IT Radix Resource

We make IT Work for You

March Madness

Swoosh…Nothing But Net!

In today's always "on" environment, being connected is required. But connected to what? The network, of course. But which network and how?

In the early days, most computer users were trying to connect to another computer within the same physical building. This was done using copper wire. As the need for more and more computers to communicate together grew, a device called a switch was developed. The switch is what actually connects multiple computers together. You'd probably recognize—it's the device with all the cables plugged into it.

Dribble on down the line a few years, and now users wanted computers to communicate to other computers outside of their own private network or physical location and a new device was born—a router. The router directed traffic to multiple networks. If the information you are trying to access is local, it directs your request to a local computer; if the information is not on your network, it provides the directions or routes information to your larger private network or alternatively, the Internet.

Over time, as laptops became more prevalent, plugging into the network became less desirable and wireless networks were born. Initially, the wireless connections were local within the same physical area, be it a home or office. The range of these wireless connections is limited. This type of connection is commonly referred to as WiFi. You've probably used a WiFi network not only in your home or office but also in your favorite coffee shop or hotel when you're traveling. When you leave the establishment, you are disconnected from the WiFi network because you are no longer in range.

This led to cellular or broadband wireless. Using the same network as your cell phone, these wireless signals have a tremendous range and you can stay connected as you move throughout a geographic region and more. It is important to note that you are connected to the carrier's public network, not your own and as a result, if you are trying to access information at your home or office, you'll need to set up a mechanism to do so. Keep security in mind too!

So, what's better? Typically, wired connections are faster, easier to control and as a result, are more secure than either WiFi or broadband wireless. If you need greater mobility and flexibility, wireless networks are a slam dunk. WiFi equipment is sensitive to building construction, distances and interference. As result, it's important to evaluate your physical environment when considering using either WiFi or broadband wireless to connect.

WiFi technology is constantly improving and soon the speeds of WiFi and wired are expected to be equivalent. Similarly, the network speeds of broadband wireless are improving—3G vs. 4G, and so on. The next hurdle WiFi and broadband wireless will need to overcome is the limitations of signal loss and interference.

Only time will tell how technology will advance to solve these problems. Until that buzzer sounds, IT Radix will be here to help you sort through your wired and wireless options to select the technology that best meets your needs.

In This Issue

If you would rather receive our newsletter via email, sign up on our website or send an email to resource@it-radix.com

SPECIAL OFFER

Get the XP Out

Since every business is different, we are offering a free, no-obligation assessment of your unique environment. Plus, let IT Radix help you migrate to Windows 7 or 8 and receive one hour of free labor for each XP workstation upgraded.

Note that this offer is applied to a complete workstation setup to replace an existing XP workstation currently in use. (Check out our website to see what a complete setup includes.)

Call IT Radix for your free assessment and make plans to *Get the XP Out*!

Introducing…Weissco Power

IT Radix is pleased to introduce our client, **Weissco Power** of Califon, who utilizes wireless technology in their daily business.

Founded in 1999, Weissco Power is a full-service organization providing critical power maintenance and emergency services to companies that require uninterruptible power for their business to operate. They offer everything from site surveys, installation and testing of new and pre-owned UPS equipment, preventative maintenance and battery replacements on all major manufacturers including APC, Powerware and Liebert, to name a few.

Weissco Power relies on IT Radix for all their technology needs, whether in their home office or out in the field. Wireless tablets and wireless hotspot technology make it possible for them to complete service reports and obtain customer signatures while on location.

"IT Radix has become our trusted IT advisor," claims President, Stacy Weiss. "We rely on their pool of professional expertise to help us make the most of technology so that we can more efficiently and effectively service our clients."

Learn more about Weissco Power at www.weisscopower.com.

Lunch'n'Learn…Disaster Recovery

Don't rely on the "Luck o'the Irish" to keep your data safe. Join us on Friday, March 28, for a free lunch and leave with the basics of a disaster recovery plan, including checklists and guidelines.

In the spirit of celebrating St. Patrick's Day, choose not to leave your company's data recovery to LUCK! During our seminar you will learn the important steps to take in order to guarantee that your business will be back up and running in the event of a data-erasing disaster. IT Radix is here to make sure you never have to experience extended downtime, data loss or corruption.

"LUCK" is not a good strategy when it comes to your Company's data!

Feel lucky?!?!? Wear GREEN and double your chances to win an Irish-themed raffle basket!

For more information and to register, visit us at www.it-radix.com/lunchnlearn.

Our Clients Say:

"One of the biggest benefits we have received since hiring IT Radix is fast response to new tickets and speedy results. When our backup fails, we get a call. The remote login feature to troubleshoot problems is very easy to use. The techs take the time to explain the problem and solutions. The personal attention is great!"

Jack Zybura, Lewis Goodfriend & Associates

"Wait a week, then tell him
we don't need 'receptors' for wireless.

Cathy's Corner…

As you read our latest newsletter, you might be thinking *"Just how are computers and basketballs related?"* My initial reaction was not much until I stumbled on an interesting article titled "Basketball Isn't a Sport. It's a Statistical Network." A basketball fanatic and a math whiz put their passions together and developed an innovative method of processing data that could revolutionize game analysis and, therefore, change how coaches manage and select players and develop strategies to win. While these folks had to have the creative genius to figure out how to process the data, without a computer it would have been almost impossible. The article reminded me why I enjoy working in the technology field—it's not about the technology…it's about making something better, more efficient or more fun.

So, as I sit back and enjoy March Madness, I'll wonder if Duke analyzed their play using the latest "Krossover" statistical analysis system to improve their chances of reaching the Final Four.