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OLSON
COMPUTER
SERVICES

NETWORKING THE
COMMUNITY
SINCE 1982

N E W S L E T T E R J U L Y 2 0 0 7
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES OR TO SIGN UP FOR NEWSLETTERS VIA EMAIL

Happy Birthday America!



So What is Bandwidth?

Some techno-terms have become so commonplace that we simply take them for granted. Bandwidth is probably one of those, which prompted a customer to ask recently, "what is it?"

Most commonly, bandwidth means how much data you transfer to and from the Internet. You can think of it like an electric meter, which turns slowly when you're not using much power and faster when you're using more ... the total is read each month and you're billed for what you used.

Similarly, our network equipment measures how much "Internet" you're using. We purchase bandwidth in bulk and then provide it to our customers. But just like electricity and water we don't have an unlimited supply, so we allow each customer to use up to a defined maximum limit each month (according to plan type) to make sure we have enough to go around for everyone.

Basic wireless plans allow up to 10 GB (gigabytes) per month, which is really quite a lot for typical use, while other plans allow for higher usage.

Bandwidth is also used sometimes in reference to speed, in terms of usage per second. For example, our Basic wireless plans provide 750 kbps (kilo bits per second). Each character in a word requires 8 "bits" of bandwidth, which means that nearly 100,000 characters (or the equivalent in graphics) will flow every second – versus about 5,000 over a dialup connection.

So, since this newsletter is about 177 KB in size, it should take around two seconds to open or send or receive via email with a Basic wireless connection, or close to a minute over dialup – and in either case 177 KB would be recorded as usage.

OCS subscribers can monitor their bandwidth usage via the User Admin section on our website, and speed may be measured at <http://speed.ocsn.net>.



AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU

Our Military Men & Women

AMERICASUPPORTSYOU.MIL
SUPPORT OUR MILITARY
= SUPPORT THEIR MISSION

The OCS home page passed 10 million hits in March 2007 – that's a great audience for advertisers!

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...



OCS service plans are described at www.porterville.com

Internet Plans and Pricing

Call about eCommerce!

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

The OCS Spam Filter blocked over 8 million messages last month!

WIRELESS SERVICE AREAS

Success Valley is ready!

- Porterville
- Springville
- Pleasant Valley
- River Island
- Globe Drive
- Strathmore
- Terra Bella
- Lindsay
- Exeter
- Visalia
- Yokohl Valley
- Camp Nelson
- Success Valley
- In progress
- Richgrove

Our Exeter tower also covers Badger Hill!





Dialing a 719 Number?

In the next few months we will be phasing out our 719 dialup prefix. For dialup customers who have a 719 number saved in your dialer configuration, other numbers are available – please see www.porterville.com/numbers or call us for assistance.



Fan Mail

"Our large business was cold-called to change to a different service provider. They criticized wireless performance and reliability so we asked if they could do better than our current record of over 99.99% uptime (in three years with OCS), providing 5M of service for only \$250 a month. We never heard back from them." STC, 5/07

Toll-Free Support

If you're out of town and need to call OCS Customer Service, you can now use 888-OACYS.COM (888-622-9726).



Help us celebrate! OCS turned 25 in February, the company was started in a home office in 1982. We've had our 25-year logo printed on a selection of glassware as gifts for our customers, please stop by the office and choose yours! We have mugs in three colors, tall mixing (pint) glasses, and etched wine glasses. While they last, limit two per customer!



The Importance of Windows Updates

The OCS system has experienced virtually no serious attacks and our subscriber network is essentially clean. So have we just been lucky, or are there reasons for this apparent immunity? The answer is that we're careful with several levels of protection.

1. *Proactive Defense.* OCS has invested heavily in our network infrastructure and internal system security. We have banks of Windows and Linux servers and many other devices, and we keep all of them current with the latest updates and patches.

2. *Email Security.* OCS has long provided free central virus filtering and spam screening for email. The virus protection in particular is not optional, since a network riddled with viruses cannot function efficiently.

3. *Automatic Updates.* Windows machines can be set to check for any new updates daily, and download and install them automatically. All OCS office computers are set to do this, and we seriously recommend that our subscribers do the same.

4. *Desktop Security.* Email is not the only way viruses can spread, and individual computers should also be protected with security software. Many people have Norton or McAfee or something else, but they often don't keep them updated so the protection is limited. All OCS computers run OfficeScan, which works like Automatic Windows Updates to make sure the desktop protection is always current (OfficeScan is available to wireless customers at \$5 per month).

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 "VOIP" telephone services
- iSuite of online utility applications

OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Plan Name	Average Speeds			B-M-W ¹	One-Time Fees			Monthly Service
	Min	Typ	Max		Service Activation	Install/Configure	Equipment Deposit	
1 Bandwidth-Mailboxes-Webpace (see notes)								
DIALUP	26K	40K	53K	1-5-5	25.00	-	-	24.95
Accelerator	Typically 2-5X faster			-	-	-	-	+5.00
WIRELESS STANDARD 2.4 GHz								
24 Basic	125K	500K	750K	10-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	49.95 ^{2,3}
24 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	79.95 ^{2,3}
24 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95 ^{2,3}
WIRELESS SPECIAL CASES 900 MHz (where available)								
900 Basic	125K	375K	750K	5-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	59.95 ^{4,5}
WIRELESS MISSION CRITICAL 5.8 GHz (where available)								
58 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	99.95
58 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95
58 Professional	500K	2M	3M	25-25-25	25.00	100.00	100.00	159.95
58 Corporate	750K	3M	4M	30-30-30	25.00	100.00	100.00	199.95
58 Enterprise	1M	4M	5M	40-40-40	25.00	100.00	100.00	249.95

All plans include automated central email virus scanning, email spam filtering, and website parental controls. Some plan types permit webpace for personal use only. Wireless installation and deposit package may be paid in installments upon request. All speeds are symmetrical (same for upload and download) within the OACYS network only. All plans terminate at OACYS Porterville headquarters and transport to the Internet via dual T3s over dedicated OC12 fiber optic circuit. All plans subject to change without notice. Pricing and terms are current at the date of this newsletter and supersede previous versions. For footnotes 2,3,4,5 surcharges may apply. Please check with our office for additional details.

To set Account Preferences or make Payments Online, click **UserAdmin** on our website