Frequently Asked Questions About Computer Technology

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That's right folks, after three years in our current location, we've finally decided to move out into bigger, better office space. Thanks to our friends over at Zaepfel **Development**, we're consolidating our Training Center along with the est of our offices in some beautiful new space at 2630 North American Drive in West Seneca (right near the Union Road exit of the 400). Our new phone number as of August 1st will be 716-677-4737, and our new fax number will be 716-677-4742 (we'll have machines still set up in our old office - in case you don't write these numbers down). All of our existing customers will receive full details on our move, as well as an invitation to our New Office Warming Party we're throwing - once we've settled in. We'd like to thank all of our customers: without you we wouldn't be needing bigger offices! We'd also like to thank Greg Zaepfel for all of his time and assistance. If you're looking for better office space yourself, give Greg a call at 716-632-7230.

Q: A friend of mine just bought a new laptop from you and it came with *Windows 98* Second Edition. What is this, and should I upgrade my system? >Trey, Hamburg NY

A: To answer your first question, Trey, Windows 98 Second Edition is Microsoft's latest attempt to separate you from your money (just kidding, Bill... I mean Mr. Gates). Seriously, though, it's just another iteration of the Windows operating system. Do you need it? No. Is it nice to have? Sure. If you already own Windows 98, you can upgrade for \$20, which isn't that bad. It adds a few nice features, like a small-workgroup Internet proxy feature (nice if you want to set up a few PCs in your home or small office to share one Internet connection.) If you'd like the complete list of what's new, give us a call and request document **907121**, or check here \square and we'll fax it over.

Q: I can't seem to keep laptop batteries for more than a year! I've had this Compaq laptop for just over 3 years, and I've gone through as many batteries - which cost \$75 each. Besides, I hardly use them. I'm usually plugged in at the office

and at home. Should they run out so fast? > Jasper, Cheektowaga NY **A:** Part of your problem may be that you're leaving your laptop

plugged in all of the time. If you have the older nickel-cadmium or the NiMH batteries, it's best to leave your laptop unplugged while you work. Let the battery drain fully (or at least down to 10% or so) and then plug it in to let it charge - preferably while it's off. You may be

inadvertently shortening the battery life yourself through improper use. Newer laptops with Lithium Ion batteries don't have this problem - you can leave them plugged in whenever you like. They're also much more expensive. However, if you work the kind of schedule that demands the kind of usage you're accustomed to, it may be worth the investment. Give us a call. We can track down the right battery for you.

Q: I loved your tip a few months back about using the Format Painter in Word and Excel to copy the format (colors, attributes, etc.) of a word or cell and apply it to another one. Is there any way to have that "stick" on so that I can apply it to many different sections of my document without re-clicking on it? > Joanne, West Seneca NY

A: For those of you who didn't read the issue that Joanne is referring to, you can use the Format Painter (right next to Paste on the formatting toolbar in most Office applications) to copy the format, or the "look and feel" of one word or cell to another. For example, if you have a word that is Arial, bold, red foreground color, and 12 point, and you want to change another word to look like that, you can click on the original word, click on the format painter, and then highlight another word to apply the format. Give it a try. If you'd like for the format painter to stay "on" so you can apply it to multiple words, just double-click on it and it will stick on. Hope this helps!

Q: I'm using Microsoft Outlook Express that came with Internet Explorer 4.0 and Windows 98. I can get it to access my Internet mail just fine, but for some reason I cannot configure it to work with the Email on my office LAN. > Gary, Buffalo NY

A: Sorry, Gary, but Outlook Express doesn't work with Microsoft Mail (i.e. LAN mail). Microsoft wants you to buy Outlook 2000. There's just no way around it. The good news is that Outlook 2000 is really very nice! Check it out if you can.

The Year 2000 is less than 172 days away! You owe it to your company to read our *free* Y2K Report. Don't wait until it's too late. Call and request our document **907122** or check here □.

Office 2000 Available. That's right folks, Office 2000 is now on the shelves. We have it, and we have put together our first Office 2000 Review. If you're interested in reading about what's new, or you'd like pricing, call for doc **907130** or check here \square .

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