You Won't *BELIEVE* What They're Doing At Work...

A Survey of Over 400 IT Managers Reveals What Employees Are *REALLY* Doing During Work Hours...

And You Won't Believe What They Discovered!

According to a recent survey, employees are using company computers, Internet access, e-mail, and other resources to conduct hours of non-work related activities. Some of these activities simply waste time, like day trading and monitoring eBay bids. However, many of the activities are downright dangerous and threaten the employers' existence and security.

Just look at some of these outrageous stories collected from IT Managers polled:

- One employee was caught running a gambling website and acting as a bookie for his co-workers.

- To bypass the company's web filter, one employee was caught using his desktop computer as an FTP server for the other employees. He had downloaded and saved over 300G of material.

- One employee was busted for giving away confidential information such as price lists, contracts, and software code for application development.

- Another employee was busted for having a side business stealing and selling company inventory on eBay.

- One woman was caught running an online outcall service from her desk.

- One employee was caught renting the corporate IP address to hacker friends to use.

While these scenarios seem outrageous, they are not at all uncommon. According to a survey outlined in the Seattle Times, of 294 U.S. firms with 1,000 or more employees, almost one-third of companies have fired an employee in the last 12 months for violating e-mail policies, and 52 percent of companies said they have disciplined an employee for violating e-mail rules in the past year.

If you are an employer, educating your employees as to what they can and cannot do through an acceptable use policy (AUP) is simply not enough. If the requirements are not enforced, employees will accidentally (or intentionally) violate your rules. That's why every company needs to invest in e-mail and web filtering services. Just having it in place will act as a deterrent for such activities, and if something really is going on — like an employee leaking confidential information to a competitor or distributing inappropriate jokes through your company's e-mail —you'll be able to nip it in the bud before it comes back and bites you in the form of a lawsuit, or worse.

Additionally, a good web filter will prevent employees from accessing inappropriate material online, wasting time on non-work related activities, downloading viruses and spyware, and using up company bandwidth to download photos and music.

Contact BeckITSystems, Inc. for your free Internet Usage Audit – 703.433.0730.

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