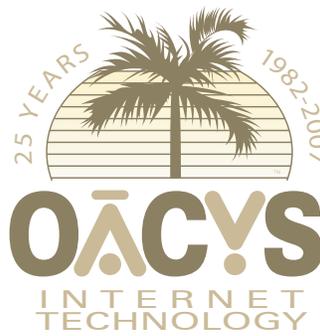


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NETWORKING THE  
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SINCE 1982

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2008  
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## INTERNET SECURITY

The news is full of stories about attacks on Internet security. This may seem new, but it is really just a current reflection of how pervasive the Internet has become in our daily lives. The Internet is basically a huge global network ... corporate networks have been dealing with security for a long time, and like them, once you plug into a network, security protection becomes an essential requirement.

## MORE PHISHING SCAMS

Lately it seems that hardly a month goes by without another scam to report. This time, one of our subscribers received an email from what appeared to be a legitimate bank, asking her to verify confidential information. By coincidence she had just set up a new online banking account, and she assumed this email was related.



Unfortunately for her, it wasn't. But she nevertheless provided her social security and drivers licence numbers, and more. Then she was phoned and asked to change her IP address, "for security purposes," and she called to ask us how to do that.

Needless to say we put a stop to this immediately, but a lot of damage was already done. She had to contact her bank, DMV, and the Social Security Administration. We recommended that she report the fraud to law enforcement, but this kind of thing is very hard to track down.

The best defense is still good spam filtering software, and some wariness and common sense. As we reported in last month's newsletter, we've contacted all of our subscribers who had our central spam filtering turned off and got them activated. That will catch most of these scams, but spammers are always trying new techniques to get through. For those that succeed, please call your bank, or OCS, or whoever the message appears to be from before you respond - *it's better safe than sorry!*

## OCS OFFICE SCAN

We've written several times about how email is not the only way that your computer can be vulnerable to security probes. CDs and DVDs can be infected, and increasingly it is possible for attacks to be launched through your browser via malicious web scripting.

The solution is security software on your computer to watch everything that's coming in. Products are available from Norton (Symantec), McAfee, Trend Micro, and others ... those are effective as long as you keep up with their regular updates, but they can be somewhat annoying with frequent reminders, message popups, and downloads.

OCS OfficeScan is another option. Subscribers install a small utility on their computer, which communicates automatically with a central security server at OCS for current threat profiles. There are never any updates to install, since everything is done transparently and in the background. Please contact our office for more information!

## STILL USING NETSCAPE?

Netscape Navigator may well be the first web browser that most people can remember. It was released in late 1994, and was the first commercial browser that could actually be downloaded over the Internet. Prior to that, at OCS we used prototypes of *Mosaic*, which had to be ordered on diskettes.



Netscape gave t-shirts away at ISPCON 1995 in San Francisco, the first national convention of pioneering new Internet service providers. We still have a couple of those, although they should probably be framed rather than run through the washer many more times for fear they'll finally just fall apart.

At one time Netscape claimed more than 90% of the market. Microsoft finally introduced Internet Explorer, and the "browser wars" and antitrust lawsuits of the late 90s erupted. AOL acquired Netscape in 1998 and continued releasing new versions - however, as many good things eventually come to an end, development ceased and support officially ended in March 2008.

Therefore, OCS tech support for Netscape must also end. If you're among the roughly 4% who are still using Netscape (any version) and call us for help, our recommendation will be to install a new browser. About 80% of our subscribers are using Microsoft IE, followed by 15% using Firefox.

The OCS home page has passed  
11 million hits - *that's a great  
audience for local advertisers!*

### Work from home!

OCS can connect  
your home to your  
office or tie multiple  
offices together at  
high speed and  
with full "VPN"  
security, anywhere  
in the Valley or  
beyond...



OCS service plans  
are described at  
[www.porterville.com](http://www.porterville.com)

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## THE NATIONWIDE OCS REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you refer a friend, family, or business associate to OCS, tell them to mention your name and you'll receive a month of free service! **Our subscribers have earned \$54,391 so far!** Click *Referrals* on our home page for details. Your friends may simply click *Subscribe* to sign up online, now from anywhere in the country!



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- Porterville
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- Pleasant Valley
- River Island
- Globe Drive
- Strathmore
- Terra Bella
- Lindsay
- Exeter
- Visalia
- Yokohl Valley
- Camp Nelson
- Success Valley
- Richgrove
- Delano Area

*Our Exeter tower covers Badger Hill too!*

**VIRUSES, SPAM, AND PHISHING STOPPED BY THE OCS SYSTEM**  
- 158,171,197 (18,778,096 in August) -

OFFICE HOURS • MON-FRI 8AM-8PM • SAT 9AM-5PM • CLOSED SUN  
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## AUTOMATED ONLINE BACKUP

OACYS Online Backup can be scheduled late at night when you're not using your computer. It can back up all of your important data, including email and open or locked files, and it greatly increases efficiency for large company databases by selecting only new and changed records. Call us for more information!



### Stuck in a contract?

Show us your binding paperwork and we may be able to waive up to \$100 from your OCS startup costs...



## The new face of Microsoft?

Microsoft's new ad campaign to counter the "I'm a Mac / I'm a PC" series from Apple will likely feature Jerry Seinfeld. The ads will address what the company considers misconceptions about Vista.

The customer service team at OCS reports that calls for help from new Vista users have declined considerably since it was first released. Most new computers and laptops now have Vista preinstalled, and its performance and security seem to be good if the CPU and RAM are adequate.

### Simplify your payments

Automating your OCS payments can eliminate one more thing to remember, and save late charges too! We can either charge your credit card on the 15th of each month, or you can authorize an automatic bank transfer on the 1st or 15th (your choice). You can select or change your payment preference in UserAdmin on our website, or simply contact our office. For those who enjoy receiving our newsletters with your postal invoice, remember that newsletters are also available on our website and via email.



### Fan Mail

"Your technician used remote support to log into my computer and help resolve an email problem in a matter of seconds, rather than asking a billion questions and asking me to click here and there. Glad to see that OCS is moving up in the tech support world!" -RS



**Help us celebrate!** OCS turned 25 in February 2007, the company was started in a home office in 1982. We've had our 25-year logo printed on a selection of glassware as gifts for our customers, please stop by the office and choose yours! We have mugs in three colors, tall mixing (pint) glasses, and etched wine glasses. Get them while they last, limit two per customer!

### I Didn't Know That!

OCS provides "A-to-Z" computer technology services:

- Complete computer service and repair shop
- Broad variety of Internet access plans and packages
- Professional website design, development, and hosting
- Professional programming and custom application development
- eCommerce and business groupware solutions
- Computer and Internet technology consulting
- Secure branch office inter-networking
- Internet-based "VOIP" telephone services
- iSuite of online utility applications

## OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Plan Name	Average Speeds			B-M-W <sup>1</sup>	One-Time Fees			Monthly Service
	Min	Typ	Max		Service Activation	Install/Configure	Equipment Deposit	
1 Bandwidth-Mailboxes-Webpace (see notes)								
<b>DIALUP</b>	26K	40K	53K	1-5-5	25.00	-	-	24.95
<b>Accelerator</b>	Typically 2-5X faster			-	-	-	-	+5.00
<b>WIRELESS   STANDARD 2.4 GHz</b>								
<b>24 Basic</b>	125K	500K	750K	10-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	49.95 <sup>2,3</sup>
<b>24 Premium</b>	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	79.95 <sup>2,3</sup>
<b>24 Business</b>	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95 <sup>2,3</sup>
<b>WIRELESS   SPECIAL CASES 900 MHz (where available)</b>								
<b>900 Basic</b>	125K	375K	750K	5-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	59.95 <sup>4,5</sup>
<b>WIRELESS   MISSION CRITICAL 5.8 GHz (where available)</b>								
<b>58 Premium</b>	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	99.95
<b>58 Business</b>	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95
<b>58 Professional</b>	500K	2M	3M	25-25-25	25.00	100.00	100.00	159.95
<b>58 Corporate</b>	750K	3M	4M	30-30-30	25.00	100.00	100.00	199.95
<b>58 Enterprise</b>	1M	4M	5M	40-40-40	25.00	100.00	100.00	249.95

All plans include automated central email virus scanning, email spam filtering, and website parental controls. Some plan types permit webpace for personal use only. Wireless installation and deposit package may be paid in installments upon request. All speeds are symmetrical (same for upload and download) within the OACYS network only. All plans terminate at OACYS Porterville headquarters and transport to the Internet via dual T3s over dedicated OC12 fiber optic circuit. All plans subject to change without notice. Pricing and terms are current at the date of this newsletter and supersede previous versions. For footnotes 2,3,4,5 surcharges may apply. Please check with our office for additional details.

To set Account Preferences or make Payments Online, click **UserAdmin** on our website

On the road? Call our toll-free support at 888-OACYSCOM