

Old Servers, and Why You NEED to Replace Them

The 3-Year Rule: Servers generally don't last longer than 3 years. This is due to many factors within the server.

Operating System (OS): The older the OS, the less likely it is still going to be 'protected' (receive security updates). Oss expire or get old, and are more vulnerable to exploitation by CyberCriminals, and are more at risk for loss of data and/or information, identity theft, etc.

Hard Drive: Hard drives will fail, on average, after 3 years. Sometimes sooner, sometimes a little later, but it WILL happen. AND, when it does, your company will shut down completely, until the server is rebuilt and restored from a backup (that it, assuming you have a good backup...).

Replacement Parts: After 3 years, manufacturers are busy pushing the newer models, so parts become harder to find, and the likelihood of a major catastrophe increases immensely.

Performance

Once a server is running at 70% capacity or more (in plain language: it's basically 70% full when all operations are running), it slows down immensely. And a funny thing about performance that we've noticed: Unlike vehicles, and appliances, people tend to accept poor performance and slowness from their computer. After a while, they don't even realize they are doing it.

How many of you start up your computer, or open a file, and start doing something else because it takes so long? If you do, you're not alone. Many people do this, and think nothing of it. Consider the loss of productivity this is costing you & your company.

Lots of potential for fails after 3 years. What would a server failure cost your business, and how quickly could you recover?

We often notice people replace their vehicles far more often than their servers and other technical equipment. A new truck runs upwards of \$50,000+-. A new server: a few thousand. Is the new truck making you money? Your server is your business' lifeblood, and without it you may not be able to afford the payments on that shiny new truck.

Make it a priority to replace your server...Your business depends on it.

Think about it...



This is the (Lego) Life!

You really can build anything from Lego!

Blade, a turtle, had a bone metabolism illness that weakened his muscles so much, he could no longer support the weight of his shell. Blade could no longer pick himself up to move around.

...Until German vet Dr. Carsten Plischke [glued Lego wheels](#) to the bottom of his shell with special glue. The modification, consisting of 4 small tires, allows Blade to move around freely, while gaining strength in his legs.

Dr. Plischke stated he was inspired by his son's [Lego](#) set, to build a custom Lego "skate" for Blade so that he could use his legs for direction and momentum, while the Lego wheels helped to hold his body & shell weight off the ground.

Dr. Plischke hopes that Blade will gain enough strength that the 'training wheels' can eventually be removed.



Image Credit: <http://www.cnet.com/news/disabled-tortoise-gets-a-lego-wheelchair/>

You wouldn't drive a lemon...



...so why do you trust your
data,
financial and
customer information
to one?

Upgrade Your Server Now!



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Image Credit: Lowe's Canada

For the Love of Animals

The hiring practices of home improvement stores aren't usually news-worthy. However, the story of two new employees in Regina, is too charming, and too important, to pass up.

The difficulty wasn't that the job-seeker had a brain injury, it

was because he required the support of a service dog.

So Lowe's Canada hired the inseparable team together, and outfitted them both. Yes, the dog, named Blue, has his very own Lowe's vest. Blue also got his own name tag.

The home improvement retailer took to [social media](#) in June to announce the hiring of the pair in their Regina location.

The pair have been a great asset to the store, and Lowe's is earning praise across the country for the decision to hire them.

"Way to spread compassion and employment," wrote [one commenter](#).

"Hope other companies follow along with you to help those with special circumstances."



Lowe's taking it to next level

Image Credit: Mark Jaycock



Image Credit: Pete Titmuss/Alamy Stock Photo

Portugal Run on Renewable Resources

Generally speaking, renewable energy is clean and non-polluting, with many forms not emitting any greenhouse gases or toxic waste during the process of creating electricity. Cost-effective and efficient, renewable energy is a sustainable option that can be relied on for the long-term.

That's why governments around the world are turning to renewable energy options in the search to end dependence on fossil fuels.

According to recent information released by Portugal's ZERO System Sustainable Land Association in collaboration with the Portuguese Renewable Energy Association (APREN), the country ran solely on renewable energy for a total of [4 consecutive days in May](#). Portugal used solely solar, wind, and hydro electricity for 107 hours during this record-setting event.

Other countries had significant energy-saving milestones in May:

- [Germany](#) sourced 95% of its energy from renewable sources on May 8, which resulted in local power prices going into the negative (commercial customers actually got paid to use up electricity!).
- [Scotland](#) generated more than 1/2 of its electricity in 2015 from renewable.
- [India](#) is choosing solar energy, over the more traditional coal-based power industry.



Great Balls of Fire!

A new device is destined to save lives.

The [Elide Fire Ball](#) self-detonates when it comes into contact with flames., and requires no training.

The fire ball weighs 1.3 kg, is a round ball, and is easy to throw and toss into a fire to extinguish it.

Simply throw it in, and back up. It activates within seconds. The blast pushes the oxygen out of the fire. A chemical powder is then dispensed over an area of 8-10 square meters.

The fire ball can even be used on wall stands and other flat surfaces. It can be kept for a period of 5 years, without maintenance. If kept on a stand, it also emits a loud noise (less than 140 dB) as a fire alarm upon activation.

This could save much more than just your life.

The fire ball, and its inventor, has won many International awards and certificates.



Cleaning Up the Streets

This mobile shower is giving the homeless a place to wash with dignity.

Jake Austin, a pastor who has worked with homeless people most of his adult career, grew up around a soup kitchen his parents operated out of a little church in Mount Vernon, Ill. Austin was distributing soap and other hygiene supplies to the homeless, when one homeless man said that the soap was nice, but he had no place to use it. He went on to say he had plenty of clothes and food, but hadn't had a shower in 2 months, and had a job interview in 2 days.

Austin bought an old truck off Craigslist for \$5,000, and turned it into a 2-stall mobile shower unit. The truck was converted by volunteers from a recreational vehicle builder to union plumbers. In addition, a laundry service has offered to clean its towels for free.

The truck hooks up to fire hydrants, and heats the water with an external generator. Austin started "[Shower to the People](#)" which provides 60 homeless people a day with showers, complete with hygiene products.

With support from Focus North America, Austin hopes to take his mobile shower to more cities across the U.S.

