



TechTips Newsletter

Is your fridge sending viruses?



There are many "Smart" appliances out on the market. Smart TVs and Smart fridges, just to name a few. Even with these appliances being able to do things such as connect to wifi, no one has really questioned "what happens if the appliance gets a virus?"

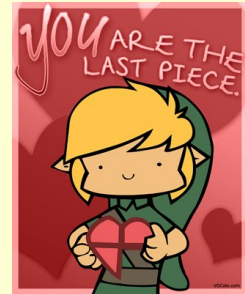
Well, we now have the answer. An American company has found a botnet attack, or a hacker attack aimed at remotely controlling a device with the intention of sending spam, which was aimed at 100,000

devices including routers, media centres, TVs and at least one fridge.

The attack sent more than 750,000 emails, in bursts of 100,000 at a time, three times a day. No more than 10 emails were sent from the same email address, making them difficult to block and more than 25% of these emails were not sent from devices regularly used for email, such as computers or cell phones.

With problems like this coming to the surface, the makers of these appliances and devices will have to find a way to protect the device from malicious attack.

Nerdy Valentines Day Cards



THINK YOU'RE A SMARTIE PANTS?

Last month the trivia question was:

In the Star Wars series, what was the name of the ship Han Solo used to win the Kessel Run?

The answer was the **Millennium Falcon**.

This month, the question is:

In The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, the sounds of the Orcs chanting is actually a recording of what?

Use your knowledge of all things geek, and your best friend Google to help you win a Chromecast!

GOOGLE GLASS WEARER DETAINED

A theatre in Columbus, Ohio pulled a programmer out of a movie when they realized he was wearing Google Glass and suspected him of recording Jack Ryan.

The programmer reportedly wears the Google glass everywhere, as they were fixed with his eyeglasses prescription and the actual device was turned off. It wasn't until 3-4 hours into questioning the programmer, who refuses to give his name, about his Google Glass did the investigating agents agree to bring him a laptop and USB cable so he could prove that he was not recording anything.

The programmer says "I signed up for Glass but I guess I also signed up for being harassed by authorities that are unfamiliar with the technology. Some hiccups are to be expected with any new

advancement." He says he will continue to wear the Google Glass, and although he isn't planning on taking legal action, he is hoping that the authorities become more educated in the new technology.



IS TECHNOLOGY BY DESIGN SUPPORTING YOU?

Are you receiving computer support from us at Technology by Design? Do you dislike doing dishes as much as we do? Let us help you out with that.

TbyD can help you get out of doing dishes by giving you a gift card for a supper out when you tell us, and everyone else, how we help you with your IT and computer problems! Just

email Cindy at cindy@tbyd.ca, and she will send you more information about how you can get supper, on us!

THIS MONTHS TRIVIA WINNER IS.....

This month's trivia winner is Michael Lacroix from Playgrounds-R-Us!

Located at 250 Transport Road in Winnipeg, Playgrounds-R-Us is a family-owned and operated business that specializes in playground structures and equipment. With the philosophy of "doing it the right way, the first time", they have become the premier park and playground facilitator in Central Canada.



Playgrounds-R-Us offers a full range of outdoor recreation space-related services, from site analysis through supply of the apparatus & related site work, and culminating in either installation leadership & supervision or complete in-house installation by one of several specially-trained and highly experienced Playgrounds-R-Us crews. Having completed more than 1100 projects from Ontario to Saskatchewan, Playgrouds-R-Us is committed to ensuring that the finished product is not only the most effective use of your budget, but safe as well by the Canadians standard for playground apparatus.

If you want to learn more about what Playgrounds-R-Us has to offer, check out www.pru.ca or call them at (204) 632-7000.

FACEBOOK VS PRINCETON

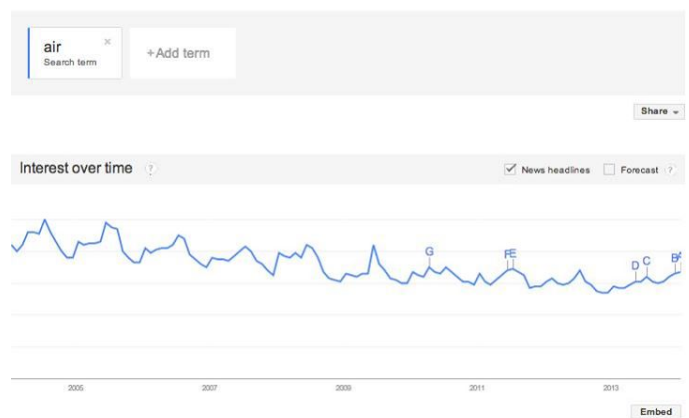
Princeton released a non-peer reviewed study stating that Facebook would lose 80% of its users by 2015-2017. Facebook has since debunked this research, and have since even conducted their own research.

The report done by Princeton was flawed in many ways. First, the researchers tried to compare Facebook to a disease that users eventually "recover" from. Using MySpace as an example, the researchers described how users can recover from a social network and abandon it. The researchers did not seem to think of the reason for MySpace's decline- which was the rise of another social networking website, Facebook.

The second major flaw in the study was that they used the fact that the name "Facebook" was declining in number of searches in search engines. Facebook was quick to state that this is because proper no longer have to search for Facebook at all on the web because many people are now accessing

the site on their mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets.

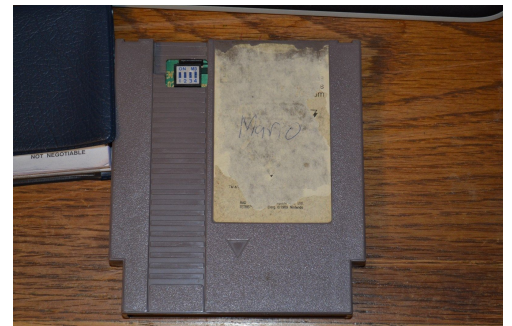
The people at Facebook then decided to conduct their own research using Princeton's methods of research- mostly Google search data. They "unequivocally demonstrated that Princeton may be in danger of disappearing entirely". They also stated that the Google search trend for "air" had been steadily dropping, and by Princeton logic, by the year 2060 there will be no air left.



THE UGLIEST RARE NES GAME

How much would you pay for an NES game? How much would you pay for one that looked like it had fallen out of a vehicle, picked up by a dog, only to be dropped on the train track, where it was run over? Maybe this description is a bit over exaggerated, but a very worn NES cartridge of the infamous "Nintendo World Championship" has found its way onto eBay, with a starting bid of \$4,999.99. The final winning bid at \$99,902.00.

The grey version of this game was given out as prizes in 1990 at the Nintendo Entertainment System tournament to the 90 finalists after the tournament. The only other version was given out as a prize through the magazine, Nintendo Power, and only 26 copies were made in this gold version. With a grand total of 116 copies of this game made in 1990, it's hard to know exactly how many are actually still around. According to avid retro video game collectors, there are 13 gold versions of "Nintendo World Championship" potentially floating around, with no ideas on their whereabouts. Check your attics! You should find a copy between your Commodore 64 and your Colecovision.



TechTip Postcard

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

FEBRUARY 2014

We Have 3 Ways To Win This Valentine's Day To Show You How Much We LOVE Your Business!

Finally, Valentine's Day gifts that won't make you fat or give you cavities! During the entire month of February, we're having a special event for all of our clients (new and old) to show them a little love and appreciation.

- 1. To Our NEW Customers.** We appreciate your interest! Call us for a FREE optimization on one computer and Performance Analysis on up to five computers. You will also be entered to win a manicure, pedicure, and your choice of a one hour relaxation massage or a deep clean facial! Use this Spa package yourself, or spend it on your Valentine!
- 2. To Existing Customers Who Know Someone Who Needs Us.** Do you know anyone who could use our services? Send us their contact information so we can help them out too! When you send a referral of a company who could use our help to cindy@tbyd.ca, you will be entered for a chance to win a manicure, pedicure, and your choice of a one hour relaxation massage or a deep clean facial. For you to use or to give to your Valentine!
- 3. To Existing Customers Who Can't Stop Talking About Us.** Do you like telling people about your business and what we have done to help it run efficiently? Have we helped you set up a network, computer or server? Have we helped your company by fixing computer issues you just couldn't deal with anymore? Email cindy@tbyd.ca and let know that you would like to be featured as one of our testimonials! When you write a testimonial, you will automatically receive a thank you gift. You will also be entered for a chance to win the Spa package of a manicure, pedicure, and either a one hour relaxation massage or a deep clean facial! For yourself, your valentine, your mother, or your cat!
Disclaimer: Cats are not eligible to use the Spa.



**Contact us today to be a part of our
Valentines Day special event!
Phone: 204-800-3166
Web site: www.tbyd.ca/valentines**