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"As a business owner, I know you don't have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That's where we *shine*! Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!"

**Bryan Lachapelle, President**

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## Are You Paying 80% Of Your Employees To "Cyberloaf" On The Internet, Watching Cat Videos, Searching For A Better Job Or Accidentally Downloading A Virus On Your Network?

Recently, we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of local businesses suffering significant financial and productivity losses due to employees inappropriately using their Internet access during work hours – and much of this is fueled by social media sites such as Facebook and YouTube. Studies have shown that between 60 and 80 percent of people's time on the Internet at work has nothing to do with work!

What makes this situation so dangerous is that the majority of business owners don't even realize that it's going on until it's too late. By then they have found themselves in the middle of a costly and embarrassing lawsuit because an employee posted something inappropriate online OR downloaded a virus.

In other cases, the owner NEVER finds out, but is inadvertently losing THOUSANDS of dollars because employees are spending 2-3 hours a day to goof off online – and you're footing the bill.

And age of the employee doesn't affect an employee's ability to waste time on the Internet. Older employees do things like managing their finances while younger employees check social media.

### A Company Internet Policy Is NOT Enough

A recent study showed that the presence of a strong Internet policy at work was not enough to curb activity, as many employees don't think it's wrong to surf the web and a policy was not going to change their minds. Unfortunately, the only way to curb this activity is not only to threaten consequences, but to actually take action and reprimand employees.

Our Free Internet and E-mail Usage Audit gives you the answers to whether you have a problem on your hands. **Schedule your Internet and E-mail Usage Audit today by calling our office at 905-346-4966.**



"Have you got the app where the little red light jumps around?  
It's amazing!"

## Cyber Security and Cyber-Criminals

**If We Knew A Dozen Or More Ways That Cyber-Criminals Could Steal Thousands Of Dollars From Your Company's Bank Account, Damage Your Reputation And Cripple Your Operations**

### Wouldn't You Want Us To Tell You About It?

Imagine walking into your office one morning to discover your computer network was breached by a hacker, exposing not only YOUR company's data, but also your clients'. Imagine the embarrassment of having to notify your clients that, because of you, their personal information may now be in the hands of cyber-criminals. And hopefully that's the only damage done...

Operations could be halted or severely limited for days, possibly weeks. Your data corrupt to the point of being useless. Clients lost. Potential lawsuits and government fines for violating data-breach laws. The exorbitant emergency IT fees to get everything restored to working order fast. Then there's the risk of your bank account being drained dry – and because you're a business, you are NOT protected by the banks in the same way individual consumers are.

## You're At Greater Risk Than You Think

With St. Patrick's Day this month, I want to take a moment to remind you that just because you've been "**lucky**" enough to avoid an incident like this in the past doesn't mean you're not at risk – in fact, that's *exactly* what cyber-criminals want you to think.

That's why I'd like to offer you a FREE comprehensive Cyber-Security IT Audit that will reveal your risk on common security loopholes cyber-criminals use on a regular basis to get around firewalls and antivirus software to gain entry to your computer network. Normally we charge over \$799 for this service, but we've decided to give it away to the first 5 companies who request it before March 31<sup>th</sup>. All you have to do is call our office at **905-346-4966** or email me directly at [bryan@b4networks.ca](mailto:bryan@b4networks.ca) to find out more details.

## Tek Tip of the Month

### Format Factory - Converting Media From One Format To Another

If you have video or audio files that need to be converted but don't know how, then **Format Factory** is for you. Format Factory is fairly intuitive and one of the fastest converters I've found. As an example, my Blue Ray player will only take AVI files but my camera records WMV files. I make my video, drag and drop it in to Format Factory, pick AVI for conversion and in minutes I have an AVI.



Steve Lamarre  
Service Manager

## The Lighter Side

### Have You Heard This Before?



- "March comes in with an adder's head, and goes out with a peacock's tail." Richard Lawson Gales
- "Up from the sea, the wild north wind is blowing under the sky's gray arch; Smiling I watch the shaken elm boughs, knowing It is the wind of March." William Wordsworth
- "Who in this world of ours their eyes In March first open shall be wise; In days of peril firm and brave, And wear a Bloodstone to their grave." Unattributed Author
- "Ah, March! We know thou art Kind-hearted, spite of ugly looks and threats, And, out of sight, art nursing April's violets!" Helen Hunt Jackson
- "Slayer of the winter, art thou here again? O welcome, thou that bring'st the summer nigh! The bitter wind makes not the victory vain. Nor will we mock thee for thy faint blue sky." William Morris
- "March: Its motto, 'Courage and strength in times of danger.'" William Morris
- "Beware the ides of March." William Shakespeare
- "In fierce March weather White waves break tether, And whirled together At either hand, Like weeds uplifted, The tree-trunks rifted In spars are drifted, Like foam or sand." Algernon Charles Swinburne
- "With rushing winds and gloomy skies The dark and stubborn Winter dies: Far-off, unseen, Spring faintly cries, Bidding her earliest child arise; March!" Bayard Taylor

***Need Help Right Away? Call our team 24/7 at 905.346.4966.***

## Why You Can't Use Home Routers In Your Business

This past Christmas, a hacker reportedly stumbled upon a back door to Linksys and Netgear DSL modems that allow an attacker to reset the router's configuration and gain Admin access. Not good!

Some routers have this "back door" open to the local computer network while others are open to the Internet side of things, opening up users of these devices to remote Internet attacks. This essentially

means that someone could easily gain access to the network and all files located on it.

In the past, this may have taken weeks or months to get out, leaving plenty of time for the manufacturer to get in contact with their clients, right? Not so anymore. In this instance, the exploit was promptly posted up to GitHub in a PowerPoint explaining all of the details and how to exploit the devices. Many others

started trying this out (just for fun, of course), and confirmations started flooding in immediately for all to see.

**The Bottom Line:** If you are concerned at all about the security of the data on your network, you need to have a real, business-class firewall and router in your office. These days, it doesn't pay to go cheap on IT security.

## The Niagara Business Owners' Guide To IT Support Services

### What Every Business Owner Must Know About Hiring a Computer Consultant

"21 Revealing Questions You Should Ask Any Computer Consultant Before Giving Them Access To Your Company's Network"



Don't Trust Your Company's Critical Data And Operations To Just Anyone! This Business Advisory Guide Will Arm You With What You Need To Know About Hiring An Honest, Competent, Responsive And Fairly Priced Computer Consultant

Read this report and you will learn:

- ✓ The "dirty little secret" of the computer repair industry that most people don't know and will NEVER be told by their current IT guy.
- ✓ How to spot an unethical or grossly incompetent computer repair/support technician in minutes.
- ✓ 3 costly misconceptions business owners have about computer maintenance and repair; one you will need to know BEFORE you talk to anyone on the phone.
- ✓ 4 mistakes to avoid when choosing a computer consultant.

Claim Your FREE Copy Today at [www.b4networks.ca/free-reports](http://www.b4networks.ca/free-reports)

## Client of the Month

Adams & Leduc—Niagara Family Lawyers, have been clients for many years. In fact, they were one of the very first clients we had when we opened our doors. As many of you know, whenever we have a need for services here at B4 Networks, we look to our clients to fulfil those services. Adams & Leduc helped me with purchasing our new home, incorporating B4 Networks, and helping us get our wills written up. If you want to work with a firm and a lawyer that truly cares, then Adams & Leduc is a great choice.

### Adams & Leduc

**Niagara Family Lawyers**  
Barristers & Solicitors  
Avocats - Notaires  
Legal Aid accepted

Ron and Claude have proudly served clients in the Niagara Region for more than 35 years, including St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland, Fonthill, Port Colborne, Thorold, Fort Erie, Wainfleet and surrounding areas, covering such matters as Family Law, Real Estate, Mortgages, Wills & Estates, Criminal Law, Highway Traffic Act Court matters, debt collection and many other services.

***Need Help Right Away? Call our team 24/7 at 905.346.4966.***



# TRIVIA

## CHALLENGE

The Grand Prize Winner of last month's Trivia Challenge Quiz is **Simon Skinner**  
From **IT Select**

This month's winner will receive a  
\$50 Gift Card to **Tim Hortons**

This month's trivia question is:

**What was first introduced on March 29?**

- a. Daily weather forecasts
- b. English football
- c. Coca-Cola

To enter, visit the website below or email me:  
bryan@b4networks.ca and answer the question below.

[www.b4networks.ca/trivia](http://www.b4networks.ca/trivia)

**Submit your entry by the 31st** of the month, and if your answers are correct, your name will be added to the draw for a \$50 Gift Card.

\*See website for full trivia rules

## Lachapelle Family Update



Nate is always doing funny stuff - he wanted to eat breakfast like a ninja turtle and Aiden is growing so big - he had his first big boy hair cut and now looks like such a little man!

## Shiny New Gadget Of The Month: Nest Protect

The Nest Protect Motto: Safety shouldn't be annoying.

We have all experience it. That annoying low-battery chirp that 9 times out of 10 wakes you from a dead sleep. Why is it that the smoke alarm battery inevitably runs low in the middle of the night? Then it happen...in your half-awake stupor, you rip it from the wall with intentions of re-hanging it in the morning. More times than not, you forget to replace the batteries and re-hang it and then there you are with no warning system should a fire break out in your home. This annoyance has now become a safety issue.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), almost two-thirds of US home fire deaths happened in

homes with no smoke alarm or no working smoke alarm.

The Nest Protect smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarm comes without that annoying chirp or the threat of false alarms. It's unique structure and settings give you quiet, visual low-battery reminders and allow you to relay to the alarm when the smoke is from that burning grilled cheese versus an actual fire. Its remote features also allow you to manage your alarm and receive alerts via your smartphone. This innovative device gives you all the protection and security you need, without the annoyances.



Get yours today at: <https://nest.com/>

## Services We Offer

- General Computer / Network Repair and Troubleshooting
- Network Design & Implementation
- Backup and Business Continuity Solutions
- Anti Spam & Email Solutions
- Virus and Spyware Protection
- Network Security / Firewall Solutions
- Commercial Wireless Networking
- Fixed Cost Monthly Managed Services
- Remote Monitoring and Diagnostics, Troubleshooting and Repair
- Project Management
- Technology Consulting
- Hosted Exchange Service
- Cloud Services



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We Make Technology Work!