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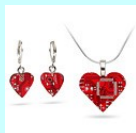
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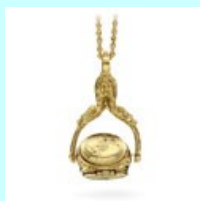
### Mother's Day: Geek-Style, Of Course

Mother's Day is upon us yet again, and we are all left wondering what to get the woman that has everything, that expresses our appreciation for those 40 hours of labour that she went through for us, just to hear us scream at the top of our lungs for 6 months straight (which she never fails to remind us EVERY Mother's Day...). Following are some options for the geek moms out there, or for the moms of geeks...



#### 1. Tech Love Circuit Board Jewelry

**2. The Apocalypse Mom Gift Pack.** To ensure your mom will survive the zombie apocalypse. We all know it's coming...



#### 3. Victorian Rotating Triple Locket

**4. A Build-Your-Own Caffeine Sampler.** The ultimate mom survival kit!



For more geeky Mother's Day ideas, check out: <http://www.thinkgeek.com/mothersday/>

### Windows XP: Execution Day Looms

Windows XP has been around since less than 2 months after 9/11. Shortly after it's launch, a big security vulnerability was found in the 'universal plug and play' code. This led to their 'Trustworthy Computing' initiative, and eventually they released XP Service Pack 2 as a mulligan for their initial release.

Windows XP continues to be the 2nd largest PC OS (Operating System), behind Windows 7. It continues to be used on over 300 million business desktop computers. Now for the kicker...

April 8, 2014 Redmond will discontinue support for Windows XP. No more support means no more security updates, tech support, or patches.

When switching over to the new OS, you do have to keep cost in mind, as there are extras that are not included when having a new OS installed on a current computer.

When you switch to a new OS, this means that your computer basically has to be wiped clean (yes, that means everything, and I do mean everything, erased) then restored after the new OS is installed. Data is usually included in the transfer, however '3rd party' programs (any computer software that is outside the Microsoft core components, ie iTunes, QuickBooks, Office, etc.) is not. So do you know where all your install disks are? Don't forget to add to your bill the licensing fees for Windows 7.

Doing it yourself? Be ready to invest some time. This is not a quick & easy feat to accomplish. 'Heavy users' (people with 125GB of data and 40 applications) could take up to a full day to upgrade from Windows XP to Windows 7. For businesses, multiply that time by how many computers you have. I feel a headache coming on...

Moral of the story: Ditch Windows XP now, and upgrade to Windows 7. You then have a year to get used to the new OS, and you beat the rush before Windows XP becomes a major security liability. By starting now, if your business has more than 1 computer, you can do the upgrades in stages.

**Need a quote on upgrading? Call Earl Harder at 204-800-3167.**

## April 2013 Trivia Winner: Richard at Empire Machinery & Tools Ltd!



Originally a division of Empire Sheet Metal Mfg. Ltd, Empire Machinery's first machinery catalogue was published in 1987. Empire imports sheet metal and metal fabricating equipment from around the world and distributes across Canada and the U.S.

Empire Machinery offers a full range of machinery service, installation, and training with their in-house technicians. Empire Machinery sells both new and used equipment and offers lease-to-own options, as well as assistance in selling your old machinery. Empire buys used equipment, take as a trade-in when you buy new equipment, or offer a consignment option. Any used equipment sold by Empire Machinery is thoroughly checked, reconditioned, shop-tested before sale, and is covered by Empire's 30-Day Used Equipment Warranty.

To see more Empire Machinery & Tools, check out their website at: [www.empire-machinery.com](http://www.empire-machinery.com). For more information, please contact Rick McLean at: [204-779-7791](tel:204-779-7791), or toll free at: [1-800-665-8089](tel:1-800-665-8089).

**Don't forget your entry for this month's trivia for a chance to win coffee & donuts...delivered to your workplace! PLUS, Your company will be featured In next month's issue of TechTips, on our blog, and our Facebook page!**

*Your feature will reach over 2000 potential customers!!*

## Hot Spot!

The last time the earth's core temperature was measured was 20 years ago. It was just the beginning of those kinds of measurements, and they made the first estimate, and suggested the Earth's core temperature to be approximately 5000 degrees Celsius. However, the temperature reading was not agreed upon, as everyone had their own opinion and calculation.

New measurements suggest the Earth's inner core is far hotter than prior experiments suggested, putting it at approximately 6,000 degrees Celsius, give or take 500 degrees,...which is as hot as the sun's surface.

Why does this matter? The core temperature is crucial to a number of disciplines that study regions of the Earth's interior that will never be accessed directly. This guides our understanding of everything from earthquakes to the Earth's magnetic field. Thus, the measurement influences geophysicists, seismologists, geodynamicists, etc.

But the most important part of the new measurements? Everyone agrees.

## Orca Attacks!

On April 18, off the southern coast of Sri Lanka, a battle ensued between 6 orcas whales and a pod of sperm whales.

What makes this news? This battle is one of less than a dozen that has been observed, and the first in the Indian Ocean. It's also the first to be captured in underwater photos and video.

The attack was captured by Shawn Heinirichs, a photographer and filmmaker. He was in the area looking for blue whales. When he spotted the battle occurring, he jumped in and started filming and snapping pictures. He continued to capture the battle on film for the entire 30 minutes.

Robert Pitman, marine ecologist with NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Centre states that killer whale attacks on sperm whales are rarely observed. He goes on to state that likely only a few groups of killer whales that have mastered the ability to prey on sperm whales and their young.

To check out the video, go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zq6D9sjzj6M>

## Animal Super-Powers

If you had a super-power, what would it be? Xray vision? Invisibility? Whatever it is, some creatures already have you beat. Some have amazing, weird, or disgusting powers that you wouldn't wish on your worst enemy (or maybe you would).

1. **Heat Sensing—Pit Vipers:** Pit vipers, and some pythons and boas, can sense the body heat of their prey from several feet away.
2. **Indestructible—Tardigrade aka Water Bear:** These creatures are tiny, but are virtually indestructible. They are able to survive freezing temperatures as low as -200 degrees Celsius, no food or water for as long as 100 years, ionizing radiation up to 570,000 roentgens (a dose of 500 roentgens would kill you), solar radiation, gamma radiation, ultraviolet radiation, high salt environment, and low oxygen environment.
3. **Invisibility—Cuttlefish:** Cuttlefish are the shape shifting masters of camouflage, and blend in with scenery to avoid predators.
4. **Toxic Blood—Eels:** Eels' toxic blood is poisonous to humans and other mammals, causing muscular spasms that affect the heart. Good news for all those seafoodies out there...cooking the eels neutralizes the toxic proteins.
5. **Sprays Pure Evil From Its Butt—Striped Polecat aka Zorrilla:** And I thought walking my son after taco night was dangerous. These guys live in Africa, and smell like a skunk on steroids. The foul smell is launched from their anal stink glands (no, I'm not making this up), fouls the air for approximately 1/2 mile depending on the wind, and will temporarily blind you.
6. **Inability to Feel Pain—Naked Mole Rat:** Although it's tiny, ugly, and has incredibly poor eyesight, the Naked Mole Rat is almost completely resistant to pain. It lives in ant-like colonies underground with a single breeding queen and her army of workers and soldiers. This creature is also invulnerable to cancer, which scientists are looking at closely in order to replicate this superpower in ourselves.

## UK Cop Reports Son for Fraud

We've all heard the horror stories about kids that rack up hundreds (or even thousands) of dollars on app purchases on Apple's iTunes App Store. While Apple is working on helping some customers with refunds on accidental or unintentional app purchases, they have refused to refund purchases a 13-year old boy made, to the tune of \$5,600.

Apple refused the refund, stating that as parental controls are available as part of the iOS, it is the parent's responsibility to lock their iOS device to prevent such purchases. The dad's reaction? He reported the action to the Action Fraud Hotline, which means his son could potentially be arrested and face charges. The method behind his madness? To lodge the complaint as criminal so he would be off the hook, and that his credit card company would have to foot the bill.

A spokesperson at the Action Fraud states that it currently does not sound like fraud occurred, and they doubt that prosecutors would charge the minor anyway.

That's a lot of years without allowance!

### BURNING COMPUTER QUESTION ??

Email our Resident Geek!

We'll even translate the answer from Geek-lish to English, so the it actually helps!

Email your question to: [geek@tbyd.ca](mailto:geek@tbyd.ca)

Check our blog for the answer: [tbyd.ca](http://tbyd.ca)

### MAY TRIVIA QUESTION:

It took the radio 38 years. It took the television 13 years.  
It only took the internet 4 years to reach this milestone. What is it?

Email your answer to: [answer@tbyd.ca](mailto:answer@tbyd.ca) for your chance to win coffee & donuts delivered to your workplace!  
**PLUS**, Your company will be featured in next month's issue of TechTips, on our blog, and our Facebook page!

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# TechTip Postcard

Insider Tips and Secrets to Get The MOST Out of Your Computer

## Free Report

### “16 Critical Questions You MUST Ask Before Hiring Any IT Company”

**If You Depend On Your Computer Network To Run Your Business, This Is One Report You DON'T Want To Overlook!**

This free report will explain in simple, non-technical terms what you need to look for when outsourcing your IT support, as well as cost-saving strategies, insider tips and 16 revealing questions you MUST ask any computer consultant before giving him access to your computer network. If your current guy can't answer a confident “Yes” to all 16 of these questions, it might be time to look for someone else.

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