



IS WHAT YOU DO MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHERE?

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MOBILE EVOLUTION REDEFINING "WORKPLACE"

This year more people in the world will have a mobile phone than a land line. Mobile devices now outnumber PC's by 3 to 1 and IBM's Institute for Business Value predicted the number of mobile Internet users will reach 1 billion by 2011.

With this ever growing mobility, work is becoming more defined as what you do, rather than where you go to do it. Given the increase in the number of remote workers and the growing trend for individuals to work on the go, there is an inherent need to be connected and to interact with business critical information wherever you may be.

However, it is not all beer and roses when you are not actually in the office as interaction with people and information is just that little more complicated: How do you access the most up to date information that is relevant to your job while on the go and how do you utilise that information to

continue to make decisions that move the business forward?

Mobile phones now provide a powerful means to process business information, in some cases, replacing the need of a PC or laptop altogether. The variety of remote and web-based applications in existence and the fact that you can now use a web browser on a mobile device with a familiar interface to work with personal and business information are all part of this changing landscape of mobile accessibility.

Another change has been the rapid shift to more user friendly applications and tools for the mobile user. Coupled with the growing size of the mobile workforce and advanced device capabilities, what we are now seeing is a "consumerisation" of IT a term coined by industry analyst, Gartner.

Mobile business information naturally blends with other mobile applications, such as

...continued page 2

MOUNT ALMA MILE

The inaugural asp Mount Alma Mile Hillclimb is being run on the 18th & 19th April. The promotion of the event through the www.mountalmamile.com website in conjunction with the asp / Cut Price Adelaide Hills Tarmac Rally has meant that 123 entries have been received for the 120 available places after only 3 weeks, a full 5 weeks before entries are set to close - an unprecedented response for a new event.

The website, hosted and maintained by asp, features photos and video of the hillclimb course, plus details for spectators.

IN THIS ISSUE

asp tests:

Online Booking

asp recommends:

Genuine Software

Six Word Story

asp bytes:

Beef with Soy Sauce & Ginger

Vaguely Interesting -
Cuba Boycotts Microsoft

Back Issues available from
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ASP RECOMMENDS - GENUINE SOFTWARE

This month Microsoft released an important update for Microsoft Office - Office Genuine Advantage - which is downloaded automatically with the regular Windows Updates.

Windows Genuine Advantage has been around for a while, and advises users if their copy of Windows is non-genuine, and sets a black wallpaper that can't be changed. The Office Genuine Advantage will prompt you twice a day to acknowledge that your Office is non-genuine.

The use of genuine software is very important for all users – business and home alike. The reason for this, contrary to popular belief, is to not give

Bill Gates more money, but to make sure that your computer runs at its optimum. Software identified as non-genuine is not eligible for updates, and as non-genuine software comes from unknown sources it often comes with other software – such as viruses or spyware. Non-genuine software won't be supported by either the software vendor or your normal IT support channels.

asp will not assist any company in the procurement, installation or use of non-genuine software, and while we won't do you in to the authorities if we find it on your network, we will advise strongly that it is either removed, or the correct licensing is purchased.

Several companies in Adelaide have recently been fined thousands of dollars and been publicly shamed by Microsoft for the distribution of non-genuine Microsoft software.

So how do you tell if your software is genuine? Retail packaging is often the easiest to identify as non-genuine as the packaging is often dull and the CD/DVD's often have a sticker label instead of being printed or featuring holograms. OEM, only available with a PC purchase, can be a bit harder, but the packaging and CD/DVD media (if included - OEM Office is now media-less) should still look fresh and clean. Volume licenses should still have a valid license in your company name – this is usually just an e-mail.

SIX WORD STORY

The baby's blood type? Human, mostly.

- Orson Scott Card

MOBILE EVOLUTION

...continued from page 1

e-mail. The mobile device is now a place where you can consume more of the relevant information that is your business.

The mobile is the perfect platform to deliver information that users would access on a daily basis at their desk, but need wherever they are. Mobile access to key performance information increases productivity by putting core business information directly in the hands of the user, driving

quicker and better decisions regardless of their location. Developers are now taking existing applications and making them available in a mobile environment.

With work no longer a "place" where you receive pertinent business information and remain productive, the trend towards a larger mobile or remote workforce is even more of a reality. Advances in mobile accessible

technology, from more sophisticated devices with increased processing power to business intelligence software, will enable a more productive workforce by pushing the boundaries of what can be accomplished on the go. No longer does location mean restricted access. With more user friendly applications and evolving platforms, the possibilities seem endless. And mobiles fit into your pocket!

ASP TESTS - ONLINE BOOKING

So you want to go to Europe for a few weeks and see the sights – you have the time to do what you want and go where you want but the travel agent doesn't have a package that suits, so what do you do? Book it online.

Everything these days can be organised online; flights, accommodation, car hire and tours.

It is easier and cheaper if you are not too fussed about where you start – you will find that the most common flights go to Paris, London, Rome, Frankfurt and Amsterdam, and all airlines have their own booking process, so spend a few minutes comparing airlines and cities. You can use the all in one web sites, however beware of cheap flights that require many connecting flights.

Once you have arranged the flights, there are many hotel book-

ing sites allowing you to book up to a year ahead, providing you with photos and guests reviews – again it is a good idea to spend a bit of time looking at the hotels in your price range making sure they are well suited to your needs.

Travel between cities can be booked online as well – flying is often the cheapest option with some flights as low as €1 (plus taxes). Want to book a day tour – well you can do that online too.

So you can save a bundle on agents fees, get the holiday you want, and all in a couple of hours without picking up the phone or leaving your chair and web check in facilities will get you through the airport faster as well.

Some handy web sites to get you started: www.raileurope.com.au, www.webjet.com.au, www.booking.com, www.seatguru.com.

I want it - how can I get it?

asp only provides genuine Microsoft software, via OEM with new computers, retail for existing computers, volume licensing for networks or SPLA via [asp](#)online.

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February in Tech History

February 1879 saw Mosley Street in Newcastle-upon-Tyne the first street in the world to be lit by the electric street lamp, courtesy of Joseph Swan.

Detective Leonarde Keeler used his invention, the Keeler Polygraph, on February 2, 1935, on two criminals in Wisconsin, who were later convicted when the lie detector results were introduced in court. The polygraph method of lie detecting has never been scientifically proven.

Garry Kasparov, World Chess Champion, was defeated on February 10, 1996 by Deep Blue, IBM's chess computer, in Game 1, but Kasparov won three more games, and drew another two to win the match. In May 1997, an updated version of Deep Blue won a match against Kasparov 3½ - 2½.



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VAGUELY INTERESTING CUBA BOYCOTTS MICROSOFT

Cuba has been fighting a war against US domination in one form or another since Fidel Castro took over Cuba in 1959, and the battle front has moved to computer systems.

The Cuban government sees the Microsoft Windows operating system, and Microsoft's suite of office programs as a threat, believing that the US government and its security agencies have access to Microsoft codes, allowing them access to any system running the software.

Cuban users have difficulty using Microsoft software at the best of

times - the US Trade Embargo prevents them from obtaining the software legally, and even if they do manage to buy or download a copy and install it, they are unable to download the updates.

To combat the security problem, the Cuban Government have developed Nova - a variation of the Linux operating system, designed to replace Windows on all Cuban computers, from government to home users.

Linux is open source software - it is developed and improved by a worldwide community of users, who offer tips to one another



The Linux Penguin goes Communist!

about how to customise the it for their specific requirements. As a result, ownership of the software is shared by all of the millions of users who help develop it, so it is distributed free on the internet. There are also open source office suites, like Open Office, to replace the Microsoft Office suite.

Of course, the base codes for this open source software are available to everybody, including US security agencies...

ASP BYTES: BEEF WITH SOY SAUCE & GINGER

2 x 250 gram Sirloin/Porterhouse Steaks
Freshly ground S&P
2 x Bok Choy Bunches (washed and "dried")
1 x Good Handful of Snowpeas
8 x Tablespoons Soy Sauce - Yamasa is a favourite
1 x 2-3cm "knob" of Ginger - peeled
1 x Chilli - seeded and finely chopped
.5 x Garlic Clove - finely chopped
1 x Lime - juiced
Olive oil
Hot griddle pan and a simmering pot of salted water

On a very hot griddle pan, cook the well seasoned pieces of Sirloin Steak until medium rare or to your liking. Place on a plate and allow to rest for 2 minutes in a warm place. Please note that whilst resting, the latent heat in the Steaks will continue the cooking process, so cook a little under your preferred "doneness".

While on the plate, nap the Steaks with the Soy Sauce, Garlic, Ginger, Chilli, Lime juice and Olive oil mixture.

Now cook the Bok Choy and Snowpeas in the salted boiling water until tender.

When the greens are cooked, strain and divide onto two plates,

then thinly carve up the Sirloin Steaks, arrange neatly on top of the Bok Choy and Snowpeas.

Finally, drizzle the sauce and meat juices left on the resting plate over and around the greens and Sirloin.

Yield: 2 servings
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 15 minutes
Difficulty: Easy

