

Digital Snack

Technology Newsletter



Issue 21 Summer 2013

Titans of Tech

Microsofts big problem

With New release of windows 8.1 we look back at why Windows 8 was not the success that the Tech Giant hoped that it would be. We also look into what Microsoft can do to make windows 8 the most popular Operation System sence windows XP. This is not a articale about how bad Metro is but looks into why is was a bad idea.

By Keith Lowney

In recent history Microsoft has made huge changes to their flagship Operating System. Not all of them are popular among their PC users. If you ask a PC user what they do not like about Windows 8 They will most likely give you a one word answer "Metro" Microsoft did a bold move when they switched from their old design to using the Modern (Metro) interface for their new operating system. The problem though is not the new interface the problem is the fact that most users work in the Desktop, which the new Operation System belittles. Windows 8 hides the desktop and puts the new start screen in front. The main problem that Microsoft has to face is the fact that many of their PC users like the desktop. And now they have lost trust in the company that they use to support. Some have even switched to using Mac computers and Linux powered PC's. Regardless of what many people are saying Windows 8 was not a failure. It has received multiple awards for being the best Operating System for Tablets. However what is good for tablets is not good for PC's and many windows users are still PC based and do not use windows 8 with a touch screen at all. With Windows 8.1 codenamed blue, Microsoft is hoping to regain lost fans on PC while keeping fans of the tablet market nice and happy. The question though is, are the upgrades enough to fix the broken PC market. Some of the changes that 8.1 brings are the ability for the start screen to share the same background as the desktop, Improved navigation for the start screen, and the ability to boot to the desktop and the return of the start button. Only time will tell is this will help fix Microsoft's big problem. ■

Most people do not use a watch anymore if anybody can save the watch Apple can

The New iWatch

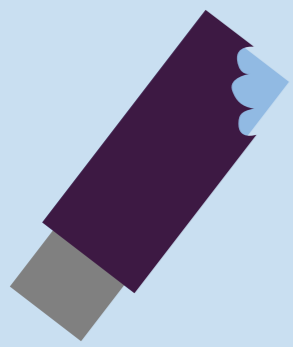
Apple Amazed audiences back in 2010 with the redesign of the iPod Nano. Its small screen and support for noting but playing music left many wondering what else it would be good for. Many ad ons were created that would let the user wear it like a watch. The fun has ended after Apple redesigned the nano again into a less wearable design. However could Apple bring it back with a new flavor.

By Keith Lowney

Apple has not announced the iWatch yet, this article is based off of rumors and evidence that may lead to the idea that the iWatch is real, and some of this evidence has led fans of apple to think that Apple has all but announced the iWatch. The first piece of evidence is a rumor showed up of the web that Apple filed for a patent for a small device that you can wear on your wrist. If this is true then this could be evidence that the iWatch is real, or it could be the new iBeat. The second piece of evidence, a new picture in Apples newest iPhone add shows someone wearing something strange on their wrist, could this be the iWatch?(pictured to the right) It may or it could be a really funky looking watch, you know those things that your parents use to wear before they



Today's Dish



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Digital Bytes

Xbox one inside the case

With the Release of the Xbox one being set for some time this year. And audiences everywhere wondering if the DRM nightmare is true. We analysis what has been said about the Xbox one and we tell you just the facts about the machine that could change your living room forever.

By Keith Lowney

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Special Delivery?

Drones have been in the news alot. However how do you feel about your pizza being delivered by one. Dominos puts that to the test in a new video but how close is this to reality and how soon before another group of people in America are going to be searching for jobs?

By Keith Lowney

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Boost your Computer

Is your Mac or PC getting slower with age? Before you junk it you can try these methods to get it back up to shape.

By Keith Lowney

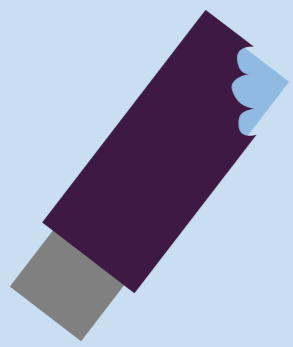
- Clean your computers cache.
- Delete your desktop files.
- Upgrade your R.A.M.
- Check to see what other programs are running.
- Clean off your H.D.D. (Hard Disk Drive)



Today's Dish

iWatch continued

got cell phones. The final piece of evidence is that Apple tried to trademark the name iWatch, this is either for a new watch or does anyone else think it could be an Apple TV replacement. What does the evidence lead too? I have no idea however if the evidence is true. if it is then Apple could breathe new life into watches the same way it did for the cell phone. The reason why this is interesting is because most people do not wear watches and if anybody can save the watch Apple can. Many People were amazed by what apple did for the phone so I guess we will just have to wait and see what Apple can do for the watch, lets hope the rumors are true. ■



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S.O.S. Save Our Systems

Avoid being phished

Phishing is one of the most common things that anyone can run into on the internet. It can also lead to identity theft and getting your credit card information stolen. Find out how to avoid being phished.

By Keith Lowney

The simplest ways to encounter phishing is with emails. The first thing that you need to know is that no bank is going to email you about your account. Yahoo, Google, Ebay, and Paypal are not going to email you for your password to fix an account error. They have your account on file why would they ask you for it.

The second is that, if you ever get an email from someone in another country do not answer it. If you do not know the person who is sending you the email do not answer it. I have received many emails from people who need someone to help them. They are going to die of cancer (or some other disease) and they want some good Christian to give there money to so the government will not take it all. Emails like this are always bad. The only reason why an email would bring faith into there reason for giving you money is if the sender is up to no good.

If you think that you have received a phishing email there are some ways to protect yourself. The first is, do not answer it. If you answer it the person who sent it will know that your email address is active. This can only lead to you receiving more phishing emails than you did before.

The second is, do not click on any links on the email. Any site that they take you to is not real and will do harm to you. The third is do not contact the person who sent the email message to you.

When you receive a phishing email the safest thing for you to do is to delete it. If you delete it then it is like you never received it. That way your information does not get stolen. Do not answer the email, do not click on any links on the email. These tips may save you from years of hassle. ■



Today's Dish

A student's best friend

A UPS or a Universal Power System is one of the best things you can buy if you use your computer alot. It will power your computer during a power outage. Find out why you need one of these if you are anything like me

By Keith Lowney

A UPS or a Universal Power System is one of the most useful things that anyone can buy. Its main function is to protect your computers and equipment from any brown-outs or black-outs that may occur. When the power goes out the UPS will turn on and power your computer for a certain amount of time. This time could be anywhere from a few minutes to a few hours and depends on what model

you buy. (The model that is pictured is from APC it is promised that it can power a computer for longer than 120 minutes). Keith Lowney says "When the power went out my UPS saved my butt, It powered my computer for over a hour letting me finish my Homework, save it, and turn my computer off safely. The best part is that afterwards I had over half the battery left so I could charge phones or anything else that I needed too." The audience that would benefit the most from a UPS is student, because a good power supply would mean that they can save work and turn off any computers before they lose power for good. Depending on how often a student saves there work this could be the difference between losing a project that he/she was working on and passing or failing a class. ■



Imagine that it is late at night and you are working on finals. The last thing that you need is for the power to go out. That is why you need a UPS