

**May 2009**

**In this issue:**

**Product Watch:**

Netbooks

**Vista Series—Part 2**

Mobile PCs

**Spring Cleaning -**

Get rid of clutter

**For the Kids -**

Crazy Machines 2

**Check It Out—**

New website launch

**On the Lyte Side -**

Cartoon

**Important Dates:**

**Dates to Remember:**

10th - Mother's Day

16th - Armed Forces Day

25th - Memorial Day

**In History:**

1796 - Edward Jenner gave the first vaccination against smallpox. The disease was finally eradicated in 1979.

1884 - A patent was given to Dr. John Harvey Kellogg. He had accidentally left a pot of boiled wheat to stand. After rolling the soaked wheat and baking it, the grains became crisp and light - Corn Flakes!

1875 - The first Kentucky Derby was run in Louisville

1927 - Charles Lindbergh made the first transatlantic solo flight in "The Spirit of St. Louis"

1937 - The Hindenburg disaster occurred, killing 36 people

1948 - Israel became an independent nation

1955 - The US Supreme Court reaffirms the 'Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education' case, requiring the integration of schools

**Little Bits:**

In 1983 Microsoft built it's first mouse but only sold 5,000 of the 100,000 units built. It wasn't until Apple

**Product Watch: Netbooks**

You may have seen one in a coffee shop or tucked under the arm of a student somewhere: a mini-notebook, commonly referred to as "netbooks." But what is it exactly, and what can they do?



Netbooks are small., lightweight and relatively affordable PCs. However, they are different in their capabilities from a traditional notebook. They are designed for just basic tasks — web surfing, e-mail and word processing.

They are not ideal for online gaming or video editing, and there are limitations on their hard disk space so you won't be able to store much for photos or files on them.

But they do perform just fine for some and in some circumstances. If you find yourself in need of an ultra-portable, lightweight solution, a netbook may provide a low-cost option.

**To Vista or not to Vista.....The series**

**Part Two - Increase Mobile PC Potential**

(We are frequently asked about the benefits of upgrading to Vista, and what impact it might have on a business. In this multi-part series, we will attempt to answer many of those questions. )

IDC predicts that there will be over 1 billion mobile workers by 2011. Strategy Analytics predicts mobile PCs will be the dominant form factor in the United States by 2010.

Laptops are here to stay, but managing them can be challenging and costly.

For workers on the go, system problems can leave them stranded. Windows Vista is designed to be self-healing and easy to manage, enhancing reliability. The Startup Repair Tool enables mobile workers to automatically recover even unbootable systems. Instead of separate disk images for desk-top and mobile PCs, Windows Vista enables a single image to be deployed across both.

Windows Vista uses the latest wireless protocols, enhancing security for users connecting to public networks. For example, Network Access Protection, a feature that works in conjunction with Windows Server® 2008, helps ensure that only healthy computers (for example, those with the latest updates and an enabled and updated Anti-virus program) can access the network, helping to reduce the risk that mobile PCs can release a virus inside the network perimeter.

Windows Vista can increase the productivity of mobile workers by reducing the amount of time they spend managing their hardware and data. The Windows Mobility Center puts controls commonly used by mobile workers in a single location. And, Windows Vista enters and exits sleep states significantly faster than Windows XP so that users spend less time waiting for systems to come online.

For mobile workers, battery life can also have a big impact on productivity. In addition to enhanced power management features, Microsoft has worked with notebook manufacturers to optimize laptop PC configurations for maximum battery life when running Windows Vista. This includes reducing power drain from preinstalled software and modifying device drivers to minimize unnecessary power usage. Test results have shown as much as 30 percent improvement in battery life with the newly updated drivers.

**Spring Cleaning:**

Most of us have new ideas and opportunities and possible business strategies cross our desks all the time! Unfortunately, most of us do not have the time readily available to act on those ideas and strategies right away, and as a result, they end up piled on the corner of our desk, tucked in a folder in a drawer, or in today's digital world, saved in a computer file somewhere.

Being surrounded by all of this extra material can work to slow you down and get in the way. Additionally, it works to slow down your PC or server, and gets in the way of important needed processes. Spring is the perfect stereotypical time to clear away all the clutter and get down to the matters that you really can and want to tend to.

Throw away or delete any items that you now know don't make sense for your business any more, or that you simply don't have the resources to pursue. Then sort through the remaining items and prioritize them into action plans. You still won't be able to tackle all them items all at once, but you will be able to place them into a long-term plan to help you stay on track to accomplish those that should be enacted while making sure they don't fall off the grid.

**For the Kids:**

Crazy Machines 2 allows kids 8 and up to create gadgets from a



100,000 units built. It wasn't until Apple released the Macintosh a year later that a mass audience viewed the mouse as a tool to make computing easier.

Ketchup was once sold as a patented medicine. In the 1830s it was marketed in the United States as Dr. Miles's Compound Extract of Tomato

The first computer, the steam-driven calculating machine, was built in 1823 by Charles Babbage. It failed to work due to poor workmanship in the intricate parts. When rebuilt by the London Museum of Science in 1991, it worked.

Sugar was first added to chewing gum in 1869. Ironically, a dentist named William Semple was behind the decision.

**Contact Info:**

Traci McKown  
816-415-2310  
tmckown@blueoaktech.com

**For the Kids:**

*Crazy Machines 2* allows kids, 8 and up, to create gadgets from a variety of mechanical parts (wrecking balls, lightening rods, lasers, pulleys, springs, gears) as they attempt to complete challenges, such as pop a balloon. Kids (and many adults, too!) have fun and learn at the same time — creative problem solving and an introduction to fundamental facts about gravity, mechanics, electricity, light, and how to convert one of these forms of energy into another. Plus, you can compete for trophies and swap ideas in the online community.



Be sure to check the minimum system requirements before purchasing as it has fairly high hardware needs. Available from *Viva Media* for *Windows*.

**Check It Out:**

Our newly redesigned website was recently launched!

If you haven't had opportunity to swing by our website in a while, take a quick look! Maybe even forward the link to someone you know in need of high-quality IT support!

Plus, you'll find all the past issues of this intellectually stimulating newsletter available to read over and over again! If ever there is something you remember reading about, but can't recall the detail, you can refresh your memory at [www.blueoaktech.com](http://www.blueoaktech.com)! Please stop by!

**On the Lyte Side:**

© Randy Glasbergen.  
[www.glasbergen.com](http://www.glasbergen.com)



**“MEMO: All rules and consequences regarding office behavior, attitude, language, and violence shall be temporarily suspended while we upgrade to new computers and software.”**