TechTips Newsletter

"Troll" Study States Obvious

Many of us have had the lovely experience of dealing with internet trolls, or those that lurk the internet with the sole intention starting arguments or making people upset. Research has now taken the thoughts we have all had that "the people who have nothing better to do on the internet, but troll are crazy" to a whole other level.

A recent psychological study has shown that internet trolls tend to have dark personality traits and show signs of sadism, psychopathy, and Machiavellianism. So maybe they aren't actually crazy, but this research shows that they have some personality traits of some people that are.

According to the same study, the same users were also more likely to report trolling as their favourite internet activity. Researchers state that "everyday sadists do not have a hidden agenda; they simply want to have fun, and trolling is one way that they can have fun online".

Keeping this in mind, personality traits like sadism and psychopathy do translate into real life, the anonymity of the internet allows trolls to let out their aggression more easily.

Geek quotes you will try to imitate upon reading..

Just try to read these out loud with your normal voice, and maybe don't read them while near your coworkers.

"My precious"- Gollum, 'The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers

"Get to the chopper,"- Dutch, 'Predator'

"No, I am your father." Darth Vader, 'Star Wars: Episode V- The Empire Strikes Back'

"Worst. Episode. Ever."- Comic Book Guy, 'The Simpsons'

"Try not. Do, or do not. There is no try."- Yoda, 'Star Wars: Episode V- The Empire Strikes Back'

"My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die!"- Inigo, 'The Princess Bride'

THE "BIG BANG THEORY" LEGO SET

Sheldon, Leonard, Raj, Howard, Bernadette, and Penny may be immortalized in a new way. They'll be joining Harry Potter and Star Wars as Lego sets, as long as it gets enough votes on the Lego website. The set includes everything from Sheldon's spot on the couch, the Chinese food they order constantly, and even Cinnamon, Raj's dog.

The set needs 10,000 votes on the Lego fan site, http://lego.cuusoo.com, and is currently sitting at just over 6,000.

FRENCH TEEN FACES CHARGES OVER DRONE USE

After hooking up a Go-Pro camera to an air drone, who wouldn't want to take it for a spin? An eighteen year old in France spent hours taking impressive cinematic footage of the city of Nancy. This seems to have raised problems with the French government, and the teen is now being facing charges of "endangering the lives of others".

The teen claims that the drone, which he bought off the internet, had no indications that he might need special permission to operate it. French law prohibits drone expeditions without both site authority permission and proper training, neither of which did the teen have.

Though the teen has stated that he is feeling 'torn up' by incident, the public prosecutor's office has shown no indication of having seconds thoughts about charging him. "If the machine crashes in a densely populated area, the consequences could be serious. There are also privacy concerns".

THE $80,000 COST OF FACEBOOK

A Boston College student lost her family $80,000 by posting a Facebook status about her family winning an age discrimination case.

The student, Dana Snay's father was headmaster at Gulliver Prepatory school for years, but when his contract was not renewed, it started a age discrimination suite. Because of the confidentiality clause in the settlement, Dana Snay more or less forfeited the money after posting a Facebook status about her father winning the case.

"Mama and Papa Snay won the case against Gulliver. Gulliver is now officially paying for my vacation to Europe this summer. SUCK IT."

Even though the status was meant for her family and friends, who most like knew about the case anyways, it broke the confidentiality clause of the settlement. No Europe vacation for Dana or her family. Moral of the story here, watch what you post on Facebook, it could cost you thousands of dollars.
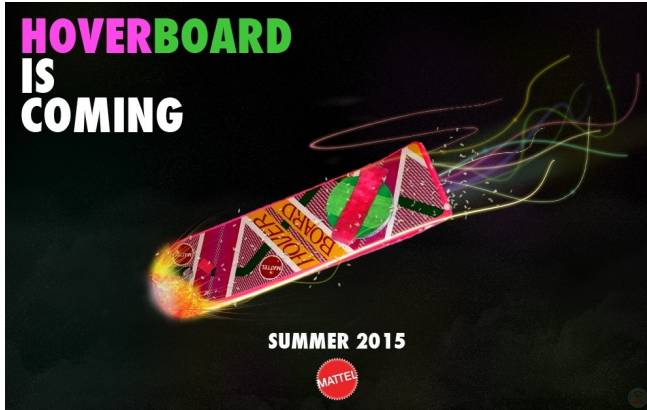
THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA WINNER IS..

Congratulations to Chris Millard at McLeod Massage Therapy Clinic for winning last month's trivia question!

Located at 9-836 McLeod, McLeod Massage Therapy Clinic offers many different massage options including therapeutic/deep tissue massage, prenatal and postnatal massage, and hot stone massage. They also offer kinesiotaping/sport taping. In business since 2002, they now have five massage therapists on their team to help you. With direct billing to Blue Cross and Great West Life, they are more than equipped to help you feel your best. To book an appointment, or get learn more about McLeod Massage Therapy Clinic, call them at (204) 663-1582, or visit their website at www.mcleodmassage.ca.

HOVER BOARDS- REAL OR FAKE?

After the video of a 'real' hoverboard went viral, with celebrity appearances, it created a lot of excitement. Though the technology is almost all there for one to be created soon, it isn't quite there yet.

"The following demonstrations are completely real". How many times have we heard this one while watching a scary movie? Though the hoverboard looked really neat, and we were all hoping for this to be real, there really is no bigger giveaway to the fact that something is fake than that statement. Well, that and the complete lack of technical explanation for any of it.

The culprit of this? Comedy website "Funny or Die" has taken full responsibility for making us believe that we could finally have use a hoverboard like Marty McFly in "Back To The Future".

The only real apology they have offered is a comment on their Facebook page saying "Sorry, internet". Though the apology was kind of halfhearted, many Facebook users just expressed their desire for a real hoverboard to be created. "I hope you angered someone so much, they make it their life's work to actually build one" said one user.

Anyone who actually creates this will have full support by the staff at Technology by Design, and we look forward to riding to work on a hoverboard in the future.
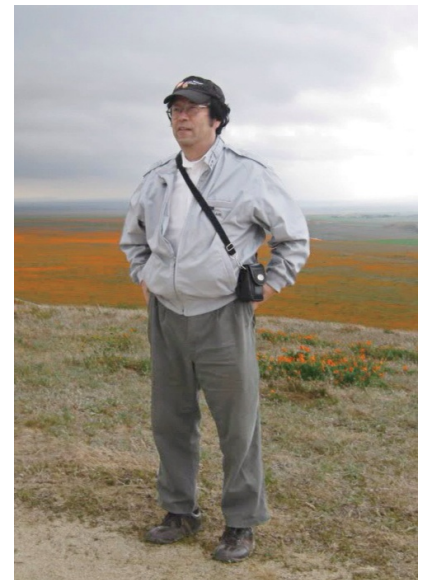
BITCOIN CREATOR FOUND

After years of anonymity, the creator and founder of Bitcoin may have been found in Southern California.

The 64 year old creator, Satoshi Nakamoto, was tracked down by Newsweek after weeks of research on his whereabouts. After police were present, Nakamoto had little to say about his involvement in Bitcoin.

"I am no longer involved in that and I cannot discuss it. It's been turned over to other people. They are in charge of it now. I no longer have any connection."

The man's family had no idea he had any involvement in the project, though many of them understood it was something he was capable,of. Being a graduate from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California with a physics degree, he was very smart. He had also been involved in secretive activities, working with major corporations and even the US military.

OUR CONDOLENCES TO EARL HARDER'S FAMILY

Technology by Design would like to extend our condolences to the family of our good friend and co-worker, Earl Harder. Earl passed away February 27, 2014 after a courageous battle with cancer. Earl, you will be missed dearly.

Storm Season Is Upon Us… Are You Protected?

Spring begins on March 20th! It's not too late to prepare for those pop-up storms that occur randomly at this time of year, often resulting in everything from ice damage to lightning fires. During this time of year the threat of fire, flood, severe storms, water damage from office sprinklers and even theft is very real.

One of the most valuable assets for any company is its data. Hardware and software can easily be replaced, but a company's data cannot!

As a reminder to all of our clients and friends, here are some simple things you should do to make sure your company is ready for any natural disaster.

1. **Back Up Your Data!**
Everyone knows that data should be backed up on a daily basis, but many people still don't do it. We recommend backing up all data, and we offer this as a service to our clients.

2. **Use A Quality Surge Protector With Uninterruptible Power Supply Battery.**
A high-quality surge protector combined with an uninterruptible power supply battery backup will go a long way in protecting sensitive electronic equipment from surges and other electronic irregularities that can destroy your computer's circuitry.

3. **Make Sure Your Servers Are Off The Floor.**
If your office gets flooded, having your equipment off the floor will prevent it from being completely destroyed. Server racks can be purchased and installed very inexpensively.

4. **Have A Disaster Recovery And Business Continuity Plan.** Every business should have some type of plan in place for continued operation after a disaster. Would people know where to go? Who to call? How to log in and access data remotely? Hopefully you'll never need it, but having a simple plan will make you sleep a lot easier at night knowing you have a way to continue to operate when disaster strikes.

FREE Report: The 10 Disaster Planning Essentials For Any Small Business

Don't lose everything you've worked so hard to achieve in an instant! This report will reveal important planning strategies you should have in place now to protect yourself from common data-erasing disasters including natural hazards, human error, cyber criminals, hardware failure, software corruption and other IT failures.

Phone: 204-800-3166 OR Visit: www.tbyd.ca/disasterplanning