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About Us

Parallax Solutions is an information technology consulting firm located in the Cedar Valley, co-located with Mauer Eye Center. What we bring to the table is a clear understanding of how offices can utilize hardware and software to effectively manage their electronic information.

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Take control of your PC's

How many times has a computer on your network been affected because someone chose to change a setting they weren't supposed to? Have you wanted to add a list of Favorites to Internet Explorer but you haven't had time to visit each PC on your network to add them? Did you buy a new printer and now need a way to automatically install it for each and every user on your network? Microsoft has an answer that is often overlooked.

For quite some time, Microsoft has had an easy way to force administrative settings to all Windows computers on your network. Through the use of Group Policies, you can take control over the workstations on your network and make many cumbersome administrative tasks much easier. Over the years it has expanded to include more and more options. Using this tool, you can specify a variety of settings on the clients to make sure they cannot be tampered with by the end user, thus lessening the chances of downtime and support calls.

As an example, one of our clients uses Group Policies to define a variety of settings. The workstations are locked down to prevent tampering, the stations automatically update themselves with approved Microsoft Updates on a regular basis, Internet Explorer favorites are defined so that there is uniformity across the board on all workstations and the default Internet Explorer homepage is set to default to the Sharepoint server. Obviously, there are many more things being specified in the Group Policy that affects behavior on the workstations, but this gives you a general idea of what can be done.

If there is anything that comes to mind that you would like to see happen on multiple workstations, chances are that it can be accomplished. From deploying software to changing system settings, it can be done with Group Policies!

[How has the Barracuda Backup Server Been Working?](#)

[The Fish Really Works!](#)

In past issues, we have discussed our adoption of Barracuda Backup Servers to give clients HIPAA compliant offsite data storage. We have since deployed two Barracuda Backup Servers and we are pleased to report that they have been operating very well in both a local and offsite capacity. It does take some time to get the offsite backup in synch with the local backup, but once they are it becomes a very fast process since only changed files are sent offsite. The peace of mind factor is certainly well worth it.

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