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### Ignus Announcements

Nicholas Hauschild is now part of our eBusiness team. Nick's main duties include software development, web hosting, and domain registration.

Nick programs predominantly in Java and C++ but develops in other programming languages as well.

## You can't afford not to protect yourself!

Statistics have shown that internal and external theft can cost you dearly.

**\$446 Million**

is lost from business due to robberies each YEAR!

**\$20 Million**

is lost due to internal theft in restaurants PER YEAR!

**\$15 Million**

is lost due to theft in the restaurant industry

**\$74,000**

is lost per restaurant per year in the US due to employee theft.

**75%**

of employees admitted to stealing from their employer

**53%**

of theft is reduced by installing a video surveillance system

FOR EXAMPLE, \$15 MILLION DOLLARS A DAY IS LOST IN THE US RESTAURANT INDUSTRY ALONE DUE TO THEFT ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION. The US Department of Justice reports that \$446 million dollars is lost from businesses due to robberies each year.

If you grew up in the Midwest, as I did, you tend to think that these issues don't apply to us. I would like you to sit down for the evening news and take a look at all the crime that is reported on a nightly basis. The same can apply by listening to your local radio stations. You may be a little disheartened by what you hear is happening in your area.

Although some of you may not have had a break in yet, don't leave yourself unprotected. Chances are theft is already occurring at an internal level of your business. \$20 billion dollars a year is lost due to internal theft in restaurants which is broken down to \$74,000 per restaurant according to the National Restaurant Association and Restaurant Food Cost Association. This is not just a problem in the restaurant business; retail businesses suffer even heavier losses. 75% of employees report stealing from their company at least once during their tenure, and I can guarantee you if they can get away with it once they will most likely do it again.

*Protect Yourself - Continued on next page* ➔

## Web 2.huh?

*It's not an upgrade to the next version. It's an upgrade in concept.*

YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD THE TERM "WEB 2.0". Although Web 2.0 sounds like a new version of the internet – what it really means is a new way web sites are developed. The phrase was coined in 2003 by O'Reilly Media and became popular in the first Web 2.0 conference in 2004.

Web 2.0 is really defined by its attributes. Websites like [gather.com](http://gather.com), [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) or [wikipedia.com](http://wikipedia.com) feature content driven by the site's users, not the owners. These websites require a user to log in and post whatever information they like about themselves or about specific topics that users feel they are experts in.

**Other attributes a Web 2.0 site might include:**

### Blogs

A blog is like a user diary. Blogs allow a user to write and display content about themselves or a topic and allow users to post comments about the article for others to view and read. Blogs can create quite a following – provided the content is accurate and usable.



*Web 2.Huh? - Continued on page three* ➔

*Protect Yourself - Continued from cover*

Ignus Technologies would like to help you combat theft by providing you with a budget-friendly surveillance solution. Studies have shown that a video surveillance system can reduce theft by 53% in the first year. That's a \$37,000 average savings to you. The money you will save by reducing internal theft as well as the insurance discounts you can receive will pay for the system over a short period of time. Ignus believes that the prevention of internal and external theft using video surveillance is a vital piece to your business.

The cost to protect yourself is significantly less than the cost to recover from losses. ●●●

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## The Road to Vista, Part III

One of the marketing messages Microsoft is sending regarding the new version of Windows called Vista is that it's the most secure version of Windows yet.



But what makes it more secure, and how secure is it? And how does this impact the way you'd work with Vista at home or at the office?

Vista has many changes that are designed to improve security. The ones we'll talk about here include:

- » User Access Control (UAC)
- » Internet Explorer protected mode
- » Windows Defender
- » Network Access Protection

### User Access Control (UAC)

User Access Control (or UAC) is the feature that Apple pokes fun at in one of their Macintosh ads. In the ad, there's bodyguard-looking man standing between the Mac and the PC. Every time the Mac wants to communicate with the PC (Windows computer), the bodyguard relays the message to the PC and then says, "Allow or Deny." In the end, this

constant interfering by the bodyguard becomes frustrating to the PC and the idea which the ad is hinting at is that the UAC feature in Vista is frustrating and burdensome.

In actual use, I don't run into that many situations where I have to answer this security prompt. So in my opinion it's not a burden. The only time Vista actually prompts like this is when you're doing something that requires administrative control over your computer. Things like accessing the control panel, installing software, and running software as the administrator.

Most users typically don't do those things very regularly and it could even be looked on as a benefit as that extra message serves to remind us that we're now doing something that changes how our computer works and we should think about our actions a little more carefully.

The idea behind Vista's UAC is to make it impossible for malicious programs (like viruses, worms, trojans, spyware and the like) to do their dirty work invisibly any more. If a Vista user opens that email attachment they shouldn't have and it tries to install a virus or spyware, it can't do it now until the access control prompt has gotten permission.

### Internet Explorer protected mode

Internet Explorer running on Vista is able to utilize a new security feature called protected mode. Internet Explorer protected mode builds upon UAC to allow Internet Explorer to have just enough power to browse the Internet, but not enough that malicious web sites can use it to push their bad programs on us.

Internet Explorer also has a new enhancement that helps identify criminal websites which disguise themselves as normal websites in order to trick us into entering our bank account information, credit cards, passwords, and so on. This type of attack is called "phishing" and Internet Explorer now has a phishing filter.

### Windows Defender

Vista also includes Windows Defender which is a technology that helps your computer fight off problems caused by malware such as pop-ups, spyware, and other unwanted programs. It features real-time monitoring that automatically suggests actions to take against spyware when it's detected.

### Network Access Protection

Network Access Protection is a fantastic feature which blocks computers from accessing your

network if they don't meet security requirements such as having the correct security patches or up-to-date anti-virus definitions.

Network access protection keeps machines that are vulnerable targets from weakening your whole network.

### How secure is Vista?

It's still too soon to tell how much more secure Vista is, but there's no doubt that it is more secure than any version of Windows Microsoft has released before.

The features we discussed in this article are just a few of the many changes made to the way Vista works which are all designed to improve the overall security of Vista and therefore our computers, files, and networks.

However, even Vista has already had security vulnerabilities found, including a very serious one related to cursor and icon files (the .ANI vulnerability) that also affected Windows XP and 2000.

### How does this affect you?

Once you have Vista up and running, you won't really notice the new security features working in the background to protect you. Other than the extra prompt that requires acknowledgement when installing software, it's rare that I even think about the security features in Vista.

Where you might notice a difference though is how older programs work with Vista. Because of the security improvements and a few other Vista changes, some programs may not run on Vista or may work differently. Also some older hardware may not operate correctly with Vista.

Unfortunately that's a tradeoff that Microsoft had to make in order to improve Windows and is part of the price of progress. In fact, we'll go through some similar challenges with the migration to 64 bit processors so this isn't unique to Microsoft or Vista.

What you will notice if you upgrade to Vista is that it's definitely different. But once you settle into it, the enhancements and improved security features are great. ●●

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### RSS Feeds

Since Web 2.0 websites are content rich, the content should always change. Many websites subscribe to a service called RSS Feed (Really Simple Syndication). An RSS Feed is a stream of dynamic content that will automatically update itself on your website.

Websites can also generate an RSS feed by providing content for other user's websites.

### Design Trends

Web 2.0 is also about image. Websites that claim 2.0 enabled usually have one or more of the following design elements:

- » A starburst of some sort
- » Reflections & Shinyness
- » Gradients
- » Large Text & Icons
- » Boxes with Rounded Corners

### Personalization

Many Web 2.0 sites allow users to customize the way the site looks and works for them. Streamlining the way they navigate and interact with the site.

Some sites even go so far as to modify themselves based on user actions. So if the site detects a trend that you always go to the sports scores first every time you visit the site, it will adapt and move the sports scores to the top of the page or make them larger and more prominent.

On the technical side, Web 2.0 sites might make use of new technologies like AJAX and Web Services to enable a more interactive and dynamic interface which is more intuitive and responds faster. (Think: Google maps.) Features like these make web sites easier to use and more enjoyable.

Who knows how long the trend of Web 2.0 will last but one thing's for certain, Web 2.0 is taking strides to make the internet more accessible, user friendly and shiny. ●●

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### MS Office 2007 Tip

You can minimize the new ribbon interface in Office 2007 and get more screen space for working on your document by simply double-clicking on the active tab at the top of the ribbon.

Double-click any tab to restore the ribbon back to normal.

This works in Microsoft Word 2007, Excel 2007, PowerPoint 2007, and Access 2007.



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## Google, a Plethora of Popularity, Power & Pages

*The world's most popular search engine provides many useful tool at your disposal*

Most people agree that Google is one of the powerhouses in the world of internet searching. What many people do not know is that there is more to Google than just searching through web pages looking for specific words.

Google has set up many key phrases to help us get to the information we need much faster, rather than having us sift through the possible thousands of responses we could get when doing our web searches. Here are a few examples of that.

Have you ever had the problem where you just don't know how many centimeters are in 5 inches? Well, with the help of Google, the answer is just one simple search away. Simply type in: 5 inches to centimeters. The first find will be your answer of 5 inches = 12.7 centimeters. When you type in common pieces of information that relate to either calculating numbers or conversion, Google uses their calculator to tell you the answer.

Don't know the meaning of a word? Add the word 'define:' in front of your word search, to get your definition in the blink of an eye. Type: define: world, you would immediately get the dictionary definition of the word 'world'.

Google also has extensive road maps available for you to use to get directions to a new coffee shop or the best night club in town. You can simply type in the street address for any business or residence

and receive a road map of the location. Once you put in the address, you will also have the option of putting in a starting address. This will allow you to get the full directions as to where to go.

Want to know the weather of the location of your next trip? Do a search with the word 'weather' in front of a city to get the current and future weather for that location. By typing in: weather Fargo ND, Google will tell you what the weather will be for today and the next three days.

There are many other useful tools that you can use to find the information you want faster. To learn more information on other Google search functions, please visit: <http://www.google.com/intl/en/help/features.html>.

Now I just need to do a google search for "define: plethora".

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