

Radio Days – 2009-09-19

Tip of the Week – Free Holidays

I recently received an email offering me the chance to work from home. This email stated that I could receive about \$800 for just a few hours work each day. Expecting this to be a scam I deleted the email, but it left me wondering just what might have happened if I had accepted the offer.

While browsing the web recently I came across an article which explained the consequences. Some people who lived in America had the same email and answered it. They were asked to correct texts for money, and their pay would be deposited to their bank account at the end of the month. After a few weeks they were offered the chance to make more money as they had shown that they were reliable. They were asked to accept money into their bank account then withdraw cash to send cash to a bank in the Ukraine. This was when their real problems started: their bank account was frozen then the police came around and charged them with both receiving and laundering stolen money.

These people made a number of fatal mistakes:

- Not checking the company on the internet (it did not exist)
- Not googling the company to see if other people had been caught (they had)
- Not remembering that if it seems too good to be true it probably is

As if this was not enough, the money which had been deposited into their account was then withdrawn and returned to the person from whom it had been stolen in the first place. This meant, as they had earlier withdrawn most of the money in cash, that they were seriously out of pocket to the tune of several thousands of dollars.

Partitioning a Hard Disc

Partitioning a disc involves splitting a physical disc into two or more logical partitions or sections. These separate partitions appear to Windows as separate hard discs, and this makes it easier to do all sorts of things. A partitioned hard disc is easier to back up, and a separate Windows partition makes it easier to restore that partition without destroying all your data. This is particularly important when you have a computer which is sold with a recovery disc rather than a Windows disc: the recovery disc wipes your Windows partition and deletes all your data in the process. Before partitioning your disc you must make a backup on another disc because, if anything goes wrong with the process, you will probably lose everything.

My favourite program for partitioning discs is GParted. This program is free: you download an ISO file then burn it to a CD. Before booting your computer with this CD you must backup all (and I mean **ALL**) your data on all (and I mean **ALL**) of your discs: failure to do this can (and has) meant that all data (Windows, programs and files) has been lost completely.

Follow the steps to create a new disc layout, then copy any files which need to be copied. Please remember that an NTFS disc on a Windows computer needs a minimum of 20% free space for your computer to work properly. If you do not have this free space the operating system will take longer to write files to disc, and may even lose files while writing.

Please remember to defragment your discs after all this movement.

Websites

GParted gparted.sourceforge.net