

THE HAWK I VIEW



Hawk iSolutions Group, Inc.

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Freebies, Tips,
and Resources!

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

**A Survey of Over 400 IT Managers Reveal What Employees Are
REALLY Doing During Work Hours...
And You Won't Believe What They Discovered!**

According to a survey conducted by 8e6 Technologies (www.8e6.com), 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 malicious and threaten their employees' existence and security.

Just look at some of these outrageous real-life 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 generate DOS attacks.

While these scenarios seem outrageous, they are not 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 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 good e-mail and web filtering software. 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 sending racial or sexist 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.

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WHO ELSE WANTS A FREE NETWORK AUDIT WORTH \$495?

Maybe it's the heat or the fact that so many people are taking vacations this time of year. Whatever the reason, August tends to be a slow month around here.

So instead of sitting around waiting for the ice cream truck to make its rounds, I decided to give away 12 free Problem Prevention Network Audits to our newsletter subscribers to keep us busy.

This service is normally sold for \$495, but if you are one of the first 12 people to respond to this newsletter, you can

have it ABSOLUTELY FREE!

But you have to HURRY!

At no charge to you, I'll send a technician to your office and conduct a thorough assessment of your network. Upon completion of the audit, we'll be able to:

- ♦ Pinpoint gaps in the security of your network that leave you wide open to viruses, hacker attacks, data loss, and system downtime.
- ♦ Show you how to speed up your entire network and reduce or prevent your computer from "acting funny."
- ♦ Scan for spyware and other unwanted programs taking up space on your PC.
- ♦ Check your backups to make sure your data has been backed up properly.
- ♦ Give you a detailed written report in plain English that outlines the health of your network and how we can eliminate computer problems finally and forever.

Why Would You Want An Audit Done On Your Network?

Have you ever heard the expression that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure? Well, this goes double when it comes to computer networks. Without proper maintenance, you could easily experience sudden data loss from a hardware failure, software conflict, or hacker attack. You can end up wasting a lot of time dealing with system

errors, slow performance, and unexpected crashes. Plus, you're at a far greater risk for viruses if your network is not patched with the latest security updates.

You're Not Obligated To Buy Anything...

So What's The Catch?

While we're onsite, we'd like to tell you about our two service programs; **Hawk iCARE** and **Hawk iLAN**. We designed these services for the small business owner who wants their computer network to run without problems. If you cannot afford to be without access to your computer network, you'll want to know about this service. For a very low, very reasonable fixed rate, we can provide you the same level of support that a full-time IT staff can, without the cost or overhead.

But I want to be very clear that you are not obligated to do or buy anything when you sign up for our free network audit. As a matter of fact, we may discover that our **Hawk iCARE & Hawk iLAN** plans are *NOT* right for you and that your network is fine just the way it is!

At the very least you'll gain incredible peace of mind knowing your data is secure — *or* — you'll discover a hidden problem that can be fixed *before* it turns into an expensive computer disaster.

Schedule Your Network Audit NOW To

Make Sure You Don't Miss Out!

The only drawback to this offer is that we only have the time and manpower to give away 12 free audits. Hopefully, 12 will be more than enough to go around, but if you are interested in making sure your backups, security, and network performance are up to snuff, then call our office immediately because we fully expect these audits to be taken *fast*.

Call me direct at **314-727-1174** Or...

e-mail me at
john@hawkisg.com



ARE YOUR E-MAIL MESSAGES EGOCENTRIC?

New research shows that when most people communicate via e-mail, they're not thinking about how the other person will process the information, but are communicating egocentrically.

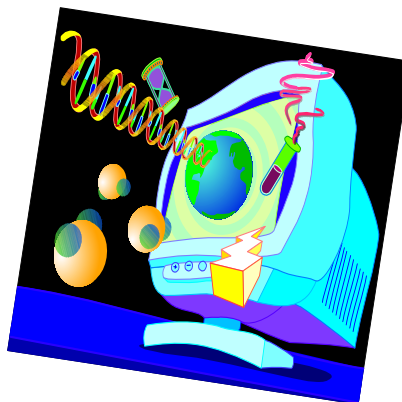
According to the article, *"Think your e-mails are clear? Maybe not,"* by Johnathan Silverstein on the ABC News website, egocentric means that people are approaching an e-mail purely from their own viewpoint, and not that of the recipient.

Justin Kruger, an associate professor at NYU and Nicholas Epley, an associate professor at the University of Chicago, are the authors of a paper on the subject recently published in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* that says people are not as good at expressing themselves and their emotions via e-mail as they think they are. The world of e-mail communications is chock full of horror stories of misunderstandings and miscommunications. According

to Kruger, it's hard for most people to get beyond their own perspectives and realize how impoverished our communications can be for the recipient.

So, the next time you send an e-mail, take a moment to stop and think about how it might come across to the other person.

Additionally, when you receive a harsh-sounding e-mail, don't jump to the conclusion that the sender is angry or being hurtful. They might just have an "egocentric" style of communication!



"Look at a day when you are supremely satisfied at the end. It's not a day when you lounge around doing nothing; it's when you had everything to do, and you've done it."

- Margaret Thatcher

The Lighter Side...



Boss Wants Too Much

For thirty years, Johnson had arrived at work at 9:00 a.m. on the dot. He had never missed a day and was never late.

Consequently, when on one particular day, 9:00 a.m. passed without Johnson's arrival, it caused a sensation. All work ceased, and the boss himself, looking at his watch and muttering came out into the corridor.

Finally, precisely at 10:00 a.m., Johnson showed up, clothes dusty and torn, his face scratched and bruised, his glasses bent. He limped painfully to the time clock, punched in, and said, aware that all eyes were upon him, "I tripped and rolled down two flights of stairs in the subway. I nearly killed myself!"

And the boss said, "And to roll down two flights of stairs took you a whole hour?"

Now That's Depp

It seems that the actor Johnny Depp has a rather odd sense of humor. According to Wikipedia, in the film *Freddy's Dead: The Final Nightmare*, Depp (who was the star of *A Nightmare on Elm Street*) can be viewed appearing in the background on a television screen. In the credits, Depp is recognized by the moniker "Oprah Noodlemantra." It's widely reported that Depp uses this name when he stays at hotels because he likes his wakeup call to make him laugh.



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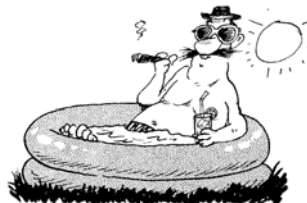
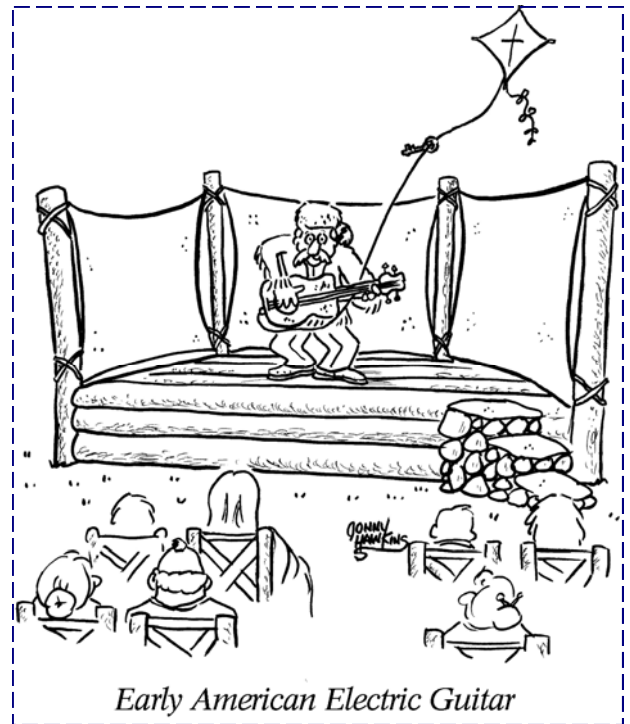
Additionally, a good web filter will prevent employees from accessing inappropriate material online, wasting time on non-work related activities, downloading viruses and spyware, and using up company bandwidth to download photos and music.

If you would like our help in choosing and setting up a solution that will help your company protect itself inside and out, then let our company introduce the right *WatchGuard* and *Reflexion* products for you! For more information on this subject, call us at: 314-727-1174 or send an e-mail to Michele at michel@hawkisg.com.

I'd Love To Hear From YOU!

Is there an article or a feature you would like me to include in this newsletter? Do you just want to sound off about something or share your opinion with my other subscribers? Let me know!

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Stay
Cool!