

# MBTS TEKJOURNAL

## BITS & BYTES

In an effort to stay more in contact with our clients and future prospects, we are creating this publication to answer questions, share information, and in general keep you informed of changes in the computer industry. We welcome your input as to content, questions, design, and delivery to help make this publication a success. Please email us at [tekjournal@mbts.mb.ca](mailto:tekjournal@mbts.mb.ca)

Effective March 31, 2002, MicroByte TekSolutions sold its interest in SWD Web Hosting.

## PUBLICATIONS

There is an incredible amount of information available to professionals and the public concerning the computer industry. In this section we will identify some of the ways in which we stay current with the changes, and identify how you too can subscribe if you wish.

On line e-zines have become as common as standard print media, especially relating to computers. They are generally available either by visiting a site regularly, or by signing up with an email address and having it delivered to your mailbox.

One such publication we have subscribed to for many years is Lockergnome, available in text and HTML format at <http://www.lockergnome.com>

The Windows version is described as "Freeware for everybody, useful Web sites, original PC tips & tricks, critical updates, jargon definitions, and industry news for consumers." Additional e-zines from this site include: Tech Specialist, Digital Media, Penguin Shell, and Web Master Weekly.

When you sign up for one or more newsletters, you will be emailed a confirmation request which you must reply to, or you won't receive anything. Happy reading...

## TEK QUESTIONS

Something that happens at every service call I make is the question. In addition to fixing the problem originally called for, invariably there is the "Can I ask you a quick question...?" This space is devoted to those questions, and any others that you may want answered. Please send us yours at [tekjournal@mbts.mb.ca](mailto:tekjournal@mbts.mb.ca)

### What is a Cookie?

A cookie is information that a web site puts on your hard disk so that it can remember something about you at a later time. Typically, a cookie records your preferences when using a particular site. It is generally safe to delete cookies on a regular basis. If the information contained therein is really needed by a particular site, you will be prompted to re-enter it on your next visit.

### What is SpyWare?

Spyware is any technology that aids in gathering information about a person or organization without their knowledge. On the Internet, spyware is programming that is put in someone's computer to secretly gather information about the user and relay it to advertisers or other interested parties.

Spyware uses the information in your Cookies, Temporary Internet Files, and Internet History send back profiles on your surfing habits. It is a good idea to clean these folders regularly.

### How do I remove Spyware?

Spyware may be found in "processes" (running programs), registry keys, folders, and files, on your Windows based computer system. Special software is required to identify it, and remove it. Fortunately this software is free.

This software is available at <http://www.lavasoft.de> and can also be found at various mirror sites like CNet. (<http://www.cnet.com> where you would search for adaware)

Install the software, accepting defaults, and then run it with check marks in the registry and hard drive boxes to clean your system. Run regularly to ensure a clean system.

## HAPPY SURFING

Everybody has favourite web sites dealing a wide array of information and diversions. Here are some of my favourites:

Canada's most comprehensive and up-to-date lottery site. <http://www.e-buddy.com/lottery/>

Darwin Awards commemorate those who improve our gene pool by removing themselves from it in really stupid ways. <http://www.darwinawards.com>

When you just want to waste a little time and maybe feel like a kid on Saturday morning again. From Vancouver <http://www.atomiccartoons.com/>

The Smithsonian Museum online for those of us who want to visit, but can't get to Washington DC or other sites <http://www.si.edu>

The Virtual Museum of Canada celebrates the stories and treasures that have come to define Canada over the centuries. Here you will find innovative multimedia content that educates, inspires and fascinates!  
<http://virtualmuseum.ca/>

## SYSTEMS & SPECIALS

**Desktop/Tower System:** Acer VT7200 P4 1.7GHz, 128MB RAM, 40GB Hard drive, 12/10/32 CDRW, nVidia M64 32MB AGP Video card, 1.44MB Floppy, AC97 sound on motherboard, Intel 10/100 Ethernet, 56k v90 Modem, Acer V1 Speakers, USB Keyboard and Mouse, Windows XP Home, Acer AC1701 17" .28 dpi Colour Monitor, **\$ 1,775.00 \*\***

**Royal daVinci DV4 Personal Data Assistant (PDA)** 4MB memory, Address Book, Schedule Planner with Alarms, Calendar, To-Do Lists, Memo Book, Calculator, Anniversary Tracker, Home and World Time, Currency and Metric Conversion, User-selectable Seven Languages (English, Spanish, French, Italian, German, Portuguese and Dutch), Synchronize your data with DV Link™ or with Microsoft Outlook 97, 98 & 2000, Microsoft® Schedule+, Goldmine™, Lotus Organizer® and ACT!™ Includes: Flip-Top Cover for screen protection, 3 Stylus pointers, PC Docking cradle with cable, Patented folding keyboard, DV Link PC Software on CD-ROM, Instruction Manual, 2 AAA Batteries **\$ 169.00 \*\***

\*\* PST & GST not included in above pricing