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NETWORKING THE
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N E W S L E T T E R O C T O B E R 2 0 0 3

The Ultimate Remote Office

HOME OR BRANCH OFFICE NETWORKING WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Imagine a home or branch office with no limitations. A full-time, 24x7 high-speed connection to both the Internet and to your office. Direct access to your full office network and desktop, as though you were there. VPN security and HIPAA compliance (when required) to ensure maximum protection of confidential information. Popup messaging, office intercom, and full PBX telephone services including call messaging, transfer, forwarding, and voice mail - even a video cam if you want - all independent of the phone company and without the need for expensive equipment.

This is not an imaginary vision, OCS is doing it right now. Short of a StarTrek transporter, the only thing missing in the office is your physical presence, you are in all other regards fully connected and virtually there.

Some work requires a personal presence, some does not, and there are endless varieties of intermediate combinations. Fortunately, flexibility is inherent in emerging technology that makes many new and very innovative solutions possible.

Several scenarios exist which might benefit from remote connectivity. Branch offices can be expensive to manage and less efficient if not well-connected to the main office. Limited space at the main office can be expanded by taking advantage of work space at home. Part-time staff who are trained and competent sometimes cannot work more hours at the office but could spend additional time working from home, increasing productivity without needing to hire and train new personnel. Business owners and managers can also be more productive taking work home than staying late at the office.

The elements of an efficient home or branch office setup begin with a computer, connected to the Internet and main or other offices via a full-time, high-speed broadband connection such as OCS Wireless. Multiple machines can be connected via a normal local-area network (LAN). If the work locations are to be fixed, the network can

(continued on Side Two)

WIRELESS SERVICE AREA UPDATE

- **New! Service to Lindsay and Exeter via "L Hill" now active**
- **Service to Visalia now active**

Service is available in Porterville, Springville, Pleasant Valley, River Island, Globe Drive, Strathmore, Terra Bella, Lindsay, Exeter, and Visalia. Coming soon to Success Valley! Call us or see our website for more information.



**Make Long-Distance Phone Calls
via your OCS Internet Account?**



Drop a note to voip@oacys.com if you're interested!

- OCSNET: **>483,000 VIRUSES STOPPED** (2,000+ daily)
- OCSNET: **>8 MILLION EMAIL SPAM BLOCKED** (20,000+ daily)
- Click **USER ADMIN** on our website to set account preferences

Reliability. The recent viruses that created nationwide havoc did not affect the OCS network. The 9/26 fiber outage in Porterville was handled easily by OCS backup routing, while many other local organizations were down for four hours. *Details are on our website . . .*



NATIONWIDE OCS SERVICE for FRIENDS • FAMILY • BUSINESS

With the addition of over 2,500 free local access numbers across the country, you can now keep quality OCS dialup service if you travel or move. Recommend it to your friends, family, and business associates across the country, earning referral credits at the same time!

To check for available numbers in different areas of the country, just click "Nationwide Numbers" or "Access Numbers" on our website. New accounts may sign up using the handy "Subscribe Online" procedure on our home page. Call us for more information!

OCS dialup and wireless plans are described at www.porterville.com

Service Plans and Pricing



Call about eCommerce!

**Want to
work from
home?**



OCS can connect your home to your office or tie multiple offices together, at high speed and with full "VPN" security, anywhere in the Valley or beyond...



SUPPORT OUR MILITARY



THE NATIONWIDE OCS REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you refer a friend, family, or business associate to OCS, tell them to mention your name and you'll receive up to a month of free service! Some restrictions apply, click *Referrals* on our home page for details. Your friends may simply click *Subscribe* to sign up online, now from anywhere in the country!

Need qualified computer or network maintenance?
Give us a call!



The Ultimate Remote Office

(continued from Side One) be wired using standard CAT5 cable and the computers may be desktops or laptops depending on needs and preference.

If it is preferred that the work locations be more variable and flexible, the ideal combination is laptops connected via a wireless local-area network. This permits easy mobility, so that you might choose to work at the kitchen table, or get up and move to the den, or a bedroom office, or even the patio on a nice day. This "hotspot" type of mobility allows free movement without dragging wires around and without losing your connection.

In an office environment, a wireless network architecture makes it possible to rearrange desks or add new work spaces without running additional cable. However, too many walls or other obstacles will reduce the signal, and in any case wired LANs are typically faster than wireless. In general, if not much movement is anticipated it is better to prewire local-area networks.

Once connected, what's next? Access to the Internet is immediate, but the rest of what you need to access should be located securely behind your main office firewall, and you're now on the outside. This is solved by creating a VPN (virtual private network) connection, which forms a securely protected tunnel between your remote office and the internal company network. After that, you can easily connect directly to the computer on your desk at the main office, and "work" at it as though you were physically sitting there with no noticeable

difference in performance.

Pop-up messaging then makes it easy to pass messages between other office desks, since your remote machine is then connected securely to the same internal company network. Full email management is normal, with none of the normal hassle over what messages are saved on which machine. Similarly, programs requiring synchronized data no longer require multiple separate updates since you can simply work directly from your office desktop machine.

Perhaps the final key element in the complete remote office is the telephone. A normal phone is certainly workable, but tying it into the internal office phone system can become very involved and potentially expensive. The solution is VOIP (voice over IP), which allows audio and even video to be transmitted over the same secure VPN tunnel you've already established. When connected to a PBX server in the office, you have full internal intercom, voice mail, call forwarding, and normal telephone services.

More on VOIP in our next newsletter, or in the meantime click Services > Internet Telephony on our website or contact our office. We'll add the StarTrek transporter to the menu when that service becomes available.

COMING NEXT MONTH | INTERNET TELEPHONY

Using your computer for remote office telephone connectivity and inexpensive long distance service . . .

OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Current at September 2003

Plan Name	Radio Frequency	Rated Speed	Mailboxes/ Webospace	One-Time Fees			Monthly Service
				Service Activation	Install/ Configure	Equipment Deposit	
DIAL-UP							
	-	53 Kb/s	5/5MB*	25.00	-	-	24.95
WIRELESS							
24 Basic	2.4 GHz	750 Kb/s	5/5MB*	25.00	100.00	200.00	49.95
24 Premium	2.4 GHz	1.5 Mb/s	5/5MB*	25.00	100.00	200.00	79.95
24 Business	2.4 GHz	2.25 Mb/s	10/10MB	25.00	100.00	200.00	129.95
58 Business	5.8 GHz	3 Mb/s	25/25MB	25.00	200.00	500.00	159.95
58 Corporate	5.8 GHz	4 Mb/s	30/30MB	25.00	200.00	500.00	199.95
58 Enterprise	5.8 GHz	5 Mb/s	40/40MB	25.00	200.00	500.00	249.95

HI-CAP

OCS can provision ISDN, fractional frame, and dedicated T1 circuits, call for more information and specific pricing.

Notes

All plans include automated central email virus scanning, email spam filtering, and website parental controls. (*Denotes webspace for personal use only.) Wireless 24 Premium Plan and all higher plans include supplementary dialup account. Wireless installation and deposit package may be paid in three installments upon request. All plans terminate at OACYS Porterville headquarters and transport to the Internet via dual T3s over dedicated OC12 fiber optic circuit. This is not a quote, all information is subject to change without notice. This document is effective 17 February 2003 and supercedes previous versions. Please check with our office for additional detail regarding any of our Internet service plans.

I Didn't Know That!

OCS provides "A-to-Z" computer technology services:

- Complete computer service and repair shop
- Broad variety of Internet access plans and packages
- Professional website design, development, and hosting
- Professional programming and custom application development
- eCommerce and business groupware solutions
- Computer and Internet technology consulting
- Secure branch office inter-networking
- Internet-based telephone services
- iSuite of online utility applications