

NetWare 3.12 "Ain't Broke", but ...

You've had NetWare 3.12 for years, and it has served you well. There has been no reason to change... But lately you've been faced with new challenges: Internet access and E-mail; Windows 95 long file names; TCP/IP connectivity issues; your data is outgrowing your disk capacity. The list goes on and on. It's time to consider upgrading to Novell's IntranetWare.

IntranetWare addresses the new requirements of wide area networking, makes better use of disk space, and is aware of the many new operating systems and inter-connections that are so often necessary as the computerized world grows. It reduces your overall networking costs by giving you the well-managed access and control of increasingly complex and heterogeneous networks. Besides the now-famous Novell Directory Services, here are some highlights of the new features that IntranetWare offers:

Start accessing Internet resources right away with complete security because the IPX/IP Gateway eliminates the need to add new protocols to workstations.

Upgrade clients and servers based on a schedule that makes sense for your organization. Upgrade all clients first, or all servers first, or upgrade clients and servers in manageable groups. You can even automate the download of client software from the server.

The migration to IntranetWare is quick and easy, thanks to a variety of utilities that automate much of the upgrade. Built-in tools help you convert NetWare bindery information into Novell Directory Services (NDS) format, migrate printer definitions, and convert login scripts to NDS format.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 NetWare 3.12 "Ain't Broke", but ...
- 1 New Technician: Randy Folmes
- 1 Microsoft BackOffice Server
- 2 24 GB DAT Drive Available
- 2 Tape backups

Here's what you get when you upgrade to IntranetWare:

- NetWare 4.11, the core NetWare Operating System.
- Novell Directory Services (NDS) for centralized network management.
- The Novell Web Server... turn your file server into a Web Server too.
- Firewall protection and IPX integration with IPX/IP Gateway.
- Direct connection to the Internet through the multiprotocol router.
- Netscape Navigator for web browsing.
- All internet services like DNS, WebServer, DHCP, FTP, etc.

New Technician: Randy Folmes

We are pleased to announce that Randy Folmes joined Nautalex in November, 1997 as a Hardware Technician. Randy has Novell CNA (Certified Network Administrator) designation, and a Computer Maintenance Technician certificate from C.D.I. in Hamilton.

Randy has extensive experience in PC service for the business and consumer markets. He will be involved in installation, repairs and upgrades to desktop systems and peripherals, and will also assist with Novell network installations. Randy is a welcome addition to the Nautalex team.

Microsoft BackOffice Server

Microsoft has recently announced two integrated suites of network software based on Windows NT Server 4.0.

On December 9, 1997 Microsoft also announced *Back Office Server 4.0* (targeted for organizations with over 25 users). Microsoft plans to include the following in Back Office Server: Internet Information Server 4.0, Transaction Server, Message Queue Server, FrontPage 98, Exchange Server 5.5, Proxy Server 2.0, SNA Server 4.0, SQL Server 6.5, Site Server 3.0, and Systems Management Server 1.2.

Microsoft has also released Small Business Server (nicknamed "Smallbiz" or SBS) that is focused on businesses with 2 to 25 personal computers.

24 GB DAT Drive Available!

Sony recently introduced a new 24 gigabyte internal DAT tape drive. This is an ideal product for server backup in a small to medium sized network. ☒



It's 1:00 am – do you know where your tape backups are?

..... questions you should ask about your tape backups:

Are backups worth while?

For **servers**, yes! All servers should be backed up to tape. Even if you employ mirroring or RAID, you still need a tape backup in case of physical damage to the server through fire, flood, or other accident. More importantly, you will need tape backup to recover files that have been accidentally deleted.

For **workstations**, backup may, or may not, be appropriate. There are two factors to consider: 1) How much would it cost to re-create your data? 2) How much time would it take to re-install all the software that runs the computer? Compare this against the cost of having a tape backup. Also, consider keeping the data on the file server instead of the local hard drive.

How often should we backup?

A typical backup strategy is to perform a full backup once every business day, using a 2-week cycle of tapes.

When should we backup?

Do backups at a time of day when the server is least busy – for most organizations, this means after 11:00 pm. Unattended backups are easy to schedule using backup and scheduling software.

Is our backup actually taking place?

Your backups may be scheduled, but not actually taking place. This can be due to a scheduling problem, procedural misunderstanding, operator error, personnel changes, or mechanical failure of the tape drive. Be sure to confirm that the backup takes place as scheduled. If you are not sure how to check this, please call us.

Are our backups any good?

Again, the backups may be running as scheduled, but may be incomplete or corrupted. Make sure that you can actually restore files from your backup tapes!

How do we restore files?

Make sure someone on your staff knows how to restore files and directories, using your current tape backup system. An emergency is not the time to learn this!

Where is our backup software?

If your server ever crashes, the backup software will be needed in order to restore your files. Make sure that your backup software, and all your server software, including any service packs, patches, or fixes, is stored in a safe place and is readily available.

Are we storing backup tapes offsite?

Fire or explosion can destroy your server and backups. Keep at least one recent backup offsite at all times.



When the firetrucks arrive, it's too late to think of offsite storage!

Are our tape drives cleaned regularly?

Tape drives need to be cleaned approximately every 20 hrs of operation – this is often equivalent to once a week. Use a special cleaning tape, available from your tape supplier.

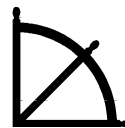
How old are our tapes?

Just like VCR or music tapes, data tapes wear out! The typical lifetime of a data tape is 6-12 months. After that age, they should be taken out of use. Prolong the life of your tapes by storing them in an area of moderate temperature and humidity – never in direct sun or near a source of heat!

Can Nautalex help?

Nautalex Business Services has extensive experience providing tape backup solutions and upgrades for Novell, Windows, and Unix environments. ☒

Published by:



Nautalex
Business Services Inc.

1255 Balmoral Road

Cambridge, Ont. N1T 1C4

Phone: (519) 622-8840

Fax: (519) 624-5580

E-Mail: news@nautalex.com

Web site: www.nautalex.com



Nautalex designs and implements fully-integrated computer network systems for businesses. Providing consulting, software, hardware and peripherals, we offer complete, cost-effective network solutions. ☒