



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



From

JAG Computer Service

2006, what a change from 2005! While 2005 was best described as middle of the road, 2006 brought some exciting changes to computer technology.

Dual core processors became mainstream, once again giving us a performance increase that makes upgrading your computers worth considering.

Microsoft released secure updates to their server operating systems called R2. Microsoft also made available public betas of their next generation desktop and office software, Vista and Office 2007 respectively. I've been using both since July of 2006 and am very impressed with both of the releases. Look for them in early 2007. You should also plan on some transition time when moving to the new releases. They are different enough that you'll need to adjust to them, as well as discover what software you currently use will and won't work. Be ready to update Antivirus software, as well as some software such as Palm Desktop and Adobe Acrobat PDF creator, defragmenting and security software.

Virus, malware and spyware are still very much active and a threat, but SPAM seems to be an even larger threat. There are many solutions to help you keep them under control, but we recommend Cloudmarks server and desktop solutions.

What's ahead for 2007? Watch for many companies to begin offering managed services as even small business begins to realize the benefits of being proactive rather than reactive to their computer and network needs. In September JAG Computer Service rolled out our managed services offering. What is managed services? It's a combination of monitoring software that keeps track of your systems and network, and proactive service to keep your systems patched, up to date and address issues as they begin to show up in event logs, in performance of the processor and memory, and disk performance. The monitoring software alerts JAG Computer Service to current and potential issues to keep a business' computers and networks functioning at peak efficiency.

New and exciting changes are on the horizon for JAG Computer Service as well. See the end of this newsletter to find out!

Once again the JAG Computer Service Mantra: [Backup](#), [Antivirus Software](#), [Firewalls](#), [Malware Protection](#), [Spam filtering](#), [Web Content Filtering](#), and as added in my 2005 newsletter, [Business Continuation](#)!

Backup – Have it, use it, test it, secure it. Tape, external USB drives, backup over the web to a secure location. It's your data, protect it!

Anti-virus. Not an option anymore, a must have! Installed, working, and up to date. I recommend either Trend Micro or Symantec for Client Server environments, and AVG for stand alone desktops.

Firewalls. Hardware, software. For stand-alone workstations look at the firewall that comes with Windows XP Service Pack 2, or Zone Alarm's Free version. For a small or medium size business, SonicWall hardware firewalls are quite capable and can do virus and spam filtering on top of being a firewall! Note that Vista comes with it's own firewall as well Microsoft's Windows Defender.

Malware-Adware-Spyware. You still can't beat Adaware by Lavasoft for helping find and remove these programs from your computer. Use it alongside Microsoft's free Windows Defender program to keep your system protected. Don't forget a pop-up stopper, such as the one from PanicWare!

Spam! It's becoming overwhelming. Cloudmark's Anti-Spam filter is the one for both servers and desktops!

Web content filtering. It's still a valuable option to keep your small and medium size business focus on work and not on the many distractions available on the web.

Business Continuation. As I mentioned last year, backup is not enough. You need to analyze your single points of failure and eliminate them before they bring your business to a screeching halt. A server with RAID hardware, backup equipment, offsite backup storage. All these items work together to keep your business up and running. Managed services can help you meet this goal.

Let JAG Computer Service work with your business to make sure you can cross off all these items as a new years resolution that will keep your business up and running throughout 2007.

JAG Computer Service enters a new era in 2007. For the past two years we've made many changes and additions to keep pace with the ever changing needs of our customers. To that end, we've made partnerships with software and hardware companies (Microsoft, Dell, Gateway, Sonicwall), added on-demand remote support, offsite backup and managed service monitoring to our offerings. We've also formed alliances with other technology providers to provide backup technicians during vacations and busy time. We've worked closely with ComputerWorxs and Jay Burgess.

January 1, 2007 JAG Computer Service and ComputerWorxs will merge into one company, JAG ComputerWorks. Check out our new website at www.jagcworks.com coming in early 2007. Until then, keep checking www.jagcs.com for updates and more information. Both Jay and I look forward to continuing the relationships we've established with our customers and forging new ones as we move into the future!

Give what you can to those less fortunate this season. It will give back many times over to you!

My wish for you is a healthy and meaningful 2007!

John Grein

Owner, JAG Computer Service

www.jagcs.com

jagcs@jagcs.com

303-637-9770

President, JAG ComputerWorks

www.jagcworks.com

john@jagcworks.com

