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

Phone Calls Over The Internet

VoIP, or "Voice over Internet Protocol," is simply use of the Internet for phone calls. While the concept is equally suited to both business and residential users, this article is focused primarily on business applications.

Until recently, the biggest problem with working from home was keeping in touch with clients and employees while not in the office. Email has largely solved this problem by providing near-instantaneous communication between any two people with a computer, but sometimes there's just no substitute for a direct person-to-person phone call. With VoIP, an employee can be part of your company's internal telephone system with only a broadband connection and a VoIP-enabled telephone.

Before VoIP came along, work-from-home employees were forced to pay for a business phone line, invest in expensive PBX services from the phone company, or make do without a telephone. VoIP works by creating a digital copy of your voice and sending it across the Internet to another VoIP phone.

If you're calling another VoIP-enabled system, the connection is direct and fully digital. Imagine making unlimited business calls, or calls to friends and family, for a flat \$5.00 a month to anywhere in the world!

If you're calling someone at a POTS number ("Plain Old Telephone System"), your call will be relayed to a nearby VoIP gateway for conversion, at a flat rate of five cents per minute within the United States. In either case, you can make and receive calls anywhere you have a broadband connection and a VoIP phone!

Unlike the regular telephone network, VoIP doesn't care where you are physically located. Imagine being at your home or beach house with a high-speed wireless connection, taking and transferring calls as though you were still in the office. You already have access to your office computer and email (see our October 2003 newsletter), and

(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.



**Happy Thanksgiving
from all of us at OCS**

- OCSNET: >510,000 VIRUSES STOPPED (2,000+ daily)
- OCSNET: >8.8 MILLION EMAIL SPAM BLOCKED (21,000+ daily)
- Click **USER ADMIN** on our website to set account preferences

Reliability. Guaranteed. Can your computer or network afford downtime? OCS is currently switching several new customers from other broadband services whose slower speeds, frequent downtimes, impersonal response and service, and higher costs have become unacceptable. Ask about our upgrade comparisons!



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...



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

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!



Phone Calls Over The Internet

(continued from Side One) now you have an office phone extension as well. Your VoIP extension is the same no matter where you are, so your office can transfer calls to you at the beach as easily as at home. As an added bonus, OACYS VoIP systems support full "PBX" functionality including caller ID, call forwarding, voice mail and call transfer, and conference calling.

You already know that bandwidth is important when doing anything on the Internet, and VoIP requires that you have a reliable, high-bandwidth connection such as the OACYS business wireless plans. Most VoIP calls require only 30kbps, less than a typical 56k modem connection. Unfortunately, using VoIP on a 56k connection doesn't leave enough room for you to use the phone and browse the web simultaneously. If you plan to use multiple VoIP phones, or if you will be using VoIP while performing multiple high-bandwidth operations, contact OACYS for advice on which of our high-bandwidth plans will be best for you.

The cost of a VoIP-enabled telephone ranges from \$50 to \$250, depending on features. Or, if you have a modern computer or laptop you may not even need a phone at all! A VoIP gateway is a bit more expensive, but can be well worth the investment if your company has a lot of telecommuting employees or if you are already planning to modernize your phone system. As another option, if you would rather not manage and maintain your own VoIP-based PBX system, OACYS can host this centrally at our Porterville or Fresno network centers to

take full advantage of our advanced fiber connections to both the Internet and the local phone company.

VoIP is the kind of service you've seen advertised recently by companies like Vonage on national television. But for OCS subscribers, the pricing is even more attractive and the PBX options for business offer a significant additional benefit. We're starting to use it internally and can recommend it highly - please contact us for a demonstration or more information!

DIAL•UP ACCELERATION

Speeds up to 5 times faster

Includes pop-up blocker

Try it for only \$5.00

Call us!

OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Current at November 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

Locations beyond 5 miles add \$10 per month. 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 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