



NEWS SUMMARY

More Layoffs Likely At Yahoo

More layoffs are likely at Internet media giant Yahoo, which plans to announce major reorganization plans for financial analysts in mid-November.

B2B To Reach \$4.3 Trillion

The total value of goods and services purchased by businesses through e-commerce will reach \$4.3 trillion in 2005, up from \$282 billion in 2000, for a compound annual growth rate of 73 percent, IDC said.

IBM Delivers Security For Wireless LANs

IBM released several security services that are designed to plug holes in corporate wireless LANs.

Life Tips

Experience teaches slowly and at the cost of mistakes.

-J.A. Froude

OpenAxis News is intended to provide useful information regarding Information Technology to our clients and friends.

The news covers new version releases, hotfix file update, and some IT tips.

Business Tips: A Hidden Decision Maker? -The rule of IT administrator

In this era, company needs two bosses: the one is the chief executive, and the other is IT administrator. This is not an exaggeration. More or less, the reality requires IT administrator to have a severe responsibility. There are many companies, not only dot-com companies, that their business operation stops if their computer system is down. The more the company use computer for its operation, the wider the area that IT administrator has to cover; therefore, his/her authority will gradually cover the entire company after all. And there will be a situation where even the chief executive has to ask the IT administrator when the business operation needs to be modified.

This is not a matter of

right, or wrong. This is just a reality.

One of the OpenAxis' staff handles the computer system configuration and maintenance of its clients. He not only knows the computer system, but also tries to understand clients' business operation. The other day, one of his clients decided to change their business operation management application, without consulting him at all. He insisted that he needs to study the application in order to examine all the requirement of business operation. But the company ignored his suggestion and the implementation schedule went on as scheduled; a few days later the software vendor came on site and installed the application. They set up the data and finished

implementation.

On the next day, the company told him that other existing application became not working. He went on site, and found that user cannot open the new application and this application at the same time due to some database issue. Since it is necessary for the company staff to open these application simultaneously, the company has to go back to the original application; Consequently, huge investment became just a waste. Your IT administrator MUST understand your business itself, in order to avoid this kind of incident.

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IT Tips: The requirement for computer community

The biggest computer security threat isn't a vicious virus or a skilled and malicious hacker. The real danger, according to dozens of experts, is easy-to-install software and software vendors who focus too heavily on adding convenient features instead of solid security solutions into their applications. The default software installations performed by most operating systems and applications top the SANS (System Admini-

stration, Networking, and Security) Institute and the FBI-led National Infrastructure Protection Center's new Top 20 security threats list.

The Top 20 list does not focus on the specific viruses or worms that may be active at any given time, but instead concentrates on the root problems: the system and software holes that all viral and hack attacks exploit. Most of the significant holes

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At OpenAxis, we focus on the implementation of IT solutions for small- and medium-sized businesses.

We provide management and computer consulting services by identifying issues, implementing solutions, and managing all your IT needs.

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The requirement for computer community

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detailed on the list were created by those default software installations, according to the list's documentation. Default installations allow a software vendor's pick of an application's most useful components or services to be installed on a computer. It's a no-brain, hassle-free way to install software, but many security experts contend that default installations too often enable features that users do not need or use but may not know are active on their computers. "Software vendors' philosophy is that it is better to enable functions that are not needed than to make the user install additional functions when they are needed," according to documentation of the top threats provided by SANS. "This approach, although convenient for the user, creates many of the most dangerous security vulnerabilities because users do not actively maintain and patch software components they don't use. Those unpatched services provide clear and easy paths for attackers to take over computers."

SANS is a cooperative research and education organization through which more than 96,000 system administrators, security professionals and network administrators share information about security. System administrators have reported to SANS and other security organizations that holes often go unpatched because the constant barrage of patches and security alerts are overwhelming.

"Just like you need a drivers license when you drive, ever user who use a computer should be required to have a certain knowledge, at least for the applications they are using."

**MS New Licensing Program:
More Money, or Less Money?**

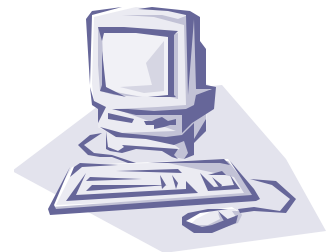
Microsoft is phasing out Version Upgrades, a plan under which enterprises who owned a Microsoft product could upgrade that product at any time for much less than new customers buying new licenses at full price. So, for instance, a company upgrading to Windows XP from Windows 2000 would pay much less for the software than someone buying a new copy of Windows XP for a new PC.

Under the new licensing plan, dubbed Software Assurance, however, enterprises looking to upgrade from old ver-

sions of Microsoft software can either pay full price for new software or enroll in Software Assurance and pay for a three-year subscription to receive the latest versions of Microsoft software as they come out.

Software Assurance became already available on Oct. 1, while Version Upgrades will be continued until the deadline of July 31 2002.

The companies that will be hit hardest by the change in licensing terms are the ones who upgrade their software least frequently. The analyst say that the break-even point for Software Assurance versus buying new software at full price is for companies doing upgrades every three or four years. The majority of companies upgrade software less frequently than that, and they'll end up paying more to Microsoft than they have been, the analyst say.



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