

Marari Network News

Special points of interest:

- > The REAL cost of Facebook
- > "Patch Tuesday" is September 11, 2007
- > Have you checked your backup?
- > How can Marari Network Solutions help protect your business?

Facebook - What's The Big Deal?

In a [Winnipeg Free Press article](#) by Bartley Kives, The City of Winnipeg joined the ranks of business and other governments - including the Manitoba and Ontario provincial governments - in blocking Facebook from computers.

In fact, businesses all over the world are starting to put the brakes on social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace, and even YouTube.



company, 66% of workers said that they are concerned about colleagues sharing information on Facebook.

41% of Facebook users are willing to divulge personal information to complete strangers.

Almost half the people that use Facebook are willing to give out phone numbers, email addresses, birth dates, and other personal information to a complete stranger. This fact was confirmed by Sophos after conducting a Facebook ID Probe in Mid-August of this year.

But why?

The City of Winnipeg spokeswoman Pam Sveinson attests the blockages to security concerns and increased bandwidth usage on city networks.

The news is all over the net. You can't google "Facebook" without getting a number of hits complaining about how it steals time from your employees. But have you considered the real cost?

In a recent [CBC article](#), Ontario's Premier, Dalton McGuinty said that he doesn't see how Facebook adds value to a workplace environment.

According to security research company Sophos, the issue of Facebook is deeper than just lost productivity. In a poll by the

(Article is continued on page 2)

"Patch Tuesday" September 11, 2007

On the second Tuesday of every month, Microsoft releases updates to patch vulnerabilities found in their operating systems and other software products.

While this is a relatively "light" patch Tuesday, the critical bulletin address a vulnerability in Windows itself, and three of the remaining four bulletins address vulnerabilities that can give a malicious, remote user full control of your PC. These vulnerabilities are found in MSN Messenger, Windows Live Messenger, and holes in Visual Studio.

This month's "Patch Tuesday" falls on September 11, 2007 and includes 5 security bulletins with only one of them being labeled as critical.

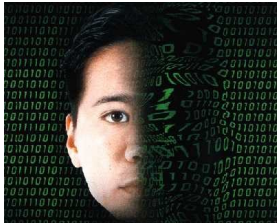
Due to the nature of the instant messaging vulnerability, it is recommended to give these patches high priority.

If you do not have automatic updates enabled on your PC's please make sure that you go to [Microsoft Update](#) and keep up to date with security patches.

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Most people install P2P software using the defaults



First there was Napster. Then Kazaa. Then dozens of other peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing software applications sprouted up all over the web. One of the biggest of this new breed of P2P networks is called LimeWire.

According to a [Seattle Times article](#), police have arrested and charged a man in Seattle for allegedly using LimeWire to “steal people’s tax returns, student financial aid forms and other sensi-

tive data from their computer hard drives.”

The indictment alleges that he used the information to open up credit card and bank accounts in the victims’ names and then he purchased thousands of dollars in merchandise from online merchants and conventional retailers which he then sold for 50 cents on the dollar.

Most people install P2P software using the defaults because the customization can be some-

what daunting to the average person. The problem is that the defaults may include sharing a default directory with other P2P clients such as your “My Documents” folder. And if that’s where you store all of your personal information, documents, saved accounting files, and so on, you’re making all of that information available to everyone that uses that P2P network. All they have to do is look for it.

Protect yourself. Check the defaults.

Lights Are Out But Somebody’s Home

“Windows servers can be managed by using a built-in tool to connect from a remote site”

Fact. Windows Servers need to be restarted from time to time, especially after critical patches are applied.

Most times, and with most IT Support companies, that temporary outage (which can be as little as 10 minutes up to several hours) happens during regular business hours. You know... when you’re in the office with the rest

of your staff trying to get tasks completed.

Regular server maintenance, which includes server optimizations and other techie-geeky stuff can slow down server performance to a crawl... which is bad when most of your documents are located on the server.

Is there a happy solution?

Yes. It’s called Remote Server Management. Windows servers can be managed by using a built-in tool to connect from a remote site. This connection is direct and secure.

Imagine that. No more maintenance interruptions during regular business hours so you can all get your work done.

Relax, we’re on I.T.

Facebook - What’s The Big Deal? (continued)

Would you like to block out access to unwanted sites?



They randomly selected 200 people and re-requested “Friend” status, through this “fake” character they created to conduct the probe.

Source: [c|net News](#)

Why should that concern you? If an unscrupulous random “Facebook friend” asks for your information, will they be able to piece

together your passwords? PIN numbers? Your email account is likely your username or login at work too... the possibilities are limitless as to the damage that can be done.

Do your employees visit social networking sites during business hours?

How much time has it cost your business?

Can you put a value on that time?

Would you like to be able to monitor and record employee web usage at work?

Would you like to block out access to unwanted, potentially dangerous sites?

I can help. Just ask me.

An Inner Reality Check

How well do you know your IT Support Person?

Next to your accountant, your IT Support Person knows more about your business than most of your employees. If they have administrator privileges on your business network, then they potentially have access to **all** data on your network. Including the files and folders you may believe are private.

That's an awful lot of trust to hand over without a

few considerations.

What do other clients say about your IT Support Person? Do you check references? Can they back up their claims with demonstrated experience? Are they reliable? When you need them, are they available? Do they keep you informed as to what they've done or how they've generated your billings? Do they want you to sign a service contract? Will they sign a non-disclosure agreement?

Are you happy with the level of service you are getting for the price that you are paying?

If any of these questions raise any doubts in your mind about your current provider, then perhaps it's time to consider change.

It's your data. It's your network. It's your security and peace of mind.

I would appreciate the opportunity to earn your trust and friendship. All you have to do is call.

“Next to your accountant, your IT Support Person knows more about your business than most of your employees.”

What My Clients Say About Me

“For more than 15 years... his tireless enthusiasm and expertise has seen us through an era of ever-present transition and growth. No matter what the problem, no matter what the hour or situation, Ari is always there leaving no stone unturned to make sure things are running smoothly.”

Joe McEvoy,
Vice President
Dynamic Machine Corp.

“We were looking for a reliable contact to clean up our server, check the whole network for problem areas, and develop a backup procedure...”

... We are very impressed with Ari's knowledge of Microsoft products and the proper applications of each.”

Cam Wilson
Vice President
Simpson Wilson Ltd.

“Ari approached us with the exact product that we needed to best suit our needs. What surprised us was his enthusiasm and understanding of our type and size of business.

... Ari is a man who brings an honest assessment of what your business needs are and meets them on budget.”

Jason Studensky
General Manager
Hilton Insurance Services

“No matter what the problem, no matter what the hour, Ari is always there leaving no stone unturned...”

Feedback Request

It has been my goal from the beginning to deliver a quality, thought-provoking newsletter.

If you have any opinions, suggestions, constructive criticisms, or ideas, I would love to hear from you.

If this newsletter has helped to bring forward

new ideas or concepts that you hadn't previously considered, please let me know.

Next month, I'd like to add some comments from readers and share opinions.

Let's make this as much **your** newsletter as it is mine.

With kindest regards,



Ari Novikoff
President,
Marari Network Solutions

Marari
Network Solutions

Contact Ari Novikoff from Marari Network Solutions for:

- Network and PC support on Windows platforms including:
 - Windows Server 2000/2003
 - Small Business Server Edition
 - Exchange Server 2000/2003
 - Windows 2000 Pro/XP/Vista
- Network and PC Security Auditing
- Server and PC hardware/software maintenance
- Hardware and software procurement and consulting
- Network design, implementation, and cabling services
- Backup and recovery planning

Visit us online!
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Relax, we're on I.T.

ANNOUNCING TWO NEW SERVICES!

Click the icon to download the datasheet



Block unwanted internet sites from being accessed on your business network with **Marari WebSentry**.

- Pick and choose the lists that you want to block
- Allowance for different groups and access levels
- Track internet usage statistics by computer
- Automated block-list updates and email of access logs

Click the icon to download the datasheet



Eliminate over 95% of SPAM and virus-infected emails before they cause harm to your network with **Marari MailSentry**.

- Users can manage their own whitelists and blacklists
- Users can rescue quarantined items to have them delivered, delete them, or confirm them as SPAM
- Multiple scanners for layered protection against SPAM, banned attachment types, and viruses