



Software Security

Lapses on Rise in Windows

By Duane de Long

In December, 2006, the Washington Post reported that “the world’s largest software maker, Microsoft Corp, this year issued software updates to fix 97 most dire, ‘critical’ security holes in it’s Windows Operating System.” This is up from 37 in 2005. The “Post” calls this the “year of computing dangerously.”

In addition, the “Post” article states that “more than 90% of all email sent online in October was unsolicited junk mail and spam.”

Isn’t it comforting to know your Datacon server, either the Mac or the Alpha Micro, can be 100% guaranteed not to have your patient or insurance history breached or corrupted by any of these Windows security holes?

Datacon Sells 21

MacMini’s in Six Months

By Duane de Long

In July, 2006, we installed our first MacMini server in the periodontal office of **Dr. Stephen Reid** in Contra Costa County, CA. **Dr. Reid** has two offices (Walnut Creek and Danville) served by a single MacMini located in his Walnut Creek office. These two offices are connected to the Mac via DSL and the Internet. In the six months that he’s had this server and connectivity system in place, he has never had either office down.

Since July, Datacon has installed 20 additional MacMini’s to replace Alpha Micro servers in offices both large and small. In addition to the Mac’s small footprint and tremendous performance, the other advantage over the Alpha Micro is its convenient and very quick backup system onto DVDs. This takes about 5 minutes.

This new Mac platform has allowed Datacon to take a giant step forward in terms of technology and ultimately enhanced software development...stay tuned!!

HIPAA and Domains

By Jose Sanchez

When installing a network in your practice there are many issues to be concerned with. The most perplexing tend to involve security and user management. One answer to both problems is proper configuration and deployment of a Domain controller. What then is a Domain controller and how does it work?

A Domain controller is a Microsoft Windows server that centralizes most of your network maintenance operations. From one console you can add/remove users and assign them permissions, restricting their access to sensitive data and organizing their personal data. This is important for maintaining proper security on your network.

When a Domain is properly implemented, a PC has to be joined to a Domain by an Administrator and a user account must be properly created. This means that nobody without a username and password can get into your data. It also means that a user can’t just plug their laptop into the network and access data either. Even in cases where someone manages to “hack” a poorly protected wireless network, they can’t access data on the Domain controller without a valid username and password. If an employee’s responsibilities change, you simply give them permission to view more sensitive information.

Best of all, users save their data to the server and it gets backed up on a daily basis. This way, if a PC breaks, users don’t lose data. They can even access their personal files by simply logging in to any other PC with their username and password.

All this is called “file level security” and is how you can ensure HIPAA compliance from your Windows based network. In addition to powerful security, Domain controllers will often come with a service called Exchange that is an e-mail

Please see HIPAA on the back...

PLEASE CIRCULATE TO

Doctor Associate Office Manager Bookkeeper Office Staff

HIPAA Continued...

server. Exchange allows you to maintain intra-office e-mail services and integrate them with your outside e-mail accounts. You can even act as your own e-mail host with your Domain being registered to the World Wide Web. There are many other useful features of a Domain controller like VPN and database hosting. The single greatest benefit to your practice is knowing that you have properly implemented file-level, group-based security that will protect your data and ensure HIPAA compliance.

QWERTYUIOP

The Conclusion

Recently, we referred to this series of letters as the purported first email message that was sent between two computers in 1971 by Ray Tomlinson. Last month we held a contest challenging you to decipher the source of this message. Here the winners:

- ♦ **Carrie** from **Pickett Dental Corp** in Vallejo, CA
- ♦ **Karen Armstrong** from **Dr. Tom Armstrong** in Bakersfield, CA
- ♦ **Jonathan Lee, DDS** from **Jonathan and Brian Lee, DDS Inc.** in Foster City, CA

For the record, QWERTYUIOP is the top row of letters on a standard computer keyboard!

Datacon's New Website

By Kamal Prasad

Hear ye! Hear ye! If you have not recently visited Datacon's website, you should check it out. We have given it a facelift that you may appreciate and find easier to navigate. Our website address has not changed and you can find our snazzy new site at www.datacondental.com.

There is an **announcements** section right on the home page that links to upcoming events and trainings, our current newsletter and other Datacon related news. You can also sign up to receive our newsletter releases via email. Our newsletters are always full of good information on how to get the best out of your Datacon system.

The new look is just the beginning. In the coming months we will be adding even more features that you will be able to use in your day-to-day work at your practice. If there is something that you would like to see on our website, please feel free to let us know. You can reach us via email at info@datacondental.com.

New Year Checklist

By Kamal Prasad

As you return to your offices after a well-deserved vacation, it is wise to take a few moments to check some things about your office that will make the good feeling from the vacation last longer.

- ⇒ Make sure your anti-virus programs are up to date
- ⇒ Run Windows Update to ensure you have the latest security and computer bug fixes
- ⇒ For your anti-virus program, check to see when their subscriptions are going to expire and renew if necessary
- ⇒ Check your surge protectors. Most have a light where you turn them on and off and if the light is out or flickering randomly then it is time to replace them.
- ⇒ If you have not had a preventative maintenance done in over a year, it might be a good time to call Datacon to schedule one.
- ⇒ If you have extended warranties on some of your more expensive hardware, check to see if they are expiring and what options you have to renew them.

We hope these tips will help you start off to a wonderful and prosperous new year!

Datacon's Hours

Monday Through Friday
8am to 5pm, Pacific Time

Current Datacon Versions

Dental Software—3.5N(102)
pcLink—1.9 (04/24/2006)
pcLink for Mac—1.6
TimeClock—2.0(F)
Please call Software Support
if you need an update!



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Classes

January, 2007

New User Seminar *
01/05/07
Chart Note Templates
01/17/07
Power User *
01/31/07

February, 2007

Airtight Recall *
02/05/07
Analysis Reports
02/14/07
New User Seminar *
02/22/07

March, 2007

New User Seminar *
03/07/07
Ortho Workshop
03/19/07

* Qualifies for
CE Credits