

SORT I.T. COMPUTER SERVICES NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 – July 2013

WELCOME

With winter truly upon us, I hope you have all coped with the wind, rain and snow that has come with it. For my part, the look of sheer joy on my eldest daughters face when she had her first real sighting of snow made up for any inconveniences that my business operation made have suffered.

I would like to welcome any new subscribers to this newsletter and encourage you all to get any friends and family to also sign up so that the information and education about computing grows.

Thank you.

Jason John

Sort I.T. Computer Services.

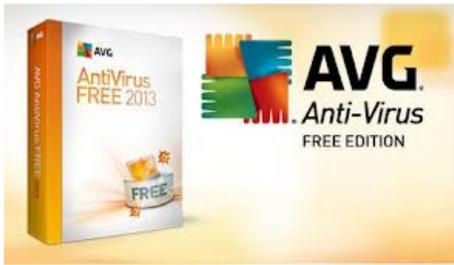
Anti-virus software.

What is it and why do I need it?

Antivirus software is a computer program that detects, prevents, and takes action to disarm or remove malicious software programs, such as viruses and worms. Computer viruses are software programs that are deliberately designed to interfere with computer operation; record, corrupt, or delete data; or spread themselves to other computers and throughout the Internet. To help prevent the most current viruses, you must update your antivirus software regularly. You can set up most types of antivirus software to update automatically.

There is a wide variety of anti-virus software available and everyone will have a different opinion on which is the best. Although they all offer you 'complete protection' against viruses the truth, in our opinion, is that none of them can offer this. By clicking on a link, downloading a file or visiting a malicious web page, even after your anti-virus software warns against it, you will bypass this protection and allow a virus onto your computer.

Sort I.T. Computer Services sees anti-virus software as a necessary insurance for you PC, however we do not believe that you need to spend the large amounts of money that most of the anti-virus software companies charge. You can either install free or very affordable software that will protect your PC, laptop, smart phone and tablet.



Free is best!

Sort I.T. Computer Services - Top 3 Free Anti-Virus Software Programs

1. AVG Free – for a free piece of software, this is the best for us.
2. Avast – second only to AVG due to the large amount of “pop-ups’ and the annoying voice that advises of updates, these can be switched of via the settings panel.
3. Microsoft Security Essentials – very efficeint and quiet, just not as good at intrusion detection as the other two.

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Conclusion

As previously stated, having anti-virus software on you PC is really a must, however it does not gaurantee complete protection from virus intrusion. The best form of protection is you the user ensuring that you surf the web wisely and a golden rule that we advise is that if you are not sure of what you are being asked to allow, then don't allow it!

Free software is great for home users and can provide you with protection you need, however if you are a business that uses free software, you need to be aware that you could be breaking the terms of use of that software. An affordable solution for businesses is Trend Micro Internet Security, a great all-round package and available at a very affordable annual subscription price from Sort I.T. Computer Services, contact us for more information.

Virus Alert!

Watch out for the New Zealand Police virus or Ukash virus, it will display a bogus notification that pretends to be from the New Zealand Police and states that your computer has been blocked due to it being involved with the distribution of pornographic material, SPAM and copyrighted content.

The New Zealand Police virus will lock you out of your computer and applications, so whenever you'll try to log on into your Windows operating system or Safe Mode with Networking, it will display instead a lock screen asking you to pay a non-existing fine of NZD \$100 in the form of a Ukash or Paysafecard code.

Furthermore, to make this alert seem more authentic, this virus also has the ability to access your installed webcam, so that the bogus New Zealand Police notification shows what is happening in the room.

If your computer is infected with New Zealand Police virus, then you are seeing the below notification:

Supported and Protected by 

IP:

Country: NZ New Zealand
Region:
City:
ISP:
Operating System: Windows XP (32-bit)
User Name:



ATTENTION! Your PC is blocked due to at least one of the reasons specified below.

You have been violating "Copyright and Related Rights Law" (video, music, software) and illegally using or distributing copyrighted content, thus infringing Article 128 of the Criminal Code of New Zealand.

Article 128 of the Criminal Code provides for a fine of 200 to 500 minimal wages or a deprivation of liberty for 2 to 8 years.

You have been viewing or distributing prohibited Pornographic content (Child Porn/Zoophilia and etc). Thus violating Article 202 of the Criminal Code of New Zealand.

Article 202 of the Criminal Code provides for a deprivation of liberty for 4 to 12 years.

Illegal access to computer data has been initiated from your PC, or you have been...

Article 208 of the Criminal Code provides for a fine of up to NZD \$100,000 and/or a deprivation of liberty for 4 to 9 years.

Illegal access has been initiated from your PC without your knowledge or consent, your PC may be infected by malware, thus you are violating the law On Neglectful Use of Personal Computer.

Article 210 of the Criminal Code provides for a fine of NZD \$2,000 to NZD \$8,000.

Spam distribution or other unlawful advertising has been effected from your PC as a profit-seeking activity or without your knowledge, your PC may be infected by malware.

Article 212 of the Criminal Code provides for a fine of up to NZD \$250,000 and a deprivation of liberty of up to 6 years. In case this activity has been effected without your knowledge, you fall under the abovementioned article 210 of the Criminal Code of New Zealand.

Your personality and address are currently being identified, a criminal case is going to be initiated against you under one or more articles specified above within the next 72 hours.

Pursuant to the amendment to the Criminal Code of New Zealand of February 04, 2013, this law infringement (if it is not repeated - first time) may be considered as conditional in case you pay the fine to the State.

Fines may only be paid within 72 hours after the infringement. As soon as 72 hours elapse, the possibility to pay the fine expires, and a criminal case is initiated against you automatically within the next 72 hours!

The amount of fine is NZD \$100. You can pay fine Ukash.

When you pay the fine, your PC will get unlocked in 72 hours after the money is put into the State's account.

Since your PC is unlocked, you will be given 7 days to correct all violations.

In case all violations are not corrected after 7 working days, your PC will be blocked again, and a criminal case will be initiated against you automatically under one or more articles specified above.

UKASH Voucher NO/PIN Amount

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

Where can I buy Ukash?

You can get Ukash from hundreds of thousands of global locations, online, from wallets, from kiosks and ATMs.

 **ePay** - Get Ukash wherever you see the ePay sign. You can get Ukash from any of the thousands of convenience stores with an ePay top-up terminal.

Whitcoulls - Get Ukash from any Whitcoulls store in New Zealand.

1. Go to your nearest store with an ePay terminal or Whitcoulls.
2. Ask for a Ukash voucher NZD \$50 or NZD \$100.
3. Give the shopkeeper your cash.
4. The shopkeeper will print your voucher with the 19-digit Ukash PIN.

