IT RadixResource

We make IT Work for You

It's a Zoo Out There!

Preserve Your Natural Habitat with Technology

Maintaining a healthy business environment is an important part of running a successful company. Your environment affects every part of your business, so it's important to maintain a healthy space.

But your environment doesn't stop at your office doors; and as business leaders, it is our responsibility to be mindful of the environment outside of our offices, too. The good news is, you don't have to wait until Earth Day to decide to reduce your carbon footprint. Making a positive impact on the earth around us can be a daunting task, and while it may seem difficult at first, it can be a profitable investment for your company.

You can position your company to go green, and save money by taking advantage of a technology that has been revolutionizing IT for years: Virtualization! By implementing virtual technology, your IT environment becomes more efficient and more reliable—all while reducing the physical hardware in your network. Think of it like turning your network into a zoo, but *this* zoo helps keep the world we live in cleaner and helps keep you in control of your business.

> "By implementing virtual technology, your IT environment becomes more efficient and more reliable."

Minimizing your physical hardware and running your servers on one device allows you to reduce your network's points of failure and can prevent unnecessary downtime. By implementing a central machine to *host* your servers, you gain the ability to separate your line-of-business applications, your remote working environments, and your other resources. Doing this will increase performance for you and your users leading to a less stressful and more productive work day. All while cutting down the cost of expensive hardware purchases and potential replacements down the line.

Not only does reducing your physical hardware create a more productive environment, it also allows you to cut down on your energy consumption. Servers tend to be energy guzzlers, and in this case, less is more. That means more room to save, and more funds to re-invest in growing your business.

Saving where you can, running a more efficient business, and providing a happier work place for you and your

What's New

IT Radix on the Road
We are pleased to be out and about this month meeting new people and sharing our knowledge. Hope you can join us at some of these events:

Atlantic Builders Convention (NJBA)

Meadowlands Regional Chamber Cyber Summit

MCCC Not-For-Profit Conference

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

More free tech tips at:
www.it-radix.com/news-blog

Introducing… Paula Stone

Our newest staff member, **Paula Stone**, loves nature and is a true animal lover. She has fond memories of spending many a day with her children when they were younger exploring Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange, NJ. Giraffes have always been her favorite zoo animal because they are so beautiful and graceful…plus, she admits to being a tad bit envious of their height. ;-)

Paula comes to IT Radix with 25 years of customer service experience. Most recently she worked at Wigder Leasing Corporation as an Administrative Assistant where she oversaw accounts receivables, billing, and contracts while acting as a liaison between their vendors, clients and sales force. Paula graduated from Ramapo College with a business degree and a concentration in marketing.

As the Marketing Coordinator at IT Radix, Paula is happy to finally be working in the marketing field. In this capacity, she gets to dabble in a variety of different arenas. Her main responsibilities include overseeing all our marketing efforts as well as coordinating both onsite and offsite events and ensuring that our staff has what they need to be successful. Paula enjoys building strong relationships with our clients and strives to ensure they have the best possible experience with IT Radix.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Paula spent her early years growing up in Fair Lawn and now resides in Livingston with her husband, Bruce, and her two, 100+ pound Italian Mastiffs, Daisy and Hooper. She has two grown boys. Josh works as an Associate Product Manager at Merck Pharmaceuticals and Brandon is a student at the University of New Haven studying Music Industry.

When not working, you can find Paula on a tennis court or shaking it in her Zumba class. She loves the excitement of exercising to great music with awesome people and burning tons of calories while she's at it. Paula enjoys hosting and cooking traditional holiday meals. When not cooking, you can often find her watching Food Network or reading cookbooks to catch up on the latest recipes. An avid traveler, Paula's favorite vacation was exploring the Costa Rican rainforest—she loved being up close and personal to the wildlife and spending time in the natural surroundings with her family. Now that her boys are getting older, she truly cherishes those times together.

Paula's personal philosophy:
If you have fun and keep a good attitude, people want to work and be with you!

"I thank God every day that I woke up feelin' this way."

— Meghan Trainor, "Me Too" lyrics

Welcome!

A warm welcome to our newest **Management and Support** clients:

John Desch Associates, Inc.
Northern NJ Council BSA
Pan American Coffee Company

Remember, IT Radix is here to service all of your technology needs!

Preserve Your Natural Habitat w/Technology

(Continued from page 1)

employees are all part of making sound business decisions! And while making the right decisions for our companies and livelihood is important, playing our part in keeping the environment healthy for our community and setting the precedent for the people around us creates a responsible culture that keeps our planet green.

Ask us today how you can implement virtual technology to help your business reach its full potential—all while staying kind to the earth we live on.

THE BUZZ

OUR PARTNERS SPEAK OUT:

"As a non-profit electronics recycling company employing only adults with developmental disabilities, we look for companies to partner with that share our mission and dedication to helping others. Everyone at IT Radix is so friendly…we couldn't ask for a better business to work with. Last year, we were able to collectively recycle approximately 10,000 lbs of e-waste generated from the clients of IT Radix!"

Tim Butler, President — GreenVision Inc.

IT RadixResource
We make IT Work for You

Cleaning Out Our IT Habitats (Part I)

Zookeepers have one of the best jobs in the world—they get to play with animals every day! Well, that's not entirely true! Most of a zookeeper's day is spent preparing food for their animals, cleaning their habitats, and keeping an eye out for any unusual behavior that might indicate that their animals are not healthy and happy. Likewise, when it comes to being a technology caretaker, we want to keep our computers healthy and happy; and there's no time like the present for some "digital" spring cleaning:

Get started by making sure that all web-connected devices are squeaky clean:

- Update software on all Internet-connected devices to reduce risks from malware and infections.
- Keep mobile apps current, review permissions and delete unused apps.

Stay tuned for more "digital" spring cleaning tips next month.

Proudly folded & stuffed by Park Lake School

SPECIAL OFFER

Come Out of Your Shell

Sign up for a year of IT Radix Management and Support during the months of **April, May** and **June**, and receive tickets to Turtle Back Zoo.

Visit www.it-radix.com to learn more about what's included in each of these proactive maintenance plans. Offer for new managed service clients only. Some restrictions may apply. Call IT Radix today to learn more!

Get Your Head Out of the Sand

Many people believe that ostriches put their head in the sand to hide from danger. The reality is that they are using their beaks to turn their eggs in the nest they've dug in the ground. So, they aren't hiding, they are protecting their valuable eggs.

Are you hiding from the security dangers that prey on your business computer network? When we identify security risks, quite often there is always a reason why they aren't addressed from "It's not in our budget," to "It's not a priority" to "It won't happen to us." Sadly, we've seen this approach backfire too many times. What are the biggest security risks facing businesses today?

Careless or Uninformed Employees – We can't say it enough. Train your employees on cybersecurity best practices and offer ongoing support. Employee awareness is a major part of the problem. In 2015, 72% of breaches originated from within the extended organization (includes contractors and former employees). A CITI report recently found that less than 35% of employees felt it was their responsibility to keep company data safe. It is critical to drive home internal data security as a core business objective. There are many options on how to do this including Security Awareness and Training programs like the ones that IT Radix offers. Our recommendation…get started on developing good data protection habits within your organization today.

Make sure employees use passwords on all devices. Make sure they are strong and changed regularly—just like those ostrich parents rotating their eggs in the nest. We can assist with a password management system to help automate the process and reduce the need for your staff to remember multiple passwords.

Mobile Devices – The rapid rise of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) has not only brought convenience and cost-savings but also introduced a host of security concerns. Over two-thirds of global organizations have been affected by mobile security breaches. Have a carefully spelled out BYOD policy. Consider how you share data and allow access to data and email. Here again, education and password policies can help reduce your risk. Consider adding mobile device monitoring to help quickly pinpoint exposures if mobile devices are lost or stolen.

Cloud Applications – Carefully evaluate the cloud solutions you are using in your business. This includes applications such as file sharing and social media apps. Develop some security guidelines and policies around the use of cloud applications within your business especially as more and more line-of-business applications are being converted to cloud applications. Review the access rights and permissions not only of your staff but also of the cloud application provider. Many cloud applications are now supporting encryption at the data level to help provide even greater protection.

Unpatched Devices or Devices That Cannot be Patched – Most businesses know that they need to patch their end-user machines (even if they don't have processes in place to ensure it's happening). However, just like the misunderstood ostrich, many forget network devices such as routers and printers that also need to be updated and patched. In July 2015, Microsoft stopped updating Windows 2003 servers. There are still millions of these servers in use. The list of unsupported technology doesn't stop there. Are you still using outdated tech?
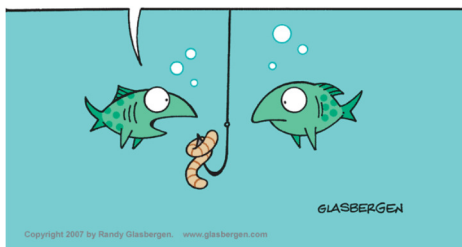
By providing security awareness education, being knowledgeable about security threats, and being transparent at all levels about the consequences of a data breach, you can get your head out of the sand and protect your valuable data head on.

"Zoo animals are ambassadors for their cousins in the wild."

— Jack Hanna

I'M THINKING ABOUT GOING ONLINE, BUT I HEARD IT CAN BE DANGEROUS!

GLASBERGEN

Copyright 2007 by Randy Glasbergen.   www.glasbergen.com

Enter and Win Trivia Contest

The first person to send an email to resource@it-radix.com with the correct answer to our trivia question will win a fun box of chocolate animals.

Q: What city is the home of the first U.S. zoo?

_____

January Trivia Challenge

Q: What does the symbol Rx mean on prescriptions?

[Answer: *Take*]
(from the Latin word, "recipe")

Congratulations to Diane Mancini of National Microwave Contractors Inc. and Ellen de Luna of Reimbursement Intelligence, recipients of Healthy Fruit Baskets!

From the desk of: Cathy Coloff
Subject: Welcome to the zoo!

I love going to the zoo! It gives you a chance to glimpse the life of animals in a simulated habitat that you wouldn't be able to see otherwise. Of course, I would love the opportunity to see many of the animals in their natural environment; but I will admit, I'm happier viewing the snakes and other assorted reptiles behind a glass window or other safe distance. You can check out our staff's favorite zoo animals on our website at www.it-radix.com/zoo.

One of the benefits of a zoo is that it allows researchers to study animals in social situations. Many of us have been enjoying following the birth of a baby giraffe by April at the Animal Adventure Park in Harpursville, NY. No zoo required…my husband, Doug, has been following a variety of eagle cameras online. Prefer, lions, tigers or bears? I encourage you to check online for the literally hundreds of ways you can get glimpses of the many creatures we share our world with and their surprising impact on our lives, no matter how remote.

These days, we can all feel like an animal in a zoo as technology enables us to observe and respond to different inputs through cyber monitoring, social engineering and artificial intelligence. Sadly, this knowledge is being used not only for good—hence, our commitment to educating our clients to the ever-increasing cyber threats in our world.

I hope you take advantage of our free electronic recycling program this month in honor of Earth Day. Learn more at www.it-radix.com/recycling. Together we can make a big step in minimizing our carbon footprint on our environment.

New Zoo Review

Zoos are a wonderful way to get up close and personal to wild animals that we wouldn't normally be exposed to. They play a key part in education, conservation and appreciation of the many species that inhabit the world we live in.

The idea of bringing together a collection of wild animals has ancient origins. The oldest such collection of animals (elephants and baboons) is thought to have existed in Egypt in 3500 B.C. Seventeen century zoos were called *menageries*—primarily aristocratic or royal animal collections of captive animals, frequently exotic, that were kept for display. Later on, menageries referred also to travelling animal collections that exhibited wild animals at fairs across Europe and the Americas. It wasn't until 1847 that the word "zoo" was first introduced and used to describe the London Zoological Gardens. Since zoos were often set up for the scientific study of animals, the word "zoo" would eventually come to refer to these places dedicated to zoology—the study of animals.

Today's zoos are not merely establishments of luxury and curiosity as the menageries of the past. They now focus on education and conservation. The Captive Animals' Protection Society and the Animal Welfare Act have made great strides in improving the wellness of the animals that they protect. Today, great care is taken when designing animal enclosures. Animals are given large enclosures that include places for animals to rest, play and hide. The enclosures are designed to match their natural habitats. Zookeepers incorporate enrichment activities throughout the day. They hide their food to encourage animals to practice their hunting skills, thus reducing boredom and inspiring creativity.

We sure can learn a lot from nature and our feathery and furry friends!