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EZ IT Issues

- [Kama Sutra Worm hits Feb 3 2006](#)
- [Spyware in WinAmp](#)
- [Intel Centrino Duo out soon](#)
- [Pirated Howard Stern shows online](#)
- [BlackBerry fate to be decided on Feb 24](#)
- [Postage Due for Emails soon](#)
- [Cell Phone-tracking your Employees](#)

What We Do

- [NEW- Remote Access HelpDesk](#)

Laptop Security

At the forefront of today's EZBulletin, we highlight the urgent need for laptop security. Today's company has at least 1-2 laptops at the very least, with some having purely laptops in their computing arsenal.

A thief in the night

Other than software security, the need to secure this TT\$10k+ investment is just as high. Physical security practices include placing them in car trunks, under seats and generally out of sight. **Never leave your laptop on the front or rear car seat** to tempt illegal entry into your vehicle.

The Emblazoned Effect

Most laptops are lugged around in conspicuous bags with the logo of the manufacturer prominently displayed like a "Hey, I'm a laptop- come steal me!" calling-card.

Fashionable alternatives include laptop-ready backpacks (*which alleviate your "laptop-shoulder" ailments*) or rolling cases which look like normal travel luggage. Something to think about prior to your next laptop purchase.

The end of your tether?

People lose cell phones daily. The desperate amongst us are always lurking for opportunities. Laptops are just as easy to move off with in a crowded office. Purchase Laptop Security cables and tether to your desk. Password-enable a screen-saver for a 5 minute inactivity period to further protect data.

Protect Thy BIOS

Should you suffer the unfortunate fate of a loss, a source of comfort would be knowledge that the thief cannot gain access to your data. This is easily achieved by having a password for your Profile in the Operating System.

But you can go a step further by enabling a boot password, which prevents the

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machine from even starting to the Operating System. This is usually achieved in the BIOS of the machine.

The extra mile

You can further protect a laptop by enabling a Supervisor password in the BIOS. This disables the ability to change the boot order so that the perpetrator cannot reformat your machine, making it usable once again.

The last, and **most important part of this-** inform the manufacturer of the loss. Should the thief decide to contact them for support on how to reset the Supervisor password, they would be denied, you will be informed of this activity.

You may gather some information which could lead to the eventual recovery of your property. Always enlist the assistance of the Police in this case. Do not attempt to solve yourself!

Most manufacturers provide a form to fill out in this case- check their respective websites.

The Caveats!

CAUTION- allowing users to set the Supervisor password randomly or forgetting it could run you into some problems should the employee leave the company. The manufacturer's support may assist, but only after very lengthy authorization processes.

A better way would be to have your IT Dept perform the task and have properly recorded, or hire an independent IT Consultant to enable and provide you with the password data in a protected document thereafter.

(shameless plug here) [EZNeTT](http://eznett.com) can handle these needs for your Organization, naturally! :-)



EZTips

- **BACKUP**- always backup your data; daily, if you can. Hard Drives fail without warning, and are very costly to recover. Always Backup your accounting data DAILY.
- **Replace Diskettes**- purchase USB keys and keep offsite. Some USB keys offer a password-protect feature to protect your data should it be lost.
- **ANTIVIRUS**- if you don't already have it, purchase a licensed, supported Enterprise version of a popular Antivirus/AntiSpyware program.

EZAdverts

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Gregory Mohammed
IT Consultant

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gmohammed@eznett.com
http://eznett.com

868.788.5038