The ABCs of VoIP

Given the importance of telephone systems, refreshing the technology can be daunting. However, for small and midsized businesses who consider upgrading from a PBX to VoIP, the benefits are clear and, with proper planning, the implementation is not very frightening. Read the story at http://www.cio.in/article/abcs-voip/nl

Turning Thoughts into Words

Brain-computer interfaces could someday provide a lifeline to "locked-in" patients, who are unable to talk or move but are aware and awake. Many of these patients can communicate by blinking their eyes, but turning blinks into words is time-consuming and exhausting. Scientists in Utah have now demonstrated a way to determine which of 10 distinct words a person is thinking by recording the electrical activity from the surface of the brain. Read the full story at http://bit.ly/bvjeup

Video: Reveal the power of information

On average, workers spend one hour per day looking for information. If you add it up, that equates to two weeks per year that an employee spends just looking for the information they need to do their job. Concealed facts can badly affect decision-making. The duplication of knowledge is very expensive. Our digital future needs efficient data management. Watch this new program and learn how enterprise search can increase the return on your information investment. Watch this 29 minutes video at http://bit.ly/buQhYa

11 hot skills for 2011

IT hiring will pick up slightly next year, and talented programmers and project managers will be at the starting line. Computerworld's survey uncovered 11 must-have skills. Read it at http://bit.ly/dfPCPZ

RAID level comparison char

Determining the right RAID technology for your situation will require balancing equipment and technology costs, performance requirements, data availability requirements, and capacity needs along with your organizational goals. A RAID level comparison chart at http://bit.ly/dtopRN defines the basic RAID levels, along with information about their performance, what applications are best for each RAID level, and the pros and cons of each. There are six basic RAID levels and many more combinations available from most storage array vendors.

Plagiarism Explained

This Knol at http://bit.ly/dBFrAD explains what plagiarism is and how it can be avoided. Further, it characterises plagiarism a form of academic and professional misconduct and distinguishes between plagiarism and copyright violation. Examples are used to illustrate the general principles.

Open Source Licenses For Dummies

Every software developer sooner or later decides to use a library, a framework, an already developed system or even a product that uses or is published under an open source license. This knol at http://knol.google.com/k/open-source-licenses-for-dummies# aims to provide a simple, easy to understand interpretation of the rules in some of the popular open source licenses and help developers and project managers start understanding the basic concepts behind free software.

Scrum

Scrum is a project management technique with high transparency, adaptive control, reasonably accurate release forecasting, and high productivity. It helps organize efforts involving teams and creativity (including software engineering, product design, venture capital management, charities, civic organizations, marketing communications, etc.). Because Scrum exposes managers and team members to greater visibility and accountability than traditional waterfall approaches, and because it requires different management structures, some organizations encounter resistance implementing it. Scrum focuses on management, so it can be combined with field-specific agile techniques, such as Extreme Programming. Read it at http://knol.google.com/k/scrum#
Social Book marking Sites
Social Bookmarking sites are major implementation of Web2.0. They are very useful to add and access our Favorite links from anywhere in the world. They will be useful to access other people's shared links also. If you are a webmaster/publisher it will help to boost SEO of your website. This knol will explain key features of some important Social Book marking Sites. Read it at http://bit.ly/9RhM8m

Application lifecycle management: Industry roles and responsibilities
Learn about application lifecycle management (ALM) roles and responsibilities in a development team. This 3 part series at http://bit.ly/aU1tyA delves into the ALM processes in a development team and effective communication best practices.

Best Practices for Managing Virtualized Environments
Virtualized environments are taking IT datacenters by storm. As datacenter virtualization increases, it is critical to understand and adopt best practices for managing virtualization. This white paper at http://bit.ly/bNUIJG provides best practices that you can use to help you more effectively manage datacenter virtualization.

10 great free desktop productivity tools that aren't OpenOffice.org
These free and open source applications dealt at http://bit.ly/cqCK33 for Windows, Linux, and Mac desktops put power into the hands of users without taking from their wallets

Bossie Awards 2010: The best open source software of the year
InfoWorld's Test Center picks the top open source platforms, middleware, applications, and application development tools. Read the story and see the slide shows for these items at http://bit.ly/8Y1tw5

How-to: Draw an IT road map for where the business wants to go
A successful enterprise architecture project can help unlock an IT department's true value to the business it supports. EA, as a discipline, allows an organization to compare its near-term business objectives with its current technological capabilities and then make intelligent decisions about what it can reasonably expect to accomplish. Furthermore, the gaps that are identified represent opportunities for future IT investments. Read the article at http://bit.ly/bYvb66

Tata Communications’ cloud computing services: IaaS details, pricing
Tata Communications has become the latest entrant to Indian cloud computing services with the launch of its cloud computing services. Known as InstaCompute and InstaOffice, these offerings target the Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and Software as a Service (SaaS) verticals, respectively. Know more about their services and prices at http://bit.ly/c8pR2q

The Power of Identity
In a world of global flows of wealth, power, and images, the search for identity-collective or individual, ascribed or constructed-becomes the fundamental source of social meaning, says Nandan Nilekani. It succinctly reflects the power of identity in today's world and this is no way more evident than in India where thousands are denied basic rights and benefits due to the lack of an identity. The UID (unique identification number, now known as Aadhaar) project is a critical component of the inclusive growth that we all seek. Read the full article at http://bit.ly/cLQdQD

Aligning Skills With Jobs
If things progress as they are, India is certain to face a 'talent gap'- the lack of right skills for the job required - of more than 5 million by 2012, as existing educational institutions do not impart employable skills. If training has to deliver job-level skills in an increasingly globalised world, strong industry leadership and engagement with skills training, qualification and assessment framework is essential. Read the Team Inclusion analysis at http://bit.ly/bFu DwX

The BP Oil Spill: Could Software be a Culprit?
Author Don Shafer, chief safety and technology officer with the Athens Group, an independent software-consulting firm that provides risk-mitigation services to the offshore oil-drilling industry, details how software failures on oil rigs include mishandled software alarms, untested software, frozen computer screens, and lack of data recorders for oil rigs. Yet, the most important failure might be the lack of standards across the oil drilling industry. Read the full article at http://bit.ly/aGhUDj

Prof. Vaibhav Dabhade from Nashik is has sent an interesting link to a site featuring interesting computer facts and funny computer facts. Pl. visit http://www.funfactz.com/computer-facts/
Diplomatic statements from Project Managers

- "We will do it" means “You will do it”
- "You have done a great job" means “More work to be given to you”
- "We are working on it" means “We have not yet started working on the same”
- "Tomorrow first thing in the morning" means “Its not getting done “At least not tomorrow!”
- "After discussion we will decide-I am very open to views” means “I have already decided, I will tell you what to do”
- "There was a slight miscommunication" means “We had actually lied”
- "Lets call a meeting and discuss” means “I have no time now, will talk later”
- "We can always do it” means “We actually cannot do the same on time”
- "We are on the right track but there needs to be a slight extension of the deadline” means “The project is screwed up, we cannot deliver on time.”
- "We had slight differences of opinion “means “We had actually fought”
- "Make a list of the work that you do and let’s see how I can help you” means “Anyway you have to find a way out no help from me”
- "You should have told me earlier” means “Well even if you told me earlier that would have made hardly any difference!”
- "We need to find out the real reason” means “Well I will tell you where your fault is”
- "Well Family is important; your leave is always granted. Just ensure that the work is not affected,” means, “Well first finish your work first then whatever you do I don’t give damn…”
- "We are a team,” means, “I am not the only one to be blamed”
- "That’s actually a good question” means “I do not know anything about it”
- "All the Best” means “You are in trouble”

ICT News Headlines & Briefs

- DoT sitting on over 100 applications for 2G spectrum.
- Facebook sets up Indian office at Hyderabad.
- Mahindra Satyam, Tech Mahindra merger to trigger more job cuts.
- CA Tech opens $30-m facility at Hyderabad; to recruit 1,000.
- Dell Streak tablet hits market ahead of iPad.
- Tamil Nadu unveils e-security policy.
- Telephone user base in India crosses 70-cr mark.
- UID: Wipro, Spanco among lowest bidders for data collection.
- Rebranded Yahoo! coming soon.
- Recovery drives hiring by IT majors.
- Idea Cellular has launched its helpline in Kolkata to facilitate day-to-day conversation in different languages.
- Move to ban BlackBerry against international standards, says Canada.
- BSNL plans 40-m line expansion of mobile networks.
- Facebook, Twitter to go silent on Nov 1 to shout about autism.
- To encourage budding entrepreneurs, Microsoft Corp will rope in venture capital funds and industries to strengthen Microsoft Innovation Alliance.
- Microsoft Corporation of India Pvt Ltd is offering Microsoft Security Essentials (MSE) free-of-cost to small businesses with up to 10 personal computers.
- DoT panel to review spectrum charges for non-telecom users.
- Tata-DoCoMo, the GSM unit of Tata Teleservices, will launch its third generation (3G) mobile services across nine circles starting this Diwali. The company is the first to announce the launch dates.
- BlackBerry-maker gets time till Dec 31 to end deadlock.
- China, biggest threat in five years, says HCL Tech CEO.
- Roaming tariffs may fall as DoT calls for merging circles.
- IBM has announced a new financing programme, including buyback of used equipment, lease terms and no payments until 2011, to help current credit-qualified Oracle-Sun and HP customers in India migrate to upgradeable systems of IBM's new Power family of workload optimised servers and storage offerings.

Announcements

- For CSI Calendar of Events, pl. visit [http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/september-calendar](http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/september-calendar)
• Project Proposals are invited from faculty Members and Students under the scheme of R&D Funding for the year 2010-11 by CSI. For details, visit www.csi-india.org
• To get the conf. proceedings of IFIP Networking 2010: International Conference on Networking hosted by IIT Madras and CSI during 10-14, May 2010, pl. contact Mr. S. Ramasamy at sypsys@md5.vsnl.net.in
• To join CSI as a member, pl. visit http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/membership
• If you are interested in talking on your area of competence at CSI chapters, pl. register as a distinguished speaker at http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/email
• If you are interested in organizing a workshop on “Embedded Robotics” in your college with the support of CSI Education Directorate, pl. contact Yogendra.gahlaut@csi-india.org

IT Events: Call for Participation

• CSI & CDAC joint workshop on LAMP covering BOSS Linux, Desktop, Apache, PHP, My SQL Overview, HTML, Java script. 29-31, Oct 2010 at CDAC Office in Tidel Park at Taramani, Chennai. Contact: Mobile : 94442 67101, Phone : 044-2254 1102/2254 1103/ 2254 2874 or email: yogendra.gahlaut@csi-india.org / admn.office@csi-india.org
• NCMAN-2010: National Conference on Mobile and Ad Hoc Networks. 29-30, Oct 2010 at Coimbatore. Contact: Dr. A. Rathinavelu at ncmantech@drmcet.ac.in or startee@drmcet.ac.in
• NCTCA-10: National Conference on Theoretical Computer Science and Applications. 25-26, Nov 2010 at Chennai. Contact: Ms. M. Sandhya at nctca201@gmail.com
• ICoAC 2010: 2nd International Conference on Advanced Computing, 14-16, Dec 2010 at Anna University Chennai, MIT Campus, Chennai. www.annauniv.edu/icocac2010
• ICSIP-2010: International Conference on Signal and Image Processing, 15 – 17, Dec 2010 at RMD College of Engineering, Chennai www.rmd.ac.in/icsip2010/

InfoQuiz–2010-10-16

1. Cloud Computing helps in reducing the OPEX. State True or False.
2. ------ was originally called as “Jerry's Guide to the World Wide Web”.
3. ------ is the name of Hindi movie which was based on the book “One Night @ A Call Centre”.
4. Identify the company whose Tagline is “Agile, Capable, Reliable”
5. Identify the event when the following Doodle was featured at the Google site.

Email your answers by 30th Oct 2010 to csi.infoquiz@gmail.com with subject “infoquiz-2010-10-16”. Please provide your full address and contact phone nos. after the answers. The first person to answer correctly and one randomly selected lucky winner will be awarded Rs. 500/= each by SRA Systems (www.srasys.com). Answers along with the winner info will be published in the next issue.

Answers & Winners of InfoQuiz-2010-10-01

• 782474317884, PlayBook, BSA, Canon, Sam Pitroda
• Mr. G.Kannan from Chennai is the first one to answer correctly and Mr. Abhishek Kamdar from Mumbai is the lucky winner. They will receive a cheque for Rs. 500/= from SRA Systems shortly.

About the CSI-eNewsletter

CSI-eNewsletter is a compilation of information from different sources which would be of interest to ICT professionals, academicians and students and published on 1st and 16th of every month. While adequate care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of links provided, we do not accept any liability. For the archives of this newsletter, pl. visit http://www.csi-chennai.org/csi-enl/csi-enl-archives.htm or at http://www.csi-india.org/web/csi/archives

Contributions to CSI-eNewsletter

Readers are welcome to contribute to the eNewsletter by sharing interesting information they come across and also provide feedback, by emailing us at hrmohan.csi@gmail.com

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