

## **Think Spam is Just a Nuisance? It's Also the Most Effective Way to Transmit a Virus!**

Your email is vital. However, it also exposes your organization to a variety of serious email-borne threats.

### **What is Spam?**

Spam is a form of unsolicited electronic junk mail sent to large groups of people. While annoying in its own right, it can be potentially very dangerous if part of a larger phishing scam.



Spam emails are sent out in mass quantities by spammers and CyberCriminals that are looking to do one or more of the following:

- Make money from the small percentage of recipients that actually respond to the message.
- Run phishing scams in order to obtain passwords, credit card information, bank account details, etc.
- Spread malicious code onto recipients' computers.

### **What is Phishing?**

Phishing scams are a form of CyberCrime that involves defrauding users by acting as legitimate companies or organizations in order to obtain sensitive or personal information (such as passwords and login credentials).

CyberCriminals often sent out legitimate-looking emails asking for the recipient to "confirm" their login details, or banking/credit card information.

### **What is a spam filter?**

A [spam filter](#) is a program that is used to detect unsolicited and unwanted email, and prevent those messages from getting into a user's inbox.

All messages are scanned and evaluated for email-borne threats such as spam, phishing, and viruses. A variety of filtering systems are used to find bad email before it reaches your network. Bad email (aka spam) is then placed into a secure quarantine.





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## TechTips

December 2016



### Waterproof Paper

Meet the Hustle Planner. The world's first Waterproof Notebook. Made from stone paper.

The paper is made from powdered stone and non-toxic binders, is durable, tear-resistant, and completely waterproof! It uses no water, no acid, and no bleach to produce and it can be recycled indefinitely, so it's environmentally friendly.

The carbon footprint of stone paper is 67% lower than traditional pulp paper, and for every notebook purchased, a dollar is donated to plant trees.

A Kickstarter campaign has been initiated, which is currently accepting pre-orders for notebooks. So far, 2,293 backers have pledged AU\$139,205 (roughly the same in Canadian, or \$104,034 US) to help bring this project to life.

Estimated delivery is December 2016, and ships anywhere in the world.

To check out the Kickstarter campaign, go to: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/hustle/hustle-the-worlds-first-planner-made-from-stone-pa>



**You wouldn't hand your keys  
to a car thief...**

**...so why are you  
handing  
CyberCriminals the  
keys to your network?**



**Get a Spam Filter!**



**TECHNOLOGY**  
— BY DESIGN —

**an I.T. partner  
you can TRUST.**

**1-204-800-3166**



## There's No "I" In Kevan



Kevan Chandler had a dream to visit Europe.

Kevan was the driving force, and his friends were the strength behind his dream coming true. Be-

cause he wanted to make the trip despite having muscular dystrophy, being unable to walk, and being restricted to a wheelchair.

Between the 7 of them, they designed a backpack to transport Kevan on their backs on a journey throughout Europe. Thanks to this invention, collaboration, and love, not one bit of France, Ireland or England has been inaccessible despite his illness.

Kevan writes on his website <http://wecarrykevan.com/home>, "My friends and I explored Paris, hiked through the English countryside, and scaled the legendary island of Skellig Michael. And we did it all without my wheelchair!"

With the adventure over, they want to open up their experience and get their backpack out to others like Kevan. Kevan states, "It was incredible! And now we want to make that possible for other disabled folks. That may mean designing a backpack or some other apparatus unique for individuals or facilitating the plan of and provision of an adventure."

Kevan is currently working on a book, and he & his friends are also producing a film based on the trip. They have also established "We Carry Kevan" a non-profit charitable organization.

Limits become blurred when friendship prevails.

Check out the We Carry Kevan GoFundMe at: <https://www.gofundme.com/blog/2016/03/18/we-carry-kevan/>

## Never Lose Anything Again!

This sticker makes sure you never lose anything again!

'GearEye' tracks and organizes your belongings using tiny RFID stickers.

Simply apply the stickers to your belongings. You then manage your equipment through a smartphone app. You'll receive a notification if you're missing any belonging with an RFID sticker on it!

Use it on anything you misplace regularly (or want to make sure you never misplace it!): your wallet, passport, memory stick, camera...anything!

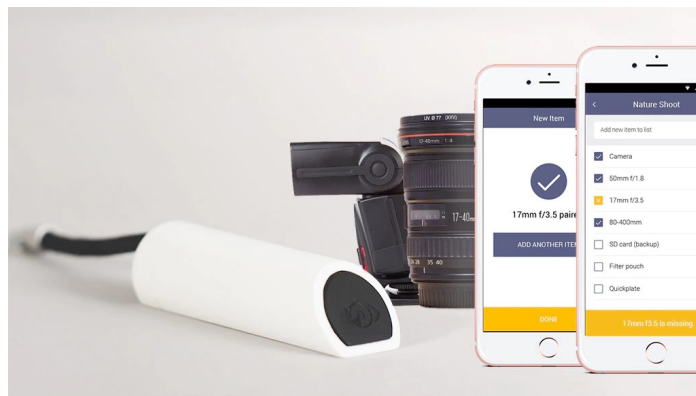
Or, if you have a job that requires you to have certain gear with you, you can create 'gig profiles'. Simply make a list of the gear you need for different gigs, then have GearEye check to make sure you've got everything you need!

The RFID tags come in large packages, and are affordable enough to tag anything you need!

Their Kickstarter campaign had an initial goal of \$60,000. It has now 2,126 backers, and has raised over \$349,397. And it still has 22 days to go!

For more information, check out their website at: <http://www.geareye.co/>

Check out the Kickstarter campaign at: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/874608327/geareye-the-ultimate-gear-management-system>







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### Plug Right Into the Sun!

This mini solar panel is an electrical socket that attaches directly to your window.

Kyuho Song and Boa Oh, two graduate design students from South Korea designed the first solar-powered socket!

The plug just attaches to any window and is fully charged within 5-8 hours. A full charge offers up to 10 hours of power (according to Kyuho Song). If you unplug your device, the socket will automatically turn itself off to save battery life.

Availability and price of this solar charger is yet to be released.

For more info: <http://www.jebiga.com/solar-energy-powered-socket-kyuho-song-boah-oh/>



### Play Snow Igloo

Dream-like ice villages are now easy to build, and safe to play in!

Check out the Play Snow: the reinvented igloo, for family wintertime fun!

Invented by Canadian Eric Villard from Montreal, former alpine skiing athlete of the World Cup circuit and father of 2 boys.

Kids love to play outside during winter, having snowball fights, creating snow forts or igloos. However, unstable snow falls can be dangerous.

Traumatized by having a snow igloo collapse on him at the age of 10, he was determined not to have this happen to his boys.

Play Snow was conceived to safely prevent unstable snow falls from happening, and to encourage hours and hours of worry-free family fun. The Play Snow Igloo was designed and created with industrial designers in Montreal.

Check out the Kickstarter campaign here: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/playsnow/play-snow-igloo?token=866f22ba>

