

Subject: Kinetics Newsletter June 2004

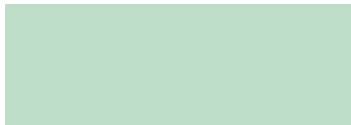
Kinetics Group Ltd

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-News! Working For You-

June 2004



Services

- *Network Audit*
- *Network Engineering*
- *Proactive System Maintenance*
- *Disaster Recovery*
- *Security Audits*
- *Software Development*
- *I.T. Consulting*
- *Mobile Computing*

Hello Richard

Editorial

Welcome to our May/June newsletter. As always, it's been a busy month for us. We've kept our commitment to increase service staff, with three new people joining us. (See **People**)

It's been a turbulent time in I.T. With so much dependent on new equipment purchases, the relatively high exchange rate has kept prices extraordinarily low. It always feels a bit odd when we find ourselves recommending a new PC replace a perfectly sound machine, simply because, at under \$1,500 per new PC, repairing an old one would over-capitalise it! Combine new prices with big leaps forward in the software and the case to upgrade is compelling, especially for a lot of 'Y2K' purchases from 1999.

This trend is set to slow down, with most suppliers predicting price increases of 15% in the near future. A combination of increased shipping costs and currency corrections, hedge contracts terminating and so on, seem mainly to blame. Please be aware that quotes and price estimates that you may be considering could suddenly change. As always, our team remains available to guide and advise you, so please don't hesitate to call us!

People

Anne DeVille joins the office staff, taking a front line role answering the phone, looking after our reception and taking engineer bookings. This lets Wendy take up more of the administration work and to help us smooth out our accounts processing.

Matthew Lewis is new to our business software team. He comes to us from Telecom where he was working on various data integration requirements.

He'll be working mainly with Trevor and Bev, supporting the manufacturing and distribution solutions and implementing Microsoft CRM for our clients.

Richard A'Court takes up a position in our engineering team. Richard has just arrived in the country from the U.K. and I know all our clients will join with us in making him feel welcome in his new home in NZ. Richard's a Novell CNE, Microsoft MCSE and Cisco CCNP, and he's been working in a similar environment to his role with us.

But with three people joining us, we are also sad to wave goodbye to Peter Mason. Peter has decided to travel and see the world, and we wish him the best of luck. Peter joined us straight from University and has been a fundamental part of our software development team since its inception. Bon Voyage Peter!! We are close to appointing a replacement for Peter and hope to settle a new programmer into the team within the month of June.

Regards

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Microsoft Software Licensing - OEM v OLP

There are two types of licensing applicable to software applications, OEM and OLP. We would like to help you to decide which is the most appropriate for your circumstances.

OEM

OEM means Original Equipment Manufacturers license. This particular type of license is tagged to the hardware it is installed on. For example, if you buy a new PC with Microsoft Office already installed, that type of Office licence will be OEM. This software cannot be legally installed on another PC.

The benefit of purchasing OEM software is the price. This is the cheapest way to purchase a software application so you will save money on your initial hardware purchase. You cannot purchase OEM software without hardware. The rewards of OEM software are short term as it does not come with an upgrade option. For some of you, this solution is acceptable, especially for smaller companies that may only have two or three staff using a particular application.

The downside is when you need to purchase an upgrade of the application. You would then need to pay the retail price which is the most expensive way to purchase an application.

OLP

OLP stands for Open License Program. Open License is a software volume licensing program designed for corporate, government, charity and academic customers who order as few as five licenses (five is the minimum). After the initial order, you can benefit from volume pricing for licenses for two years. When purchasing OLP licenses, you can also choose to purchase Software Assurance at an additional cost. This entitles you to any upgrades to your application that are released in the two years and a higher level of support and

training from Microsoft.

Within the Open License Program, there are three categories.

- Open Licence Business. This offers savings on retail pricing by placing an initial order of 5 or more licenses or one server processor license.
- Open License Volume. You can potentially save even more if your company is able to make a substantial up front order.
- Open License Value. This is a new program that allows you to purchase licences bundles with software assurance and spread payments over three years.

If you would like more information on how these licensing programs work, please visit www.microsoft.com/licensing/programs.

Additionally, you can feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss these options further.

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Project 340 at Kinetics.

What is Project 340 at Kinetics?

Project 340 is an Information System Project that a team of students from Auckland University Department of ISOM (Information Systems and Operation Management) have to complete as part of their degree curriculum.

Project Aim

There are two distinct aims for this project.

The first is to convert the database of our own "Time2K" application, written initially by Andrew Hunt, from MS Access to SQL Server 2000. Time2K is an application that stores all details of our clients and records work requests, job sheets and invoices. Those of you that utilise our secure logon from the website, directly access this application when logging new work requests or checking your invoices. The goal here is to increase the performance of this application.

The second aim is to create a Pocket PC application that our engineers will use while working onsite. The engineers are currently assigned their daily work by email, web interface or telephone. The goal is to automate and speed up this process by using a wireless connection.

Although still several months away from completion, this project is progressing very well. The student team, Michael Coulam, Stella Leong and Tim Khoo, is meeting each required milestone successfully. The migration from MS Access to SQL Server 2000 is complete and now ready for implementation.

We will be updating the progress of Project 340 in the next newsletter. In the meantime, Kinetics would like to thank Michael, Stella and Tim for their commitment to ensuring the success of both this project and their own futures in the IT industry.

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Plaxo - Evil or Good

What is Plaxo?

Many of you will have received an email in the last few months from someone you know, asking you to update your email address and contact details. This email is a product of Plaxo.

What Plaxo does is install a plug-in program, or worm if you prefer, on your PC which allows access to your contacts list. You then get an "Update Contacts" button on your Outlook or Outlook Express toolbar. When you click this button you are asked to select your contacts to email them a request to update their details. When they reply, this information is automatically inserted into your contacts list.

This sounds too good to be true. It is so convenient and it is free.

Please do not be deceived.

The Plaxo company was founded by Mr Sean Parker. This is the same Sean Parker that co-founded Napster. This will set alarm bells ringing for some and for good reason.

It seems unlikely that Plaxo is a non-profit organisation whose sole reason for existence is to help you. It is possible that collection of information is the basis of the company's business. What is worrying here is not knowing what is done with this information. Please be aware of this and if you receive one of these emails we recommend you delete it.

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Case Study - National Foundation for the Deaf

2003 marked the 25th anniversary of National Foundation for the Deaf (NFD) - an organisation concerned with supporting all Deaf and hearing impaired people to communicate, live and achieve.

Formed in 1978, the NFD today represents the largest disability group in the country - approximately 450,000 deaf and hearing impaired people - and for a quarter of a century has worked tirelessly to identify and address issues affecting the deaf and hearing impaired communities, as well as educating and raising awareness of hearing impairment amongst the broader community.

The Beginning

Liz MacFarlan joined National Foundation for the Deaf in February 2004 as Research and Information Officer. The network platform there at the time was Windows 98. The PCs were mostly old and due for replacing. Liz came to Kinetics for advice on how to upgrade their network. She was concerned that Windows 98 was no longer supported and wanted independent advice on new hardware and software. She also wanted to ensure prompt and reliable support in the future.

As NFD is a non-profit organisation, most income is in the form of donations. Liz was aware that spending on upgrading the network needed to result in maximum benefit within the constraints of a limited budget.

The Process

A decision was made after consultation with Kinetics, to purchase a new server and workstation and implement Small Business Server 2003. This fulfilled the need for reliable hardware and a supported network platform. Due to budget limitations, all work was done during normal office hours. Liz says the implementation process was seamless with minimal disruption to the office staff. The project was completed on time and to budget.

The Benefits

National Foundation for the Deaf now enjoy a system that is fast and efficient. They now have reliable, automatic daily backups and enhanced security with a new firewall. Liz and the rest of the dedicated staff at NFD can now concentrate on meeting their clients needs.

Liz said she was very happy with the work done by Kinetics. The engineer,

Michael Clark, took an interest in them and the work they do. Their network is now fully documented so downtime will be minimised for future upgrades. Liz feels that "Kinetics is a true Business Partner".

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Kingett Mitchell Trial Groupwise Anti-virus/Anti-Spam Software.

Kingett Mitchell Limited is a New Zealand environmental consulting company who provides high quality environmental consulting services to the private sector, local government and to government departments.

The company has 48 staff, 39 being consultants and technical staff. Their use of the internet and email is relatively high. Kingett Mitchell's network is Novell SBS 6.0 and use Groupwise 6. for email, calendars and contacts. IT Manager Scott Speed was aware of the huge growth rate of Spam and Viruses in the past 6 months and the effect this was having on their network. Not only was security an issue but also the amount of time staff were spending on ridding the network of these unwanted intruders.

Scott, after consultation with Kinetics, decided to implement a 4 week free trial version of GWAVA. The implementation was done by Olivier Gaston, one of our Novell engineers. This is a product by Beginfinite Inc, which is specifically designed to protect Groupwise from viruses and spam. It can also be used to control message content and block email sources, for example Hotmail. The trial version is fully functional.

After 8 days, Scott is encouraged by the difference this product has made. 800 spam messages (many of which are multiple address messages, meaning a lot more spam was stopped than indicated) and 69 viruses have been blocked. The Management Interface is very easy to use and requires a minimal amount of administration time.

Implementation requires two server reboots, so most companies would not find this too disruptive. Scott has also commented on the high level of technical support available. Infact, Beginfinite has phoned him several times

to make sure he is happy with the way the product is working.

Scott said that he will certainly be wanting to purchase this product.

If you would like more information on this product, please visit www.beginfinite.com or call us if you have any questions.

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Mobile Data Seminar at Kinetics.

Kinetics will be holding a Mobile Data Seminar here on Tuesday July 27nd at 2pm. We will be covering product and pricing options.

If you would like to attend, please phone Juliet on 379 8200 or email juliet@kinetics.co.nz.

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Latest Versions & Service Packs for Common Products

***Kinetics Group Limited
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Making I.T. work for you

As at 18 June 04

Exchange 2003 SP1
Internet Explorer 6 SP1
Windows NT4.0 SP6
Windows NT4.0 Server SP6
Windows 2000 SP4 + Hotfixes
Windows 2000 Server SP4
Windows 2000 Advanced Server SP4
Windows Server 2003
Windows XP SP1a + Hotfixes
Office 2000 SP3
Office XP SP2
Office 2003
SQL 7 SP4
SQL 2000 SP3A
Exchange 5.5 SP4
Exchange 2000 SP3 +Hotfixes
PocketPC 2003
MDaemon v6.8.4
MDaemon Groupware v1.0.4

Netware 5.1 SP7
Novell Client 3.321 +SP2 (Win95/98)
Netware 6 SP4
Netware 6.5 SP1
Groupwise 6 SP4
Groupwise 6.5 SP1
Novell Client v4.83+SP2 (NT4,
W2K,XP)
Zenworks for Desktops V3.2 +SP3
Zenworks for Desktops v4 +SP1b
Zenworks for Servers v3 +SP2
Border Manager v3.7 +SP3

Service packs are the means by which product updates are distributed. Service packs may contain updates for system reliability, program compatibility, security, and more. Those in bold have changed since the last newsletter. If you are not using the current versions, or would like info on other software, please call us to discuss.

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[About Kinetics Group Limited](#)

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Kinetics Group Limited was formed in 1996, to provide excellence in Information Technology services.

Kinetics Group Ltd makes I.T. work for you. So, what does this mean?

- We ensure that your existing hardware and software systems are correctly implemented in accordance with best practice guidelines so that your business has a stable and reliable IT platform.
- We provide independent advice on what are the appropriate I.T. systems to help your company meet your business goals. Once a path is decided we implement the solutions on time and on budget.
- Looking ahead with you, we will make recommendations and introduce you to relevant suppliers so as to place you on the best course for your ongoing business development.

Together, we will maximise the benefits of your I.T. infrastructure and investment.

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