

AMICRON NEWS

computer news, tricks, and tips

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Welcome Back!

Based on feedback from our customers, and popular demand from readers like you, we have decided to bring back *AmicronNews*. This is the first issue of *AmicronNews* published since December of 1997. Back in January of this year, we decided to stop production of *AmicronNews* so that we could focus entirely on our primary publication, *ComputerFAQs*. We've gotten a lot of calls, however, asking where this newsletter went. So, we've decided to bring it back. We hope you enjoy. >Richard Rost, Editor

AmicronNews Survey: Last issue's survey question was "how many computers does your organization currently have?" With 329 responses, over 70% of you responded in the "1 to 5 computers" range. Only 8% responding claimed over 20 computers. Looks like our readership is most popular amongst small and mid-sized companies. **Next Month's Question:** "Have you taken educated steps towards ensuring your company is Year-2000 safe?" There has been a lot of hype concerning the Year-2000 problem, but some of it is warranted. If you'd like to read up on Y2K problems, and our list of things to check, call and request document **811061**. And remember, all respondents to our survey are entered into a drawing for a free training class or PCDoctor checkup!

Industry News Shorts: The next in the Windows line: Windows 2000. Formerly known as Windows NT 5.0, Microsoft expects to ship the new business-level operating system sometime in 1999. As always, we recommend you wait to upgrade to any new software product until it's been on the market for a few months. ❖ Memory chip manufacturers are experiencing a glut of DRAM chips. The new memory chips are currently selling at an all-time low for the industry (we have 32 MB DIMMs for only \$53). The low prices are expected to last throughout the rest of 1998. ❖ According to *Computer Shopper* magazine, microprocessors from manufacturers Cyrix and AMD now account for 60% of the market share for sub-\$1000 desktop computer sales. Haven't we been saying *all along* that Cyrix and AMD make great processors? ❖ Our *game review* for the month: *Axis & Allies* by Hasbro Interactive (\$49). If you liked the board game, the PC version plays good. Some bugs with the Internet play, but overall it's a good game. ❖ According to *PC Magazine*, Microsoft Internet Explorer market share has finally pulled ahead of Netscape Navigator. Sorry, Netscape. It was inevitable. The new IE 5.0 beta is now available. ❖ According to *Computer Reseller News*, companies have increased spending on Y2K-related issues from 5% of their total computer budget in 1997 to 29% in 1998, and are expected to increase to 44% in 1999.

This Month's Tech Tip: Auto Update Your Word Documents

Using both a word processor like Microsoft Word or WordPerfect and spreadsheet program like Excel or Quattro Pro allows you to create documents which can contain data from a spreadsheet that is automatically updated whenever the data is changed. The benefit: you can create multiple documents in Word (such as price sheets, financial statements, or just about anything), that all pull data off of the same Excel spreadsheet. Change the data once, and all of your documents and reports are updated. The trick is to *copy* the spreadsheet from Excel and use the *Edit, Paste Special* feature in Word or WordPerfect. When you paste, make sure to select "Paste Link" and "Microsoft Excel Worksheet Object" before clicking OK. This will create a link to the original spreadsheet, and will update the document whenever it is changed. This is a concept covered in our Word and Excel Intermediate classes, but we have prepared a free document to teach you how, step-by-step. To request a copy, just call/fax/email us and request document **811062** and we'll fax it right over to you.

Free Software

Selling gift certificates this holiday season? We have created a **FREE** program called *Certifica* to create, print, and track your gift certificate sales. For your free copy, visit our web site at www.amicron.com, or call for document **811063** for information on how to get your copy.

New Low System Pricing!

Thanks to the forthcoming holiday season, we are able to offer some *incredible* deals on systems this month, like our **Amicron Delta**, an M2-300 with 64 MB of RAM, 6 GB hard drive, 8 MB video, modem, full multimedia, and more for only **\$951**. Request document **811064**.

Slow Computer?

We can upgrade your current system to a *Blazing Fast*

300 MHz

For as little as

\$259

**Tired of waiting for Windows to load?
Need speed, but can't budget a new PC?
Existing computer not Y2K compliant?**

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, we have just the option for you. We can upgrade your existing computer with a fast 300 MHz processor and motherboard for the fraction of the cost of a new system. For complete details on this special offer, please call and request document **811060**.

Finish The Year With Some Computer Education For Your Employees.

Computer training remains one of the most under-budgeted areas of corporate information-technology spending. Why spend \$2000 on a new computer for an employee who doesn't know how to utilize it effectively? For as little as **\$59**, you can give your employee some computer know-how with Windows 95, Word, Excel, Access, or any of our quality computer classes. It's all hands-on, small-group learning, and your satisfaction is guaranteed. Request document **811065** for a schedule of classes.

Documents are **free** by fax to the Buffalo/WNY area. You can call us at 716-837-4685, fax us at 716-833-6724, email us at amicron@amicron.com, or visit our web site at www.amicron.com. Be sure to leave your name and fax number. For a complete listing of documents, or for back issues of this newsletter, request document **811066**. *AmicronNews* is copyright © 1995-1998 by Amicron Technology Services, all rights reserved. Please contact us if you are interested in any of our products or services, or if you would prefer to stop receiving our newsletters.

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