Constant in life

By: PC Tech UpTime, Inc.
Computer Repairs & Services
(828) 400-7271

December 2017

Heraclitus of Ephesus (c. 500 BCE) was known to his contemporaries as the 'dark' philosopher, so-called because his writings were so difficult to understand. Such as the following quote:

"The only constant in life is change"

https://www.ancient.eu/Heraclitus_of_Ephesos/

INTRODUCTION

It doesn't matter whether you're a small child, a young adult, a working class adult, or for that matter a senior citizen computers are sometimes confusing and often frustrating as all get out! They are capable of many useful and fascinating things. Think about it, of all the things that mankind has created the computer is a demonstration that things can be planned to work logically, and possibly even flawlessly, but that has yet to be proven!

This technology ideal leads people to feel there is no maintenance or fear of failure, but nothing could be further from the truth...! Computers if anything are greatly flawed which is fueled by that of the human nature of greed and complacency.

We should not be fearful of this fantastic technology though. It has done more good for mankind than it has bad! It has multiplied the efficiency of everything we do here on planet Earth. Perhaps this newsletter can show why it is so important to plan daily on protecting yourself, and your data from either partial or total loss! Life is not a spy novel, as most often portrayed in a movie thriller. Every computer user must put in some effort to ensure that their important information is not lost, temporarily, or a maybe a permanent loss.

BUYING A NEW COMPUTER

Most of the time you get much less than what you pay for. If it's a good deal today it had better be a good deal tomorrow when you start using it. Many manufacturers glamorize the size of the hard drive, or the design of a computer's case. They also often playdown more important parts of a computer like the processor type and speed! Even the RAM (memory) is not normally at the top of the list. The meat and potatoes of a computer is: the Processor, RAM, and Hard Drive. Be aware that all things we do can only function as fast as the slowest part. The same holds true for durability.

Beware...when you are buying a computer (time of year,,,ie. Holiday etc.) can sometimes cause you the greatest disappointments in the weeks, months, and years to come. I have seldom seen a holiday deal on a computer where they are actually giving you a bargain, it can happen, but you must be watchful! Most of the time these HOT DEALs are items that companies could not unload at other times of the year, and if that flash advertising says "supplies are limited it would probably be a better deal if you missed buying it all together. There are a few positive situations when the computer sales at least at a break even sale for you the consumer.

==

PC Tech UpTime, Inc.
P.O. Box 41, Maggie Valley, NC 28751

Email: comment@pctechuptime.com
Office: (828) 944-0026

ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE

Generally, a new computer normally comes with only a trial version of Internet Security and a trial version of an office package, this varies based on the brand you buy. I could try to list them all here, but you would likely fall asleep while your reading all the manufacturer names. Your friends are sometimes a good source of information, but learning on your own experience is invaluable. Buying a new computer sometimes seems to be an endless series of adding options one after another...Ka Ching...ka ching! A bargain price will get lost very quickly after you end up buying all the things the sales person tries to push you to buy.

After all that initial expense of buying a new computer most people start looking for software that's FREE that they can get there hands on! You can compare most free software to food for your body. Free Software is like pulling up to a dumpster drive-thru for lunch or dinner. There are many pitfalls involved with FREE software So, long as you know the dangers that they can present to you then you can consider yourself forewarned. This concept (free software) is also like going to a public place and leaving your wallet or purse on the counter, and walking away! You'll probably come back and find them empty or gone! But, take heart there are some great free useful programs that have minimal drawbacks. You might even find some software that is safer and better than the commercial programs you can buy at a reputable store or online business.

Primarily, you will want an Antivirus or Internet Security package installed and keep it updated daily. There are several major software brands that new computers have pre-installed on them. Most everyone is a trial version that gives you between 30 days up to 90 days. Sadly they will nag you to death until you buy. It is up to you to find the one that will not only stop a virus and malware attack, but also operate smoothly with all your other software. To truly optimize your computer is to squeeze all the speed out of the processor without causing it to slow down noticeably. This principle is kind of like a physician's oath: **"To Do No Harm"**. Some software titles have an absolutely beautiful polished appearance. They even have some neat got-to-have features, but at what cost? Choosing free or pay software is not always the answer. Remember that GREED factor I spoke about earlier? Some free stuff is pure poison to your computer lending to something like the great trojan horse gift in the history books. There is even a type of virus named after that story (trojan). In the big picture until American software companies trim their greedy methods and extremely poor tech support. I don't see them as a true competitor on the global computer market either.

I would guess it's good that the number of software brands are so numerous that it makes them hard to count. This very thing keeps merchandise competitive. To compound that part of the market then there is the Free software makers. I prefer to mix it up a little. If you try enough software on your computer over time you will either learn how much better some free software is than commercial software, or how long it takes to rebuild your system from scratch because you downloaded something that you shouldn't have installed in the first place. The answer is not that you should always buy commercial software because some of the top brands are no more seamless, safe and smooth than the FREE SOFTWARE.

===

PC Tech UpTime, Inc.   Email: comment@pctechuptime.com
P.O. Box 41, Maggie Valley, NC 28751   Office: (828) 944-0026

Constant in life

By: PC Tech UpTime, Inc.
Computer Repairs & Services
(828) 400-7271

SECURITY SOFTWARE

It is more than likely that getting a virus is only a small part of the computer industry problems that you'll face. I'm not saying viruses are not going to happen, just be aware that software conflicts, and hardware failure is just as big of a problem as virus attacks. If virus attacks were not glamorized as such a threat most people would not spend a moment buying a protection package. If you have been through a virus attack, or have had identity theft happen to you then you are probably very sensitive to the very words...**Virus Attack...!**

As an independent computer repair business our ultimate duty is to fix (if possible) those nasty issues that arise on your computer, and not just generate sales. Our goal is to build a reputation with our customers where they feel they're getting their monies worth, and they become better equipped to spend their hard earned money on a product of value that can offer them at least a little peace-of-mind!

DISCOUNT SECURITY SOFTWARE

When your are ready we can get most any Security product that you like whether for home or business. If you want to license one or up to a 1000 with a subscription period that ranges from one year to five years depending on the manufacturer. Usually most companies sell their security software products in increments that they set. The deals are very competitive and some are great bargains that even most retail stores cannot match the prices we can get it for you. Check out our company website: http://www.pctechuptime.com/discount-security.html

We recommend **AVG Antivirus, or AVG Internet Security.** But, be aware...users that are fed up with Norton or McAfee that decide to uninstall those products using the conventional manner by using the builtin "Programs & Features" will have majors complaints later on **replacing it with anything!** Both of these major software companies leave remnant files in the Registry on your computer which ultimately can prevent, or cause future installations of any security software to become corrupted which prevents it from functioning properly. To successful remove either Norton or McAfee products you must first download a special **"removal tool"** program from the manufacturer's Internet website and run it. Next, restart your computer. (I have included those links below)

Now, If you already have had a virus that has damaged your registry, and your computer is acting very strange it might be a good idea to: first make sure that all system updates are the latest available. If that does not improve the performance then you need to complete all maintenance on your computer. Your last choice is do a factory restore and start fresh. Be certain that you back up all your important files to an external drive first. This same idea is needful to rid your computer of old programs mentioned in this article, Be aware that after a factory recovery you will still need to remove any pre-installed Antivirus program again after the new setup. It is also wise to be sure you have recovery disks/ CD/ DVD before you begin!

Now, if all you need is to release your computer from trial software jail. Then here are the proper links to help you get the respective "Removal Tool" to properly remove Norton and or McAfee products:

===
PC Tech UpTime, Inc.   Email: comment@pctechuptime.com
P.O. Box 41, Maggie Valley, NC 28751   Office: (828) 944-0026

Constant in life

By: PC Tech UpTime, Inc.
Computer Repairs & Services
(828) 400-7271

NORTON
https://support.norton.com/sp/en/us/home/current/solutions/kb20080710133834EN_EndUserProfile_en_us?abproduct=home&abversion=1&pvid=f-home

McAfee
http://download.mcafee.com/products/licensed/cust_support_patches/MCPR.exe

These uninstallers are constantly being updated, so knowing the links above is very important! Save them for future use.

I don't even have time here is remind you that commercial products have many more legal restrictions on them than what the average consumer believes when they buy it. While Free software sometimes downloads extra unwanted programs that installs without the user even being aware. That intentional secrecy is very likely because if you knew what it actually did you wouldn't want it installed in the first place. Spyware, Trojan Horse, and Malware are likely installed with out you even knowing. And, sometimes commercial software is riddled with annoying popups, and problematic software that opens system PORTs that it really has no business doing! Hackers search the web to find systems that have these Ports opened to gain access you your computer.

After listening to both friends and customers telling tales of how great a certain piece of software is thought to be. A funny thing always seems to squeeze its way into their conversation...something about how this weird thing keeps happening to their computer. Before the conversation ends one thing becomes very clear. They have installed a utility from the Internet, or off the store shelf because a great friend of theirs recommended it,(maybe that person is not such a good friend afterall).

A WORD TO THE WISE

Avoid if possible all utilities of any kind. They are usually all SNAKE-OIL and you are inviting trouble. A so called well meaning friend that recommends a utility might later make you to want to rethink their friendship. Especially after their recommendation totally messes up your computer, and causes you to have to reformat your computer back to the factory recovery (Out-of-Box) condition. And, yes their response will likely be it was some other piece of software that caused the problem. More accurately it maybe their true knowledge of the workings of a computer is really non existent! Be smart use only the utilities that come built into your system. These are the least problematic.

GETTING READY FOR A NEW SECURITY PACKAGE

Prices are changing almost daily, so how we handle pricing is for you to call or email us and we can return that call or email with a price quote. We list available brands, you make the choice of brand, number of computer licensed and the number of years you'd like the subscription to last.

Again, when you are ready to buy a good antivirus or internet security check out our company website http://www.pctechuptime.com Go to the "Home" button and choose "AVG Home Security" We have made it easy to get a

===

PC Tech UpTime, Inc.
P.O. Box 41, Maggie Valley, NC 28751

Email: comment@pctechuptime.com
Office: (828) 944-0026

Constant in life

By: PC Tech UpTime, Inc.
Computer Repairs & Services
(828) 400-7271

direct link to the AVG website, but emailing, or calling to get a quote is normally less expensive. We can get licenses from 1 to 3000 seat packages with subscriptions from 1 year to 5 years on several products. The advantage to multi-pack licenses is that once you register with AVG they will email you a single key code for all the machines. A new AVG sales strategy is to offer yearly subscriptions with unlimited seats on their Internet Security packages. Meaning you can buy a 1 year, 2 year, or 5 Year subscription and have unlimited PC installations on their home and small company installations. Corporate Business versions are also available. Let us get you a quote for your needs. You can buy just the software and install it yourself, or we can prep and install new software for an additional fee.

Until next time backup, backup, backup...!

NOTE:
If you have a topic you'd like to read about let us know. We will need you to include your email address so we can confirm your request, and to send you conformation when that Newsletter article is published on our Business website. Tell your friends so they can gain access to Tips and Tricks for their computer as well!

http://www.pctechuptime.com/newsletter.html The turn around time is roughly 4 to 5 weeks!

Send your idea requests to: info@pctechuptime.com
- - - - - - -

Call us today to setup an appointment to review your situation and recommend what would fit into your budget, and needs. (828) 400-7271.

Check out our company website for a link page:
http://www.pctechuptime.com/security.html Antivirus software
http://www.pctechuptime.com/backup.html   Backup Choices

info@pctechuptime.com

By: PC Tech UpTime, Technician

==

PC Tech UpTime, Inc.   Email: comment@pctechuptime.com
P.O. Box 41, Maggie Valley, NC 28751   Office: (828) 944-0026