he realizes that the music is the Ninth Symphony and it is being played backward! Puzzled, he leaves the graveyard and persuades Tim Burr, a friend, to return with him.

By the time they arrive back at the grave, the music has changed. This time it is the Seventh Symphony, but like the previous piece, it is being played backward. Curious, the men agree to consult a music scholar. When they return with the expert, the Fifth Symphony is playing, again backward. The expert notices that the symphonies are being played in the reverse order in which they were composed, the 9th, then the 7th, then the 5th. By the next day, the word has spread and a throng has gathered around the grave. They are all listening to the Second Symphony being played backward.

Just then the graveyard's caretaker ambles up to the group. Someone in the crowd asks him if he has an explanation for the music.

"Oh, it's nothing to worry about," says the caretaker. "He's just decomposing!"

5 TOOLS TO BETTER MANAGE YOUR INBOX

In 2013, over 100 billion business e-mails were sent every day. According to the Radicati Group, that number is expected to exceed 132 billion e-mails per day by 2017.

That means approximately 100 e-mails hit your in-box per day. No wonder it's so hard to keep your in-box relatively clean. Here are some tools that can help:

Mailbox - Mailbox makes it easy to organize your inbox from your smartphone. You can quickly archive, delete or save messages for later. You can even add e-mails to your to-do list so you never forget about a message you don't have time to address when it first arrives.

The Email Game - The Email Game turns responding to and archiving e-mails into – you guessed it – a game. Skip an e-mail and you lose 25 points; respond to one and you gain 175 points. You can also challenge yourself to sort through your e-mail in a set time period.

Unroll.me - Sorting through all the e-mail you've subscribed to (or been subscribed to) can be tough. This service takes all your subscription-based e-mails and transforms them into a daily digest.

SaneBox - SaneBox moves unimportant e-mails out of sight so you can focus on your most important tasks. SaneBox uses an algorithm to filter through your e-mails and put nonessentials into a folder for you to look at later; that way you can focus on the important stuff.

ActiveInbox - If you use Gmail, ActiveInbox turns e-mail into a task management system. You can categorize tasks as "action," "waiting on" or "overdue." If you need something done on a certain day, you can schedule it on your calendar and receive a reminder.

5 Reasons To Buy A Windows Tablet Instead Of An iPad Or Android

You probably already have at least one tablet in your home. And if you don't, you may be considering purchasing one in the very near future. Here are a few reasons to consider a Windows tablet when doing your research:

1. **Windows offers choice.** With a growing collection of tablets to choose from, it is a not "one size fits all" with a Windows tablet. They come in varying sizes from almost every PC brand, so the shopper has options.
2. **Windows offers adaptability.** Windows tablets now function individually as a tablet, as well as docked to an external keyboard like a laptop. You also have the option to plug in portable hard drives, DVD drives, mice, etc., making it easier than ever to transform your mobile work station.
3. **Windows offers Office.** That's right, now you can run your full Microsoft Office Suite on your Windows tablet and work from wherever you are.
4. **Windows offers real productivity.** From answering emails to editing documents to writing on PDFs as if you were jotting notes down on paper, Windows tablets have everything a busy professional needs, including the ability to flip back and forth throughout your working process using the snap view feature.
5. **Windows offers flexibility.** With a Windows tablet, you have the option to run any browser you want. You are no longer limited to just one or two browsers, as Windows tablets can run them all.

