Fall Patches

By Jim Temple

It's that time of the year. Fall patches for Datatel are here! Twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring, the MIS department applies patches and updates to our Datatel (CISAR) system. The patches and updates are necessary to implement new enhancements to the system, fix existing bugs, and update information to comply with legal mandates. This year, we have tentatively scheduled the fall patch load for October 18th. During the patch installation and initial testing, the system (Datatel and Web Advisor or “My Canyons”) will be unavailable. The time it takes to install the patches and test the system varies, so the MIS department will send out an email once the system is back up. We will be posting messages on My Canyons and on the District’s website to inform people about the outage.

Laptop Battery Life

By Brian Weston

Laptop users are typically aware of how long their battery charge will last or at least where the closest outlet might be. While the max performance setting is great when you are plugged into a power outlet, it will drain your battery quickly once unplugged. There are some things you can do to increase the battery run time.

First thing to check is the laptop’s Power Settings in the Control Panel. Find the settings that you feel will meet your computing needs and adjust as needed. Taking a look at the power consumption chart provided by Microsoft's Windows 7 Engineer blog below, we see that the laptop display (commonly LCD) is the biggest drain of your laptop battery. Turning off the laptop’s display (Power Settings) when the laptop is not in use is the quickest way to conserve battery power. Also, you may be able to adjust the brightness of the screen to improve the battery charge time. On most Dell laptops you can adjust the screen brightness by pressing the fn key on the keyboard with either the up and down arrow keys.

Remember, the charge your laptop’s battery will hold will decrease by roughly 20% a year after the first year. The power settings only work to increase battery run time, not make your battery “new” again.

For further information go to http://blogs.msdn.com/b/e7/archive/2009/01/06/windows-7-energy-efficiency.aspx

HELP DESK

For Technical or Audio Visual Assistance
Dial:
x9353 (Valencia)
x3533 (CCC)
Technology Tips and Tricks

What is Find My iPhone?
By Mauricio Escobar
Find My iPhone (also known for specific devices as Find My iPad, Find My iPod, or Find My iMac) is an app and service provided by Apple that allows remote location-tracking of iOS devices and Mac computers. The service is currently available for iOS 5 or later and OS X 10.7.5 “Lion” or through the icloud.com website. Although not bundled with the operating system itself, the app is available for download from the App Store free of charge.

How does it work? Let’s say you left your iDevice on campus but you’re not exactly sure where. You can quickly find out and make the device start announcing itself by using Find My iPhone. This app will prove invaluable.

Enable Find My iPhone:
1. Open Setting
2. Tap on iCloud
3. Toggle Find My iPhone to On

How to User Find My iPhone via the Web:
1. Go to www.icloud.com
2. Log into your iCloud account
3. Click on Find My iPhone or the device you want to track
4. Click the information icon on the map to see your options

5. Choose your option—Play Sound or Send Message, Remote Lock, or Remote Wipe

Devices that are trackable will have a small green dot next to the name. Wi-Fi devices can only be tracked when they’re connected to a known Wi-Fi network.

This article and others like it can be found on the Computer Support Services How-To website at http://www.canyons.edu/offices/css/apple/index.asp

Pick a Cloud! Any Cloud!
By Be Phan
With all the different online storage companies out there, which one is best? We all know about Dropbox, for example, but is it as good as it gets? What if you need more than 2 GB of free storage? Well, don’t fret, here’s a look at a few other storage solutions (see chart below). You might find one that’ll fit your needs for both home and work. Best of all, the basic storage capacity is free. If you want the premium service, you’ll have to be willing to pay the premium price.

Some of the more popular cloud storage companies are Dropbox, GoogleDrive, iCloud, SkyDrive, and SugarSync.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Dropbox</th>
<th>Google Drive</th>
<th>iCloud</th>
<th>SkyDrive</th>
<th>SugarSync</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free storage</td>
<td>2GB</td>
<td>5GB</td>
<td>5GB</td>
<td>7GB</td>
<td>5GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop apps</td>
<td>Windows, OS X, Linux</td>
<td>Windows, OS X</td>
<td>Windows, OS X</td>
<td>Windows, OS X</td>
<td>Windows, OS X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile apps</td>
<td>iOS, Android, BlackBerry</td>
<td>Android, iOS</td>
<td>iOS</td>
<td>Windows Phone, iOS</td>
<td>iOS, Android, BlackBerry, Windows Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web interface</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stream to mobile</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public sharing</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File/folder collaboration</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Password protect file sharing</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chart is based on 2012 data

Need more information about this? Check out the following links:

http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2413556,00.asp

http://www.techspot.com/guides/524-cloud-storage/

http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/skydrive/compare