

Declare Freedom From High Costs & Risks By Throwing Out Data Now

Do you have mountains of information stored on your server that you'll never use, but feel like you should keep? You are not alone. Given expanding regulatory rules, some school and businesses save every bit of data they have, just to be safe.

You may be thinking, "What's the big deal in keeping everything?" While it is true off-site data storage costs have gone down by about 25% every year, the fact is that keeping your data forever can create big management challenges and lead to retrieval headaches. Most often organizations that save everything don't do it because they think it's the best way, but because they aren't sure what needs to be saved.

Every organization needs to save data for its own purposes, such as transactions, accounting records and so on. Not only that, but industry regulations require schools to save certain kinds of content for a prescribed period.

So what should you be doing? Here are 3 data-retention strategies you must consider:

1. Start with the storage analysis, not the storage technology or procedures.

Know what data has to be kept and for how long. Many times requirements are dictated by industry or legal requirements.

2. Segment user populations.

Use categories such as executives, back-office employees, temp hires and people who deal with the company's intellectual property and treat their data differently.

3. Be precise and consistent with data-retention policies.

Don't confuse backup with archiving.

Since backup systems don't generally have the granular control needed to save some types of information for a short time and others for longer, using them as archival systems can be costly and risky.

We can assist you in identifying best practices and cost-effective software tools for your school. **Contact us by July 31st at 773-383-5023 to receive a FREE DATA STORAGE AUDIT (normally \$297!).**



"As a School CEO or Principal, 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!"

- Abdul Ahmed,
AKAComp Solutions

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My Computer Network Doesn't Need Regular Monitoring And Maintenance, Does It?

This is probably one of the biggest and most costly misconceptions that many business owners have. Usually this is because they've been fortunate enough to never have encountered a major computer-related disaster, but that's similar to someone thinking they don't need to wear a seat belt when driving a car because they've never had an accident.

Computer networks are complex and dynamic systems that need regular updates and maintenance to stay up, running fast and problem-free. In fact, it's surprising how fast a brand-new computer will slow down after a few weeks or months of use without proper updates and maintenance. Here are just a FEW of the critical updates that need to be done on a weekly – if not daily – basis:

- Security patches applied – with NEW viruses and hacker attacks cropping up DAILY, this is a CRITICAL part of maintaining your network
- Antivirus updates and monitoring
- Firewall updates and monitoring
- Backup monitoring and test restores
- Spam-filter installation and updates
- Spyware detection and removal
- Monitoring disk space on workstations and servers
- Monitoring hardware for signs of failure
- Optimizing systems for maximum speed

A computer is just like a car: if you don't change the oil, replace the filter, rotate the tires, flush the transmission and perform other regular maintenance on your car, it will eventually break down and cost you FAR MORE to repair than the cost of the basic maintenance – and cars are far simpler than a computer network!

Free Report Download: If You Are Considering Cloud Computing For Your Company – Don't, Until You Read This...

INTRO TO CLOUD COMPUTING

"5 Critical Facts Every
Business Owner Must Know
Before Moving
Their Network
To The Cloud"



Discover What Most IT Consultants
Don't Know Or Won't Tell You
About Moving Your Company's
Network To The Cloud

If you are considering cloud computing or Office 365 to save money and simplify IT, it is extremely important that you get and read this special report, "5 Critical Facts Every Business Owner Must Know Before Moving Their Network To The Cloud."

This report discusses in simple, non-technical terms the pros and cons of cloud computing, data security, how to choose a cloud provider, as well as 3 little-known facts that most IT consultants don't know or won't tell you about cloud computing that could end up causing you MORE problems and costing you more money than you anticipated.

Even if you aren't ready to move to the cloud yet, this report will give you the right information and questions to ask when the time comes.

Get Your Free Copy Today: <http://www.akacomp.com/claim/cloudreport>

Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:



Inflatable

Movie Screen

This 120-inch-diagonal air-blown Inflatable Movie Screen is perfect for family movie nights and block parties, because everyone can see it all on this big screen in your backyard! The giant outdoor movie screen can be set up and inflated in minutes, ready to show movies, TV shows, cartoons, sporting events or even video presentations. This inflatable movie screen is also great to use indoors or out for fund-raising events, festivals or prom parties, providing a drive-in movie experience everyone will enjoy.

You can even hook up your game console to your projector (not included) to play video games for “tremendous” fun! And since this outdoor movie screen is portable, you can take it along to your summer cottage or company picnic!

This awesome addition to your family life AND your business can be found at www.skymall.com for about \$250.

THE TOP 5 MOVIES EVERY ENTREPRENEUR MUST WATCH

1. Miracle On 34th Street

What You'll Learn: The greatest lesson in salesmanship that no one follows.

The Entrepreneur's Lesson: Santa Claus, working at Macy's, goes out of his way to help customers, often encouraging them to shop elsewhere for the best deals. Instead of losing customers, Macy's becomes overwhelmed with customers seeking Santa's help. Macy's sales increase simply by doing what's best for the customer – too bad they don't do this in the real world, but *you* should.

2. Click

What You'll Learn: What it's like to fast-forward life.

The Entrepreneur's Lesson: Adam Sandler wants to keep fast-forwarding to the major accomplishments of his career. He loses the balance between work and home, and misses the lessons hidden in life's daily routine. Entrepreneurs are generally of the “I want it all now” breed, and this movie will show you how wrong that is. Take the good with the bad, and never stop pursuing your entrepreneurial AND family dreams.

3. Glengarry Glen Ross

What You'll Learn: Lying, cheating and stealing never work long-term.

The Entrepreneur's Lesson: Hard-close sales work...for a single sale. Ultimately your reputation is ruined, and deceived people lie in your wake. This movie is all about what not to do as an entrepreneur. Unfortunately, too many businesses still follow these practices. Get in an industry with a “Glengarry” reputation and be honest, reliable and go out of your way to be helpful. Your business will flourish.

4. Office Space

What You'll Learn: If you don't like what you are doing, change.

The Entrepreneur's Lesson: Follow your gut. If you hate what you do, change. Just don't steal – that never works. Instead, find your passion and pursue it. And if you already own a business you love, don't mess with Melvin. He might just burn down your entire building.

5. Jerry Maguire

What You'll Learn: What you expect when launching your business never comes true.

The Entrepreneur's Lesson: Hands down, the best movie of all time for entrepreneurs. Jerry leaves his big-money agency position to go out and start his own shop. Just like any entrepreneur who leaves to start their own business, he suspects every client will leave with him. There is no easier way to start a business, right? This movie shows the real deal. Nothing ever goes as planned.



MIKE MICHALOWICZ (pronounced mi-KAL-o-wits) started his first business at the age of 24, moving his young family to the only safe place he could afford – a retirement building. With no experience, no contacts and no savings, he systematically bootstrapped a multi-million-dollar business. Then he did it again. And again. Now he is doing it for other entrepreneurs. Mike is the CEO of Proventus Group, a consulting firm that ignites explosive growth in companies that have plateaued; a former small-business columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*; MSNBC's business makeover expert; a keynote speaker on entrepreneurship; and the author of the cult classic book *The Toilet Paper Entrepreneur*. His newest book, *The Pumpkin Plan*, has already been called “the next *E-Myth!*” For more information, visit <http://www.mikemichalowicz.com/>

3 Microsoft Excel Functions Certain To Make Your School More Productive

Microsoft Excel is such a powerful tool. We all know it, but most of what we use the program for are simple calculations and data collections while we know there is so much more there. The problem for most is that there are TOO MANY functions and tools to use, so we get lost, don't know what we could or should use and don't even try.

To help you out, we've picked 3 of our favorites to share with you. Using any one of these functions is certain to improve your company and make you more productive.

1. **Conditional Formatting.** Did you know that you can apply this simple tool to a collection of data and Excel will automatically format your data via color coding so it will "pop out" based on any criteria you choose? If you have any size data set that you need to analyze, this function greatly simplifies your job.
2. **CountIF, SumIF and AverageIF.** These rarely used functions are amazing when you apply them. If you have a spreadsheet full of data with common classifications or labels, you can easily count, sum or average each label using these 3 formulas. And the supercool part is that if you update any data, your functions will automatically update based on your changes. If you've never used any of these 3 IF functions, give them a whirl on your next spreadsheet.
3. **Paste Special.** I'm sure you may have used this function before, but you probably never realized the power it contains that we hardly use. Use the paste special function to convert your spreadsheet data from rows to columns (and vice versa), divide (or multiply) a whole series of numbers and more!



"Listen, you're not on the range anymore. Sometimes you're going to hear discouraging words."

The Lighter Side: A Summer Roast



- Q: What did the pig say at the beach on a hot summer's day?
A: I'm bacon!
- Q: What do you call six weeks of rain in Scotland?
A: Summer!
- Q: How do you prevent a summer cold?
A: Catch it in the winter!
- Q: What do you call a French guy in sandals?
A: Phillippe Phloppe.
- Q: When do you go at red and stop at green?
A: When you're eating a watermelon.
- Q: How do men exercise at the beach?
A: By sucking in their stomach every time they see a bikini.
- Q: What do you call a dog on the beach in the summer?
A: A hot dog!
- Q: Why do bananas use sun-screen?
A: Because they peel.
- Q: What's that new summer pirate movie rated?
A: It's rated ARRRRRR!
- Q: What's the best day to go to the beach?
A. SUNDAY!