



Teaming for Technology

Teaming for Technology Promotes Responsible Disposal of Computers

The Problem: The National Safety Council estimates that over 315 million computers will become obsolete by the year 2004 – and this may be low since reliable numbers were not available for the number of computers manufactured between 1980 and 1992. Simply trashing all of these computers would add an estimated 8.5 million tons of waste to America’s landfills. Of even greater concern, computer components contain lead, mercury, cadmium, and a number of other persistent, toxic and bioaccumulative compounds, all capable of compromising water and air quality.



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Americans buy more computers than people in any other nation. Currently over 50 percent of US households own a computer.

Computer junking is also happening at a faster rate. The lifespan of computers is decreasing. In 1997 the average lifespan of a computer tower was 4-6 years and computer monitors 6-7 years. This is expected to fall to 2 years before 2005. And by the year 2005, one computer will become obsolete for every new one put on the market.

Twenty-four million computers in the United States became “obsolete” in 1999. Only about 14 percent (or 3.3 million) of these were recycled or donated. The rest - more than 20 million computers were dumped, incinerated, shipped as waste exports or put into temporary storage in attics, basements, etc. For the three years between 1997 and 1999, it is estimated that some 50 million

U.S. computer towers will have been dumped, burned, shipped abroad or stored to await eventual disposal.

How YOU can retire your computer(s) in the most eco-friendly way possible: (Note: Businesses are required to dispose of their old computers properly.)

1) Donate: We recommend that you first try to make a tax-deductible contribution of your old computer(s). Teaming for Technology’s CompuSwap program

accepts old systems, refurbishes them then redeploys working systems to nonprofit agencies in Southeastern Minnesota. (Organizations and businesses who give equipment to Teaming for Technology can receive a tax deduction. Under 501c3 law, the entity receives credit for remaining depreciation allowances. Minimum configuration accepted: Pentium 1 or higher. For more information on this T4T initiative call Ken at 287-1958)

2) Sell to a scrap dealer/ recycler: There are several companies that will buy your old computer(s) for recycling. Type “computer recycling” into your favorite web search engine and you will find several companies that will buy your old computer. (see the IBM recycling article on page 3)

3) Proper disposal: Individuals may be able to dispose of old computers through local household hazardous waste collection programs. Contact the Olmsted County Solid Waste Disposal Department at 285-8231. Local computer retailers will often take your pre-pentium machines

CompuSwap Helps Organizations by Providing Working Computers



Bill Crane, RCTC Student



Dan Crowell, IBM Employee

The T4T CompuSwap Project has deployed over 70 computer systems to nonprofit agencies since January of this year. The computers were donated to Teaming for Technology by various donors including, Olmsted County, the City of Rochester, Rochester Public Library, Child Care Resource and Referral (C2R2) the Mayo Foundation and individual donors. Depending on the age and performance quality of the the donated computer, CompuSwap will either work with Mayo Clinic to recycle the equipment in an environmentally responsible manner, or refurbish the system for redeployment of nonprofit organizations.

Nonprofit organizations providing adult literacy, job training, family and youth services, and services for the disabled are the major beneficiaries of the refurbished computer systems. Volunteers do the work on the systems which makes CompuSwap work.



From Left to Right, IBM Employees Omar Perez, Eric Carpenter and Jason Albert

IBM Global Services (IGS) Volunteers Offer Technical Resources to T4T.

IGS and T4T are partnering to bring technical resources to the Nonprofit Consulting program. This "1:1" agency program works with select organizations to improve their use of technology. This "intense" consulting is designed to support organizations as they utilize technology to:

- 1) Increasing operational efficiency,
- 2) Deliver services more effectively,
- 3) Increase ability to leverage funding and other resources.

IGS volunteers will work closely with T4T Vistas to provide selected nonprofits with technical support and consulting over the next 6 months. Agencies must apply to this T4T program. Requests for applications will be announced later this year.

Scout's Honor, Tech Planning Event Was A Hit!

On Wednesday, February 27, over forty representatives from local nonprofits gathered for lunch and *tech talk* in a Teaming for Technology event titled "Increasing Organizational Capacity: Writing Your Tech Plan."



The event drew nonprofits across the spectrum of health and human services together with tech experts to learn strategies for solving technology problems. Response to the event was overwhelmingly positive, where many of the participants felt enthused and ready to bring new strategies to their tech committees.

As a feature agency, Lynn Vincent, Executive Director of the Girl Scout Council of Cannon Valley, spoke about how technology is crucial to her Girl Scout Council.

The Girl Scouts have already increased their capacity by improving their internal systems, and have visions to implement creative solutions such as virtual online meetings for leaders and virtual troops, product sales from their website, and a computer lab at their office and/or camp to bring scouting into the electronic age.

Young Explorer Training Series rolls on to Series # 2

The Kidsmart Young Explorer program com-



pleted its first series of training for childcare providers in February and is looking forward to another round spanning from March to May.

The program includes an integration component, where child care providers learn about how to use their Young Explorer computer systems in the classroom, five classes about the individual software titles, and a reunion event which will take place at the completion of the second series. Contact Jason at 529-4506 for more information.

The training is provided by Child Care Resource and Referral in coordination with Teaming for Technology.

The series # 2 schedule is as follows:

April 6, 2002 - Sammy's Science House 9:00-11:00 a.m.

May 4 - Stanley's Sticker Stories and Bailey's Book House 8:30-12:30

May 11 - Trudy's Time & Place House and Millie's Math House 8:30-12:30

ABC Looks at the Use of Linux as a Technology Solution

Ability Building Center (ABC) is breaking new ground when it comes to technology cost savings.



Scott Clough sets up a machine to demonstrate the features in Linux Mandrake 8.2

Steve Schoeder, Director of Marketing and the Technology Leader for the organization is planning to try the Linux Operating

System throughout the agency. ABC has been using a Linux Server for Internal Email Distribution for the Last 2 years and are planning to put Linux on the employee desktops. "I have some concerns about the cost of staying with Windows now that XP has been released", stated Steve Schoeder.

ABC is one of 6 agencies receiving "1:1 assistance" from Teaming for Technology and support from the IBM Global Services Department.

IBM supports Computer Recycling

IBM is expanding its current offerings to include new programs for individual consumers and businesses of all sizes to conveniently recycle unneeded computer hardware in the U.S. Through the new IBM PC Recycling Service, consumers and small businesses can recycle any manufacturer's PCs, including system units, monitors, printers and optional attachments for \$29.99 which includes shipping. Customers box the system and ship it via UPS to Envirocycle — a designated recycling center.

Website at: <http://www.IBM.com/environment>



IBM recycled more than 120 million pounds of equipment parts and machines in 1999, with less than four percent deemed unsalvagable/non-recyclable. At the same time, IBM is designing new upgradeable computer technology to further extend useful life. IBM is committed to environmental affairs leadership in all of its business activities. IBM has had longstanding corporate policies of providing a safe and healthful workplace, protecting the environment, and conserving energy and natural resources. Additional information is available on the IBM Website at: <http://www.IBM.com/environment>

Great Websites to Visit

If you want more information on the new Windows XP Operating System, visit the below listed sites

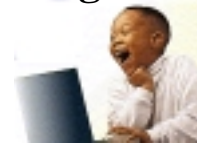
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Before you buy, compare prices, tax, shipping, ratings and reviews for Microsoft **Windows XP**
www.nextag.com

[Paul Thurrott's SuperSite for Windows: Windows XP](#)

Windows FAQs . Reviews . Tech Showcases . Windows **XP** is the most important release of Windows since Windows 95.
www.winsupersite.com/faq/whistler.asp

Check out our website at www.t4tmn.org



Visit the Teaming for Technology website for important information, news, and links.

The Information for Nonprofits section features tools for finding technology grants, getting cheap or free technology, finding volunteers, staff training, and even has links to our tools at T4T.



The Linux users Group of Rochester MN

Who: Most of us are from the Rochester, Minnesota area, or have been there at one time or another. We have a lot of IBMers, Mayo employees, students, retirees, and plenty of others.

When: Twice a month on the 2nd Tuesdays and 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM for a newbie meeting and 7:00 PM for the regular meeting. Check the main page for meeting announcements. We also meet for lunch on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Galleria Mall food court, usually in the Chinese food section. Look for the geeks.

Where: At the UCR Heinz Center in room HC101.

What: An interest in Linux...that's it. We've got everyone from newbies to experts here so don't feel bad if you don't know a thing about Linux...that's what we're here for. To actually play with Linux you'll need at least a 386, preferably with a CD-ROM drive. We will publish a list of people who have Linux CD-ROMs soon and we can have an install-fest for everyone who's new to Linux. We've got CDs and burners if you'd like your own copy too.

How do I get started? Just attend one of our meetings.

visit us at www.K-LUG.org

T4T Workshop to Focus on Technical Volunteers

Teaming for Technology (T4T) is encouraging nonprofit agencies in southeastern Minnesota to sign up for the next Quarterly Event that will focus on ways to recruit, manage and work with technical volunteers. The event will take place at the Mayo Civic Center on Wednesday, May 8, 2002 from 11:00am - 1:00pm.

There is little question that technology has changed the way nonprofit organizations do their work. In a study done by Oracle, a majority of the agencies polled (84%) say the daily operations of their organizations have changed in the past 5 years due to information technology, including half (51%) who say their daily operations have changed a great deal.

Volunteers can be a valuable resource for nonprofits, especially those on a tight budget. Understanding the abilities, limits and mindsets of technical volunteers, and knowing how to deal with technical volunteers, are important things to consider if you are

**Wednesday, May 8, 2002
from 11:00am - 1:00pm.
at the
Mayo Civic Center**

Guest Speaker
**Zeeda Magnuson,
Project Director of the Volunteer
Resource Center in Minneapolis**

planning to use technical volunteers to help your agency use and manage technology.



This workshop will provide you with information on how to work with technical volunteers in your agency. Topics will include: Finding Technical Volunteers, Interviewing and Evaluating Technical Volunteers, Creating a Work Plan and Writing a Job

Description, Volunteers and Legal issues.

Zeeda Magnuson, Project Director of the Volunteer Resource Center in Minneapolis will be the guest presentee. The cost of the workshop is \$15.00 and includes lunch.

For more information or to register contact Ken Nelson at 507.287.1958.

Teaming for Technology
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