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Technology news, information and interesting stories. Published monthly for Geeks and non-Geeks.

Windows 10 Upgrade Now Available for FREE!

A Microsoft is in the process of releasing their new Windows 10 <u>Operating system</u> (OS). This is an upgrade you do not pay for, promises to fix problems with earlier versions, and claims to be more secure. They plan to upgrade over 1 billion computers.

CyberCriminals are trying to exploit this confusion, with phishing scams and criminal call centres.

- Criminals are making phone calls, claiming to be from Microsoft tech support. They ask for your credit card number "in order to charge you for the upgrade."
- CyberCriminals are sending emails claiming to be from Microsoft, with links claiming to link you to "your Windows 10 Upgrade". When you click on the link, you download <u>CBT-Locker Ransomware</u> onto your computer.

If you would like the Windows10 Upgrade, go directly to the Microsoft website for more information.



Here is the direct link, or copy & paste it into your address bar: <u>http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/</u> windows-10-upgrade

Before you install the Windows10 Upgrade, ensure all your current software will work with it. Old versions of software (especially accounting software) may not work with it.

You may want to check out our <u>review</u> on the new Windows10 Upgrade before you click "install".

Ask How We Can Save Your Computer Network From the Evils of CyberCriminals!



1-204-800-3166 www.itthatworks.ca The only <u>Mythbusters</u> claim to receive a simultaneous "Busted", "Plausible", and "Confirmed" rating was the lethality of falling bullets.

DID Y



Email Claims Another "Reply All" Victim

The accidental "reply all". Everyone's worst nightmare.

But this one got its own t-shirt!



Someone named Vince at <u>Reuters</u>, entered that nightmare...in epic proportions. The <u>Wall Street</u> <u>Journal</u> reports that Vince accidentally sent an email to 33,000 Reuters email accounts, creating what is now known as "ReutersReplyAllGate".

However, the punch line is the amount of 'reply alls' that followed. While many resisted the urge, hundreds of employees and reporters at the news company gave in to the most primal of urges in the situation...they replied all.

Reuters employees took to Twitter to discuss the endless email replies, and #ReutersReplyAllGate became a trending topic.



Ironically, the vast majority of the replies seem to have been people telling others not to reply all.

Reply all disasters are common at larger organizations. Take, for instance, a NYU sophomore accidentally replying to all <u>39,979 NYU students</u>, and media agency <u>Carat employees learning of lay-off</u> <u>plans</u> when an email intended for upper management was sent to the entire staff.

> Note to self: Do NOT hit "Reply All"

Life-Size Lego!

Lego, the building blocks of many children. Now out, for the adults that never really grew up, building blocks for adults.



"You get older, and you kinda wish you had a life-size version of that" states Arnon Rosan. Most adults would stop at that thought, but not Rosan. He created <u>EverBlock</u>, a modular system of full-scale plastic blocks. The blocks, similar to Lego, stack on top of each other and lock together with raised lugs.

But these aren't just toys for the over-sized kid in you, the polypropylene blocks can be used to build fullyfunctional furniture and structures. EverBlocks assemble more or less like any other modular building blocks, but on a much larger scale. They come in 3 sizes: full (1' long), 1/2 (6"), and1/4 (3"), and finishing caps for when you don't want to see the lugs. Available in 14 colours, they range in weight from 2 lbs for the full size, to 1/4 lb for the 1/4 block.

Rosan first created EverBlock as an easy way to construct furniture like couches and coffee-tables, but he quickly realized the blocks had bigger applications. People have built house-like structures, room dividers, and art.

Rosan states "When we first started, I envisioned that people would know instinctively how to build with them." It is more difficult to gain the perspective that you can with lego-size ones. You have to worry about stability (apparently people care if their 15' building block wall falls on them...).

The EverBlock <u>website</u> features a virtual builder tool to create designs and determine how many bricks you will need. The company is compiling a library of instructions to guide people through some designs.





September 2015

WHAT BUSINESSES CAN LEARN FROM



DONALD TRUMP

No, it's not a typo. There are things we can learn from Donald Trump. No, it's not humility, tolerance or hairstyle secrets. As controversial as Mr. Trump is, he's clearly doing something

right in getting in the news, and getting his message out to the voting masses. So, he's obviously doing something right in his communication strategy. So what is it?

Differentiate Yourself From the Competition: He has definitely done this. Trump has done everything from calling the U.S. political leadership "incompetent" and "horrible people", giving out Sen. Lindsey Graham's personal cell number.
What We Can Learn: Ensure you're standing out from the crowd, but not so much that the industry, or customers, don't take you seriously.

2. <u>Seek Opportunities for Publicity</u>: Although most of Trump's comments have been controversial, at the very least, they have landed him on more than one news program. However, his frequent news appearances don't have anything to do with his platform or proposed policies, but with his racist and inflammatory remarks.

What We Can Learn: When presented with opportunities to promote your business, take a moment to think about why you're in the spotlight. Not all press is good press.

3. <u>Create an Indisputable Reputation</u>: It's quite unbelievable that Trump's campaigning purpose is to with the presidency. Many are wondering if this whole media circus is to build his persona as a reality TV star and business magnate.

What We Can Learn: A Weber Shandwick survey found that well-regarded CEOs are 6 times more likely than CEOs with more questionable reputations to be perceived as humble. Humility is important in a business environment where the phrase "CEO humility" is gaining popularity.

Just goes to show that you can find your business lessons almost anywhere.

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People keep flying their drones where they shouldn't...above wildfires, into airport flight paths, onto the White House lawn. So far, there haven't been any serious injuries...yet.

However, governments around the world are concerned by the prospect of drones carrying explosives or chemical weapons (or

pornography). So much so, that an Idaho company has developed special anti-drone shotgun shells, another is working on jamming technology that blocks communication from the drone to the operator. Firefighters in New York kept their method of dealing with drones low-tech, simply aiming their hose at a drone hovering near a house fire.

However **Boeing** decided to go the Star Wars route, building a laser cannon, specifically designed to turn drones into a flaming pile of rubble.

Boeing showcased it's Compact Laser Weapon System The researchers, along with the addition of Peter last week in a New Mexico industrial park for media. Although there were no flashing beams of light, no cool humming sound effects, it effectively does the job. Looking similar to a large camera mounted on a tripod, the system is significantly smaller and more portable than the High Energy Laser Mobile Demonstrator (MELMD) Boeing demonstrated last year (which looked like a tank with a missile-guidance system mounted on the roof).

Built to be transported or mounted to deny intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance sensors or defeat UAVs, the system is compact enough to fit in 4 suitcase-sized boxes, and can be set up by a couple of soldiers in a few minutes.

TURN YOUR PHONE INTO A 3D SCANNER

New Microsoft Research project, MobileFusion, allows people to create high-quality 3D images in real time, using a regular mobile phone. The scans are high-quality enough to be used for augmented reality video games and 3D printing.



Principal researchers Pushmeet Kohli and Shahram Izadi, had previously worked on a similar project. Kinect Fusion allowed people to build 3D models of their houses, offices or even themselves. However, Kinect required a PC, which made it less "mobile". They wanted to see if they could "go to the next level, in the sense of usability."

Ondruska, a Ph.D candidate at Oxford University, to the team, found that most mobile devices on the market, had become powerful enough that they could build a 3D-scanning system using just the computational power found on a regular mobile phone.

Ondruska states "What this system effectively allows us to do is to take something similar to a picture, but it's a full 3D object."

Researchers are currently ensuring that the system works with all mobile devices, including Windows Phone, Android, and iPhone. Although they have to plans to make the product publicly available, they will present it at the International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality in October.