

Strobe IT – IT Support for Business

6 MONTHS AND COUNTING – So half a year has passed and we have seen many developments in this time. Not only do Strobe IT provide IT Support and Maintenance for companies in Devon and Somerset, but has now seen us providing our IT experience in Cornwall. This is a development of the Dental Centre groups in Tiverton, Cullompton and Taunton. Newquay Dental Centre officially opened in March 2009, where we had previously installed all of the IT Hardware. We have been providing support and hosting services for them since. So Strobe IT officially provide IT Support across Devon, Somerset and *Cornwall*.

WE ARE NOT A SHOP, OR ARE WE? – The actual answer to that is yes –we are, but exclusively so. We can supply any IT hardware and software but, only to our business customers. We also work on the premise that if we are aware of anywhere you can purchase it cheaper than what we could supply it for, we would let you know.

We have deliberately increased our suppliers to be able to offer the most competitive prices available. Recently, several of our clients have taken advantage of some very good laptop deals available at present. So if there is a piece of IT equipment you are considering purchasing, let us know and we will see what we can offer! See the end of the newsletter for more details on our current deals.

Many thanks

Steve & Robin

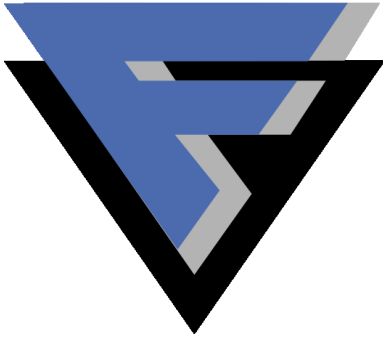
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F-SECURE®

F-Secure News

June 8th

'Write your passwords down.' – Have F-Secure gone mad!

This was the comment from F-Secure last week. However, there is some sanity to this. The recommendation by F-Secure was that, if you create a password that is random, and generally difficult to remember, then write it down leaving off the final 3-4 numbers or letters. This way, you have a solid reminder to what your password would be written down, but the final part to it, is in your head.

The reason for this is the number of people that are requesting that their passwords be resent to them or reset is much higher than people realize. So, by writing a portion of your password down, still protects you should be lost or stolen but, helps to remember them if you choose a variety of passwords as you should do.

"After you scan for viruses with the Online Scanner, it's always a good idea to use the F-Secure Health Check tool, also free, which finds any vulnerabilities on your PC." – Sean Sullivan, F-Secure Security Labs

Apr 08, 2009:

F-Secure Online Scanner update

F-Secure has upgraded its free online scanner.

It is designed to check PCs for viruses, spyware and other malware which, according to the company, is present in 20 per cent of PCs.

New features include support for Firefox, a quick scan facility, a new interface and the choice of 20 languages. The scanner does a manual scan that checks and cleans the PC. It does not provide automatic protection, F-Secure recommends installation of a full security product with real-time protection.

F-Secure Security Labs Sean Sullivan, said: "After you scan for viruses with the Online Scanner, it's always a good idea to use the F-Secure Health Check tool, also free, which finds any vulnerabilities on your PC."

20 years and counting!

And still going strong!

F-Secure has delivered innovative security solution already for 20 years. As an example F-Secure was the first antivirus vendor introducing centralized management, in 1993. F-Secure has continued this long track record by being today the only vendor offering a Linux based management system that is capable of managing the security of Windows and Linux-based desktops, servers and gateways.

F-Secure is also forerunner of rootkit detection with BlackLight Rootkit Elimination Technology as well as F-Secure mobile solutions for businesses offer automated real-time protection for smartphones that has received more awards with its Mobile Security solution than the competition!

F-Secure is still pushing the limits to offer the best Anti-Virus technology out there. F-Secure recently topped a number of tests by independent Anti-Virus software analysts.

For more details, please visit the Strobe IT website link:

www.strobe-it.co.uk

If you would like more technical information, visit our Anti-Virus Partner on their home page:

www.f-secure.com or www.f-secure.co.uk



F-Secure continue to lead the way

We do not normally expand on our F-Secure single page. However, this newsletter deserves some extra attention. F-Secure have recently topped some independent anti-virus tests. They were leaders in Ad/Spyware and Malware Detection. F-Secure is a company that Strobe IT has been forging stronger and stronger links with and, by the results of the recent tests, rightly so.

It is, hopefully, reassuring for you all to know that your companies are in the industries safest hands when it comes to viruses potentially impacting your business.

Congratulations to everyone at F-Secure!

For specific data, please visit:

<http://strobe-it.co.uk/fsecure/products.html>

Under each product, specific details can be found on results.

PC Data Back-up

You may have seen many adverts about backing up your data, and paying a monthly cost. F-Secure, a name you should all be familiar with, now have their own product. However, rather than being hit with a monthly overhead, it is a one-off payment of £42.51 (ex VAT). This offers unlimited space. At this moment in time, it is for PC's only but, F-Secure are shortly planning a Server version. Watch this space!

Local Company – Global Partners

With a view to broadening the availability of IT hardware and software, Strobe IT have linked up with 2 of the largest distributors in the world. Thus providing you with the complete choice of products and manufacturers at competitive prices.

- Microsoft
- Dell
- F-Secure
- Draytek
- Netgear



News & Information

Windows 7 Delivery Date

Microsoft has announced that they will be releasing the new OS to supercede Windows Vista on 22nd October 2009.

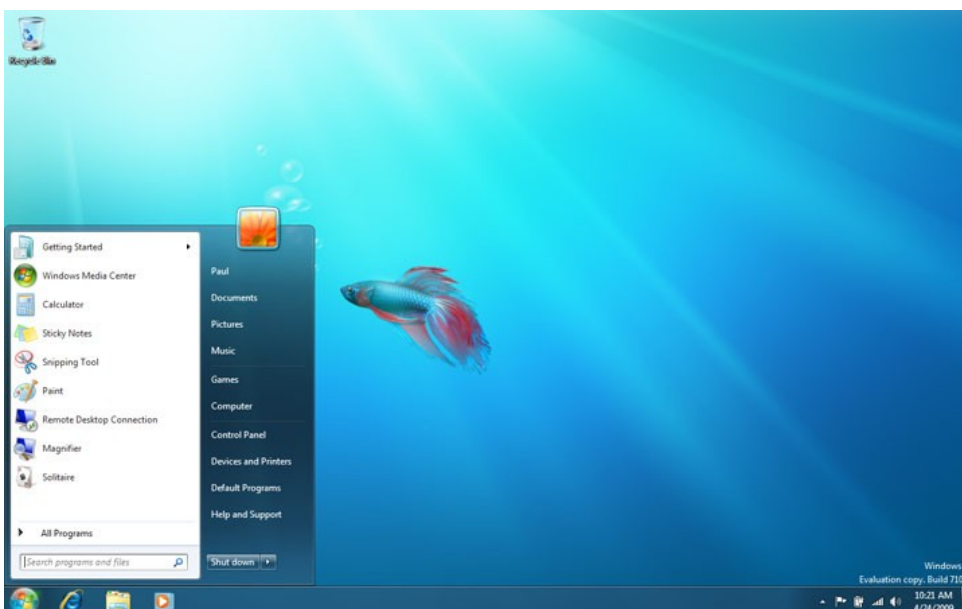
Windows 7 still has a very strong 'Vista' feel to the interface but, the big steps have been the increased efficiency of this operating system. Arguably, the key reason why Vista never took off with businesses was the need to not only upgrade the operating system but, in many cases, to obtain replacement PC's as well. Windows 7 has bridged this gap. Albeit not as 'light' as XP, it is considerably less resource hungry than Vista.

Also, for those concerned with whether their software will run on Windows 7, they have included an 18 month licence to have XP on the same machine running in a 'Virtual' environment.

The general response from the IT industry has been very positive with even our own Robin Toy commenting. 'It appears more stable in the Beta version than Vista in its current state.'

Microsoft have removed some of the software that was included in Vista to make the whole package lighter and smaller but, should any of this software still be required by the user, will be available to download. Over the next 4 weeks, Strobe IT will be moving their laptops over to Window 7 so, if you would like to see it in a working state, just call!

SCREENSHOT OF WINDOWS 7 RELEASE CANDIDATE



Wifi from a Hole in the Wall

BT Openzone have announced plans to make WiFi hotspots out of those lonely looking cash machines that you find in the back of shops.

As these machines are already using Broadband to perform the basic task of contacting your banks when you take money out, BT Openzone are just going to use this existing connection and add a Wireless Access Point inside.

One blessedly hopes that BT Openzones security is up to the job as there would be sensitive information channeling up and down alongside someone's Google search. With over 2,000 of these machines in the country, which would effectively complement what they currently have, this could provide quite a very large data network blanket.

However, whilst you may question why you would be checking your e-mail in the local off-licence, the one thing is that with the greater use of Skype on mobile phones, this would prove to be a genuine idea. Although BT are not throwing up mobile phone masts to compete with the Mobile phone operators, by quietly going about deploying a, potentially huge, data network, the question they will ask is, 'why bother?'

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Future Support Improvements

ONGOING TRAINING

Both Steve & Robin have taken further steps to continue to expand on our qualifications with us undertaking more Microsoft Certification.

We are scheduling the exams to take place in August. So if we look a little more strained than usual, it may be because we have had a late study night.

INVESTMENT IN TOOLS

Strobe IT has just purchased circa £500.00 of Motherboard diagnostic, network cable and wi-fi testing tools. By improving the tools that we have, we are able to prolong the life of your IT hardware.

Strobe IT – Delivering IT Support to Devon, Somerset & Cornwall

We currently have clients in: Tiverton, Cullompton, Wellington, Taunton, Cadeleigh, Rackenford, Templeton, South Molton, Barnstaple, Exeter, Dulverton & Newquay.

Mission Statement

If it is not broke, don't fix it. Strobe IT will try, wherever possible, to utilise the untapped resources in your own systems. Strobe IT is not after global domination (yet!) so when we support our local customers and clients, we stand by our products and our work. We are careful about what products we discuss with our customers to manage the quality/reliability vs cost considerations.

For more information please visit our website: www.strobe-it.co.uk or email/call us.

What's On Offer At The Moment?

We are referencing a few items that are either limited stock or only available until the end of June. If there is anything else you would like to know about, just e-mail or give us a call.



LG 1941S 18.5" Widescreen Monitor

- 18.5" Viewable display
- 1366 x 768 resolution
- 8000:1 contrast ratio
- 5ms response rate
- 3 year warranty

£75.00 ex VAT (only 2 available)

F-Secure Online Back-up

- Unlimited backup of files on your PC – no need to pay more as your backup needs increase.
- Automatic backup of all your files to a secure location on the Internet.
- Personal access to your backed-up files anywhere over the Internet.
- Easy reporting of backup status and progress by e-mail.
- Safeguards all your files against computer failure or property damage

RRP: 1 year licence - £42.51* (ex VAT) **with free 1 year Internet Security 2009 for the month of June**

*excluding postage



Microsoft Wireless Optical Desktop 3000

Media and Hot Keys - Get one-touch access to the commands and programs you use most.

Spill-Resistant Design - Integrated water channels drain liquid away.

Wireless Optical Mouse - Enjoy wireless freedom and comfort.

Scroll Wheel - Move through your documents quickly without having to click the on-screen scroll bar.

Extended Mouse Battery Life - Many users average more than six months of battery life.

Only 2 left: £22.61 (ex VAT)