



“As a business owner, I know you don’t have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That’s where we *shine!* Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!”

- Rick Johnston

**January, 2010  
Fargo, ND**

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# Technology Times

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

## Attention Facebook & Twitter Users: Hackers Are Now Using Your Friend’s Accounts To Transmit Viruses

**“Hey, I have this hilarious video of you dancing. Your face is so red. You should check it out!”** If you’ve received a message like that through a Facebook or MySpace friend, you may have been exposed to the "Koobface" virus. Here’s what’s going on...

Hackers have now made a new cozy home for themselves on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Disguised as one of your friends, they’ll send you a direct message with a video link attached. If you click on the link, you’re prompted to update your Flash player to see the video, and therein lies the virus, cloaked in a "flash\_player.exe" file. Once installed, this worm transforms your computer into a Zombie machine as part of a botnet (a network of computers that are controlled and used by the originator of the worm for unscrupulous purposes).

### Are You Really At Risk?

Unless you are aware of these scams, it is very easy to become infected. Some of the direct messages and tweets have titles that are very deceptive. Some of the more common messages will say, “Here’s the video I mentioned...”, or "LOL," or "My friend caught you on hidden cam," or "My home video :)" These messages are followed by a link directing you to a page to watch the video. These seemingly harmless messages can quickly infect your entire office network, allowing hackers a free pass in. In addition, they can block you from accessing important security updates, making your network even more susceptible to hacker attacks. In some cases, they use their free access to your computer to steal bank account information, credit card numbers, social security numbers and other confidential data.

### How To Protect Yourself

Awareness is the first step to protecting yourself. Make a copy of this newsletter and hand it out to all your coworkers and your friends and family so they don’t get infected or infect you. Next, follow these three simple steps:

- 1) **Frequently Change Your Password And Don’t Use Easy To Guess Combinations.** I know, it’s a pain in the neck to change your password frequently, especially when you have dozens to keep track of. But this really is one of the best ways to avoid compromising your account on social media sites. Additionally, don’t use simple passwords like “password” or “123abc.” Include lower case and capital letters, as well as

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## Shiny New Gadget of the Month

First there were smart phones. Now, there are smart pens.

The new smart pen by Livescribe (called the "Pulse") electronically records all the words you write and simultaneously records the audio as well. Here's how it works...

While you're taking notes on its special dot matrix paper, the Pulse's microphone records the presentation or speech going on in the room. If you want to review a section of your notes, simply hold the pen over that area of the paper and the smart pen will replay the section of the audio recording that coincides with those notes.

The pens cost around \$200. The paper can be printed for free from a Color LaserJet Printer that is Adobe PostScript compatible and can print at 600 dpi or higher. You can also purchase the dot paper notebooks for around \$14. Now there are no excuses for missing any part of a presentation!



numbers. If a hacker is trying to crack your password and you never change it (or if it's super easy to guess), you make your account a prime target.

- 2) Avoid Downloads.** Avoid downloading anything from messages on Twitter or Facebook, even if the message is from someone you know. As a general rule, never download any file if you are not 100% certain it is secure and virus free.
- 3) Get A Beefy Firewall.** If you or your employees are using any social media sites for personal or business connections, a strong firewall will protect you from getting infected. SonicWall firewalls offer the Comprehensive Security Suite which helps protect you from all kinds of threats that may come in via your Internet connection. That way, even if you or your staff inadvertently open a dangerous message from one of these sites, your firewall can prevent it from bringing your whole network to a grinding halt.

**If you'd like more information on the importance of securing your network against social media threats, please e-mail us at [info@imsnetworking.com](mailto:info@imsnetworking.com) or call us at 701-364-2718.**

### Please Welcome Our Newest Client and Friend!

We are thrilled to welcome our newest client into our company! We want to extend a sincere "thanks" for the trust and confidence this client has shown in us. Best wishes on a very Prosperous New Year!!

**Brudvik Law Office**

Thanks, Brett & William!

## GFI MailArchiver™ is the #1 Email Archiving Solution for SMBs

Email is critical to your small to medium sized business', but it brings with it a host of new problems communication; dealing with storage limits, periodic backups, problematic PST files, access to old emails and regulatory compliance or eDiscovery requests just to name a few. Failure to address these problems effectively can bring serious repercussions.

GFI MailArchiver is the single solution source for your email archiving, email management problems on Exchange Server. With over 10,000 customers, it is the #1 email archiving software for small to medium sized businesses. GFI MailArchiver is used by administrators all over the world, to maintain an archive of all corporate email correspondence, significantly reduce the demands on the Exchange server, manage and reduce the company's dependency on PST files and also meet a growing number of regulations on compliance, eDiscovery and other legislation. This product is easy to install, requires very little administrative effort, and ships at the lowest price on the market!

With GFI MailArchiver your email worries are over. All email is stored in a central location, easily accessible in two ways: through a folder in your user's Outlook email client; or by using a web browser. We integrate closely with Outlook in a first-in-its-class manner, avoiding the use of stub files which other products use.

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## ***The Lighter Side... What That High-Tech Computer Sales Jargon Really Means:***

**NEW:** Different color from previous design.

**ALL NEW:** Parts not interchangeable with previous design OR the old one was so bad we had to trash it and start over.

**UNMATCHED:** Almost as good as the competition.

**ADVANCED DESIGN:** The advertising agency doesn't understand it.

**IT'S HERE AT LAST!**  
Rush job; nobody knew it was coming.

**FIELD-TESTED:** Manufacturer lacks test equipment.

**YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT:** We finally got one that works.

**BREAKTHROUGH:**  
We finally figured out a way to sell it.

**FUTURISTIC:** No other reason why it looks the way it does.

**MAINTENANCE-FREE:**  
Impossible to fix.

**PERFORMANCE PROVEN:**  
Will operate through the warranty period.

**MEETS ALL STANDARDS:**  
Ours, not yours.

**BROADCAST QUALITY:**  
Gives a picture and produces noise.

### ***With GFI MailArchiver, Your Company Benefits From:***

- Access to emails if required for eDiscovery and email compliance purposes, internal inquiries and employee monitoring
- A safeguard in customer complaints and lawsuits
- Auditing functionality that guarantees stored emails are genuine and have not been tampered with
- A complete and secure archive of all company email

### ***With GFI MailArchiver, Network Administrators Can:***

- Allow users to access their emails from Outlook but without the problems associated with stub files on Exchange; an industry leading approach
- Reduce your message store size and improve Exchange performance
- Reduce reliance on cumbersome PST files
- Archive past, present and future emails into one or multiple databases and avoid complex backup plans to copy PST files from each employee's workstation
- Intuitive to set up and fine-tune email retention policies

### ***With GFI MailArchiver, Employees Can:***

- Benefit from an unlimited mailbox size even with Exchange mailbox quotas in effect
- Instantly access archived email directly from Outlook or using the MailArchiver Web interface
- Retrieve old and deleted emails on demand, with full thread and conversation
- Use advanced email search and 'Saved Search' capabilities

### ***Why Choose GFI MailArchiver?***

- Outlook integration allows for fast and easy access to archived emails by employees
- Archive emails centrally for compliance purposes, eDiscovery and internal investigations
- Backup emails in a way that they can be easily searched and restored in original format

One of our GFI MailArchiver clients, recently received a litigation request for all email correspondence with a particular party going back several years. Fortunately, we had implemented GFI MailArchiver on their Microsoft Exchange server just two months after the beginning date of the search period. Due to this fact, all email with this party was easily and quickly recovered and saved to a PST format that could be presented to the court.

Without having an email archiving solution in place that saves all email regardless of whether they have been deleted from the user's mailbox or not, retrieving these emails would have been a monumental task; if not impossible!

Clients who have installed and used GFI MailArchiver will tell you that it is such a great product, they wonder how they got along without it!

Give Rick a call at (701) 364-2718 or email him at [RJohnston@imsnetworking.com](mailto:RJohnston@imsnetworking.com) to find out how GFI MailArchiver can save you time and money while making your email system more efficient.

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## How Windows 7 Helps You Monitor And Control Your Children's PC Usage

Although most of the hype around Windows 7 revolves around its ability to make your daily activities more intuitive (like making it much easier to search for documents, giving you the ability to manage multiple screens, or helping you to switch more quickly between multiple open programs), Windows 7's biggest benefits may come from its security features.

Since it allows you to create different accounts with different permissions, you have the ability to set specific times of day that the computer can be used, how long it can be used for, and what games you will allow each family member to play (based on game ratings).

This means you can prevent your kids from downloading or installing inappropriate games or staying on their computer until midnight. Simply set the system to automatically shut down after a few hours of use. You can also set up filters so they'll get an error message if they attempt to access an "adult" rated game.

### Get a Copy of Windows 7 FREE

During the month of January, upgrade 5 of your office computers to Windows 7 and get a copy of Windows 7 for your home computer FREE. Call now to schedule your upgrade:

701-364-2718 or go to  
[www.imsnetworking.com](http://www.imsnetworking.com)

## Consultant Spotlight: Brian Mullenberg & Dave Loegering

Brian Mullenberg & Dave Loegering have recently joined us as Network Consultants.

At Information Management Systems, Brian and Dave assist clients with implementations and technical services, technical support, and troubleshooting. They will help businesses maintain security of their computers and servers through managed services.



Brian has 13 years of experience in managing and supporting the latest Microsoft technologies, administrating phone/call center systems, providing technical support for Microsoft Dynamic products and maintaining internal operation applications.

Brian is originally from rural Carrington, ND and has lived in the Fargo area for 21 years. His education includes a bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems from North Dakota State University. He started his career at Great Plains supporting desktop and server computers in the company and provided technical assistance on Great Plains Software. Brian has been an administrator for over 10 years and oversaw phone systems, telecom connections to desktops, managed vendors, and agents. He has managed large IT projects and has worked with Windows 2008 Server, Vista, Windows Virtualization and SQL.

Brian lives in Horace with his wife Karen and their daughter Jessica (12) and son Troy (9). He is president of the Red River Snoriders Snowmobile Club. In his spare time, he enjoys woodworking, restoring old cars, snowmobiling, fishing, watching his daughter in dance and his son play hockey.

Dave has 13 years of experience in designing and implementing network and computer systems to support a 175 user business including several remote locations. Dave's computer background is with Windows and Linux servers and Cisco IP phone systems. He has experience with Novell, Apache Web Server, SQL, Citrix, Cisco firewalls, 3com and Netgear Switches.



Dave grew up near Jackson, MI and has lived in the Fargo area for 29 years. He obtained a bachelor's degree in Accounting from North Dakota State University. Dave was in the Army National Guard/Army Reserve where he was a logistics officer for infantry and medical battalions.

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