

[Pop captions up]

Sean Carruthers: WE'VE GOT MARKERS. WE'VE GOT A WHITEBOARD. THAT CAN ONLY MEAN THAT STEVE GIBSON IS HERE TODAY ON THE LAB WITH LEO LAPORTE. [Pop captions down] [Theme music playing]

Leo Laporte: MMM, HELLO AND HOW ARE YOU? WELCOME TO THE LAB. I'M LEO LAPORTE. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: LET ME JUST TASTE THIS. MMM, OH YEAH BABY. EPISODE FIVE. FIVE EPISODES! WE'VE BEEN WORKING HARD HAVEN'T WE KATE ABRAHAM? FIVE EPISODES DOWN AND ONLY A FEW THOUSANDS TO GO. [Pop captions down]

Kate Abraham: IT'S OK. ONE AT A TIME. BABY STEPS.

Leo Laporte: [Laughing] IS THIS WHAT'S COMING UP ON THE SHOW TODAY? YOU'RE LOOKING LOVELY TODAY.

Kate Abraham: THANK YOU.

Leo Laporte: THIS IS-- OH STEVE GIBSON'S GOING TO BE HERE. PREVENTING REMOTE EXPLOITATION BUFFER OVERRUNS WITH DEP, XP AND VISTA. WELL I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS BUT I'M SURE WE'LL FIND OUT. AND DEE-ANN LEBLANC IS HERE. SHE'S GOING TO TALK ABOUT CROSSOVER OFFICE, A REALLY NEAT WAY TO RUN WINDOWS SOFTWARE WITHOUT WINDOWS, RUNNING IT IN LINUX. THAT'S COMING UP. SEAN YOU'RE STILL STUCK WITH THE WHITEBOARD. WAIT A MINUTE, LET ME FIX THIS. THIS IS BAD.

Sean Carruthers: I WANT TO KNOW WHO DID THIS.

Leo Laporte: IT SAYS "LOSER", THAT'S NOT RIGHT. IT'S VERY SIMPLE. A LITTLE EDIT HERE, WE CHANGE THE "S" TO A "V" AND THERE WE GO! THAT'S SEAN.

Sean Carruthers: I WOULD ALSO HAVE ACCEPTED "LONER".

Leo Laporte: [Laughs] LONER, TROUBLED LONER. LET'S GET OUR FIRST CALL OF THE DAY ON THE AIR WHAT DO YOU SAY?

Kate Abraham: WE HAVE JERRY FROM VANCOUVER AND HE'S IN B.C.

Leo Laporte: JERRY FROM VANCOUVER--

Kate Abraham: JOE.

Leo Laporte: I'M SORRY?

Kate Abraham: JOE.

Leo Laporte: HEY JOE. Joe: HOW'S IT GOING LEO?

Leo Laporte: I'M DOING GREAT. HOW ARE YOU TODAY? Joe: PRETTY GOOD.

Leo Laporte: WELCOME TO THE PROGRAM. Joe: AWESOME NEW SET.

Leo Laporte: HUH? Joe: I LIKE THE NEW SET.

Leo Laporte: DO YOU LIKE THIS? Joe: I LOVE IT.

Leo Laporte: YOU'RE KIND OF GETTING A PREVIEW OF IT BEFORE ANYBODY ELSE. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: SO YOU THINK IT'S OKAY. Joe: GREAT, GREAT. AND VANCOUVER TOO, AND WELCOME.

Leo Laporte: I'M REALLY HAPPY WITH VANCOUVER. WE'RE REALLY GLAD TO BE HERE. THE WEATHER IS SPECTACULAR BECAUSE IT'S COOL AND RAINY. IT'S HOT IN THE TELEVISION STUDIO SO WE LIKE THE NICE COOL-- Joe: THAT'S VANCOUVER FOR YOU. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: AND WE'VE BEEN HAVING FUN ON THE SET BECAUSE, THE GUYS HERE ARE REALLY GEEKY SO THEY'VE BEEN DRESSING THE SET. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU EVEN NOTICED THIS STEVE BUT WE HAVE TWO NINTENDO, ARE THOSE THE, THE CLEAR CASES, ARE THOSE THE NES'S? THOSE ARE REALLY COOL LOOKING. YEAH REALLY FUN. THAT'S THE N64, NOT THE NES, THAT'S WHAT THAT IS. WE'VE GOT CLOCKS SET TO 1:08. DO YOU KNOW STEVE GIBSON WHY IT'S SET TO 1:08?

Steve Gibson: OF COURSE.

Leo Laporte: DO YOU KNOW JOE? Joe: OF COURSE.

Leo Laporte: I KNOW YOU'RE A FAN OF LOST THEN RIGHT.

Leo Laporte: SEE HE'S NOT, THAT'S WHY. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU JOE? Joe: I WAS JUST WONDERING FOR HOME USERS, FIREWALL SOLUTION. HARDWARE, SOFTWARE--

Leo Laporte: I'M GLAD STEVE IS HERE. I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I THINK AND THEN I'LL SEE WHAT STEVE THINKS BECAUSE HE'S REALLY THE SECURITY EXPERT. BUT I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I PERSONALLY BELIEVE WHICH IS MOST OF US NOW HAVE A BROADBAND ROUTER. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: THE LINKSYS, THE D-LINK OR THE NET GEAR, THOSE THINGS THAT ARE SOLD CHEAPLY IN STORES EVERYWHERE. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: THEY MAY NOT SAY FIREWALL ON THE BOX BUT THEY ARE VERY GOOD FIREWALLS. THEY BLOCK ALL INCOMING TRAFFIC THAT'S NOT REQUESTED. THEY JUST DROP IT OFF. YOU'RE SILENT ON THE NET. IT'S A VERY, VERY GOOD FORM OF FIREWALL. 99% OF WHAT YOU WANT A FIREWALL FOR WHICH IS TO REJECT UNREQUESTED INCOMING TRAFFIC, JUST TO SAY, SORRY, YOU CAN'T GET IN HERE. THAT'S REALLY WHAT A FIREWALL'S ALL ABOUT. NOW SOFTWARE FIREWALL CAN DO A LITTLE BIT MORE. IT CAN ALSO WATCH OUTBOUND TRAFFIC. IN FACT, STEVE HAS A STORY TO TELL ABOUT THAT. IT WAS A SOFTWARE FIREWALL THAT HELPED HIM DISCOVER THE FIRST SPYWARE BACK WHEN ZONE ALARM WAS BIG. NOW YOU CAN GET SOFTWARE FIREWALLS THAT WILL MONITOR OUTBOUND TRAFFIC. IN MY OPINION, I'M GOING TO ASK STEVE WHAT HE THINKS BUT IN MY OPINION, IF YOU'VE GOT A BAD GUY IN YOUR SYSTEM TRYING TO GET OUT, IT'S TOO LATE. IT'S DONE. THE FIREWALL HAS FAILED YOU. YEAH SURE IT'S LETTING YOU KNOW. I GUESS IT'S BETTER THAN NOT KNOWING BUT BY THEN, YOU'RE DONE. AND MANY [indistinct] PROGRAMS LOOK FOR FIREWALLS LIKE ZONE ALARM AND DISABLE THEM. THEY'RE ON THE SYSTEM. THEY HAVE CONTROL. THEY CAN TURN THEM OFF. NOW WINDOWS VISTA ACTUALLY HAS A VERY GOOD SOFTWARE FIREWALL THAT NOW HAS OUTBOUND AS WELL AS INBOUND. SO MY SUGGESTION IS HARDWARE ROUTER AND THEN FOR INTERNAL SUBNET PROTECTION, FOR INSIDE LAN PROTECTION INCASE YOU BRING IN A LAPTOP THAT'S GOT A BUG ON IT, I WOULD RUN THE WINDOWS FIREWALL, XP OR VISTA. THE NICE THING ABOUT THE WINDOWS FIREWALL, THEY DON'T USE A LOT OF PROCESSOR COUNT, THEY DON'T SLOW YOUR SYSTEM DOWN PARTICULARLY. YOU CAN TURN THEM ON WITHOUT A MAJOR CONSEQUENCE.

Steve Gibson: AND THEY'RE INTEGRATED.

Leo Laporte: THEY'RE THERE. [Pop captions up]

Steve Gibson: THEY'RE NOT AN ADD ON. THEY'RE INTEGRATED. THEY WERE BUILT INTO THE OPERATING SYSTEM. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE WEIRD SORT OF SIDE EFFECTS. [Pop captions down]

Steve Gibson: AND LEO, THE VERY FIRST SPYWARE WAS EASY TO REMOVE. I WROTE OPT OUT WHICH WAS THE FIRST MAOWARE REMOVER AND ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS DELETE THE FILES. BUT WHAT'S HAPPENED IS THERE'S BEEN A EVOLUTION IN THE DEGREE THAT THIS STUFF HAS INSTALLED ITSELF DEEP IN THE SYSTEMS SO THAT IF YOU NOW JUST DELETE THE FILES, YOU'LL BREAK SOMETHING IN YOUR COMPUTER SO IT'S EXACTLY AS YOU SAID. ONCE UPON A TIME, IT WAS PRACTICAL TO JUST REMOVE THE MAOWARE. IT'S BECOMING LESS PRACTICAL.

Leo Laporte: KNOWING IT'S THERE I GUESS IS GOOD SO YOU AT LEAST KNOW IT'S THERE BUT THAT'S OF MOOT VALUE. SO YOU AGREE THEN THAT A HARDWARE FIREWALL IS A GOOD WAY--

Steve Gibson: I AGREE THAT A ROUTER IS REALLY ALL YOU NEED TO PROTECT YOUR HOME NETWORK FROM EXTERNAL INTRUSION. YOU OUGHT TO GO TO GRC AND USE SHIELDS UP TO ENSURE THERE AREN'T ANY HOLES IN YOUR ROUTER BECAUSE SOME OF THEM DO HAVE PROBLEMS FROM A CONFIGURATION STANDPOINT. BUT ON A LAPTOP IT'S

WORTH ALSO RUNNING THE XP FIREWALL OR THE VISTA FIREWALL, WHICH ARE BOTH NOW TURNED ON BY DEFAULT BECAUSE WHEN YOU TAKE YOUR LAPTOP OUT FROM BEHIND YOUR HOME ROUTER PROTECTION, OUT INTO A WIFI HOTSPOT OR YOU'RE ON THE ROAD, YOU'RE GOING TO WANT TO WATCH ITS FIREWALL TO PROTECT YOU ALSO. IF YOU WANT A SOFTWARE FIREWALL CARRY A PERSONAL FIREWALL AT [indistinct]. I DON'T THINK THEY DO IT FOR FREE ANYMORE.

Steve Gibson: THERE'S NOT EVEN A FREE STARTER?

Leo Laporte: 30 DAY FREE TRIAL. I DON'T SEE A FREE ONE WHICH IS TOO BAD BECAUSE THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD FIREWALL.

Steve Gibson: THIRD PARTY FIREWALLS ARE ON THEIR WAY OUT BECAUSE MICROSOFT HAS BUILT IT IN.

Leo Laporte: IT'S IN VISTA BUT IF YOU DON'T HAVE VISTA HERE'S ONE THAT I HEAR GOOD ONE ABOUT. I'M TRYING TO GET COMODO. IT'S A PERSONAL FIREWALL AT comodo.com THAT'S FREE. AND B.C. MAGAZINE GAVE IT THE EDITOR'S CHOICE. THAT'S A GOOD INDICATOR.

Steve Gibson: I THINK THAT'S A STRONG ENDORSEMENT.

Leo Laporte: BUT I DON'T THINK YOU NEED IT--

Steve Gibson: AND YOU AND I DON'T. YOU AND I ARE NOT USING PERSONAL FIREWALLS ON OUR MACHINES.

Leo Laporte: I TURN ON WINDOWS FIREWALL BECAUSE I WANT THAT INSIDE THE NETWORK PROTECTION. AND I USE A HARDWARE ROUTER AND THAT'S ALL I REALLY NEED. ALRIGHT JOE? YOU HAVE A ROUTER ALREADY? Joe: OH YEAH.

Leo Laporte: SEE YOU'RE WELL PROTECTED. YOU DON'T NEED TO DO ANYTHING MORE. THANKS JOE. TAKE CARE. I DO TURN ON THE WINDOWS FIREWALL BECAUSE IT COSTS NOTHING--

Steve Gibson: AND IT DOESN'T MESS UP ANYTHING.

Leo Laporte: IN TERMS OF PERFORMANCE AND RELIABILITY, IT COSTS NOTHING AND IT DOES GIVE YOU A LITTLE ADDED PROTECTION.

Steve Gibson: I'VE GOT IT RUNNING.

Leo Laporte: YOU DO?

Steve Gibson: YEAH.

Leo Laporte: I THINK THAT'S JUST THE NORMAL DEFAULT. HEY LET'S TAKE A BREAK. COME BACK IN JUST A BIT. WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT DEP. NOT JOHNNY DEP, NO THE STUFF YOU PUT IN YOUR HAIR.

Steve Gibson: DATA EXECUTION PROTECTION.

Leo Laporte: DATA EXECUTION PROTECTION. STEVE GIBSON TELLS US THE ULTIMATE IN SECURITY FIXES WHEN WE COME BACK. [Commercial]

Leo Laporte: WELCOME BACK TO THE LAB. I'VE GOT BAD NEWS FOR YOU SEAN. WE DON'T NEED YOU. NO WHITEBOARD. GO, GO. [Laughing] ACTUALLY THIS IS A COMPLICATED ONE AND I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE TO EXPLAIN IT. WE ACTUALLY DID AN ENTIRE HOUR AND A HALF ON SECURITY, OUR SECURITY PODCAST.

Steve Gibson: I'M MORE EXCITED ABOUT THIS THAN PROBABLY ANYTHING ELSE. [Pop captions up]

Steve Gibson: AND THE THING THAT'S ANNOYING TO ME IS THAT MICROSOFT HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO TURN IT ON. IT'S LIKE THE FIREWALL BUILT INTO XP THAT THEY HAD OFF UNTIL SERVICE PACK 2, SEVERAL YEARS AFTER RELEASE. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: DON'T GET TOO EXCITED. LET'S EXPLAIN WHAT'S GOING ON BEFORE WE LAUNCH INTO THIS. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A COMMON FORM OF ATTACK. YOU PROBABLY SEE IT HEADLINES ALL THE TIME. THE BUFFER OVERFLOW ATTACK.

Steve Gibson: YES, THE NUMBER ONE MISTAKE THAT PROGRAMMERS MAKE IS NOT CHECKING THEIR BUFFERS. MEANING THAT ON THE INTERNET, DATA CAN COME IN AND IT CAN OVERRUN THE END OF THE BUFFER.

Leo Laporte: TOO MUCH DATA. IT'S EXPECTING 28 LETTERS AND IT GETS 400-- IT GOES--

Steve Gibson: BECAUSE A HACKER FIGURED OUT THERE WAS THIS GLITCH, THIS LITTLE BUG IN THE CODE.

Leo Laporte: WHAT HAPPENS TO THE EXTRA DATA?

Steve Gibson: DUE TO THE WAY THE SYSTEM IS BUILT, IT'S POSSIBLE TO DELIBERATELY PUT CODE IN THE BUFFER AS DATA WHICH THE COMPUTER WILL RUN WHEN IT'S DONE DOING WHAT IT WAS DOING BEFORE.

Leo Laporte: IN FACT YOU'RE INJECTING YOUR OWN PROGRAM INTO THE MEMORY OF THE COMPUTER.

Steve Gibson: ACROSS THE WORLD. FROM SOMEWHERE IN CHINA OR WHEREVER-- THEY'RE ABLE TO STICK CODE AND RUN IT IN YOUR COMPUTER.

Leo Laporte: MORE THAN HALF OF ALL THE BUGS IN WINDOWS AND OTHER SOFTWARE ARE A RESULT OF THESE DATA OVERFLOWS.

Steve Gibson: 99% PROBABLY. WAY MORE THAN HALF. IT IS THE PROBLEM BECAUSE IT'S VERY HARD TO FIND THEM ALL AND THE HACKERS ARE LOOKING FOR THEM. PROGRAMMERS ARE JUST HAPPY THEIR BOSS SAID IS IT DONE FINALLY? YES, SHIP IT,

SHIP IT RIGHT NOW.

Leo Laporte: SO WE ARE TRYING TO CREATE LANGUAGES TO PREVENT THIS. WE'RE TRAINING PROGRAMMERS TO NOT MAKE THE MISTAKE BUT MEANWHILE THERE'S A LOT OF CODE OUT THERE THAT MAKES THAT MISTAKE. FORTUNATELY THE NEW INTEL PROCESSORS AND ACTUALLY AMD'S PROCESSORS TOO HAVE A WAY OF BLOCKING THIS KIND OF PROBLEM.

Steve Gibson: THE WAY MEMORY WORKS IN OUR SO CALLED VAUGHN NEWMAN ARCHITECTURE COMPUTERS IS YOU CAN HAVE BOTH DATA AND CODE CO-MINGLED IN THE SAME SPACE. BUT THE WAY MEMORY IS ALLOCATED IS IN THESE THINGS CALLED PAGES. YOU ALLOCATE MEMORY IN PAGES. SOME PAGES ARE SUPPOSED TO CONTAIN CODE. OTHERS ARE SUPPOSED TO CONTAIN DATA. UNTIL RECENTLY THERE HAS BEEN NO ENFORCEMENT OF THAT. BUT ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ENFORCE THAT THIS IS EXECUTABLE AND THE DATA PAGES ARE NOT, TRADITIONALLY THEY'VE BEN EXECUTABLE TOO.

Leo Laporte: SO THE SIMPLE FIX WOULD COMPLETELY PREVENT THAT HACKER FROM PUTTING THAT PROGRAM INTO MEMORY BECAUSE IT WOULD ALSO GO INTO THE DATA SPACE. SORRY YOU CAN'T RUN IT, IT'S IN THE WRONG PLACE.

Steve Gibson: EXACTLY. WHAT I'M EXCITED ABOUT IS, THIS IS LIKE AN OVERNIGHT FIX FOR THE NUMBER ONE PROBLEM WE HAVE.

Leo Laporte: NOW INTEL CALLS THIS "DEP"?

Steve Gibson: "NX", NO EXECUTE.

Leo Laporte: SO YOU LOOK FOR-- ALL THE NEW INTEL CHIPS HAVE NX. AMD CALLS IT--

Steve Gibson: AMD IS UH... I WANT TO SAY... OH, XD, EXECUTE DISABLED.

Leo Laporte: SAME IDEA.

Steve Gibson: EXACTLY THE SAME THING, JUST DIFFERENT MARKETING TERMS.

Leo Laporte: IT'S IN THE PROCESSOR BUT THE OPERATING SYSTEM HAS TO AGREE TO IT.

Steve Gibson: HERE'S THE PROBLEM. BECAUSE IT'S A NEW RESTRICTION, JUST LIKE ANYTHING WINDOWS DOES. IF YOU'RE GOING TO TRY AND TIGHTEN THINGS DOWN, SOMETHING'S ARE GOING TO BREAK. MICROSOFT DOESN'T WANT TO BREAK ANYTHING.

Leo Laporte: PROGRAMS FOR YEARS HAVE ASSUMED THEY CAN EXECUTE PAGES OF DATA.

Steve Gibson: AND THERE ARE SOME PROGRAMS WHO DO DID IT ON PURPOSE. FOR EXAMPLE THERE ARE SO CALLED PACKING PROGRAMS OR XE COMPRESSORS. EXECUTABLE COMPRESSORS THAT WILL COMPRESS AN EXECUTABLE TO MAKE IT SMALLER WHEN IT RUNS, IT ALLOCATES A BUNCH OF DATASPACE, DECOMPRESSES THE

EXECUTABLE TO FULL SIZE AND RUNS IT BUT IT'S RUNNING IT IN DATA. SO SOME--

Leo Laporte: YOU HAVE TO BREAK A PROGRAM LIKE THAT.

Steve Gibson: YES.

Leo Laporte: DEP IS DATA EXECUTION PREVENTION. AND IT'S TURNING ON THAT NX FEATURE.

Steve Gibson: IT'S TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE FACT THAT UP UNTIL NOW PROCESSORS DIDN'T CARE WHETHER YOU WERE EXECUTING OUT OF DATA OR NOT.

Leo Laporte: SO THE INTEL CHIP WILL SAY HEY YOU'RE RUNNING A DATA PAGE IS THAT OKAY AND THE OPERATING SYSTEM THEN HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY NO THAT'S NOT OKAY OR IN THE CASE OF WINDOWS AS IT COMES OUT OF THE BOX, NO THAT'S NO PROBLEM.

Steve Gibson: SO EVER SINCE DAY ONE XP HAS HAD THIS. AND WHAT'S BEGINNING TO HAPPEN IS NOW WE HAVE THE HARDWARE TO ENFORCE IT, WITH THE LATER AMD AND INTEL PROCESSORS SO IT'S BY DEFAULT, IT'S IN OPT-IN MODE WHERE YOU CAN TURN IT ON FOR PROGRAMS THAT YOU KNOW ARE GOING TO BE COMPATIBLE, BUT WHAT YOU REALLY WANT IS A SO CALLED ALWAYS ON MODE WHERE IT'S CHECKING EVERYTHING AND ESSENTIALLY IT'S GOING TO FIND ALL OF THIS TYPE OF POTENTIAL PROBLEM FOR YOU.

Leo Laporte: THERE'S ALSO SOMETHING CALLED SOFTWARE DEP.

Steve Gibson: YES. NOT REALLY VERY USEFUL. THAT'S ALSO ON BY DEFAULT BUT REALLY IT CHECKS CODE THAT MICROSOFT HAS PROVIDED BECAUSE THEY KNOW THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE BREAKING ANYTHING.

Leo Laporte: THEIR OWN CODE.

Steve Gibson: IT'S NOT VERY STRONG. I ACTUALLY WROTE A PROGRAM CALLED "SECURABLE" WHICH SSCURABLE. YOU CAN GET IT FOR FREE AT GRC. IT'S 100K OR SOMETHING. IT'S NOT VERY BIG. AND IT WILL TELL YOU WHETHER YOUR HARDWARE SUPPORTS THE ROBUST, HARDWARE DEP WHICH WOULD GIVE YOU THE ABILITY DOWNSTREAM ONCE OTHER SOFTWARE HAS MADE ITSELF COMPATIBLE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TURN THIS DEP ON TO FULL STRENGTH AND STILL RUN. WE'RE GOING TO SEE A REAL REDUCTION IN THE WORST KIND OF REMOTE EXPLOITATION OF OUR COMPUTERS.

Leo Laporte: NOW HOW DO I TURN THIS DEP ON?

Steve Gibson: IN XP, THERE'S A BOOT.INI, AND IF YOU LOOK THERE, IT WILL SAY "ALWAYS OFF" OR "OPT IN" AND YOU CAN CHANGE THAT TO "ALWAYS ON" FOR EXAMPLE AND SEE HOW YOUR COMPUTER WORKS.

Leo Laporte: THE PROBLEM IS IT MAY BREAK A LOT OF YOUR SOFTWARE.

Steve Gibson: TODAY THERE ARE STILL A LARGE NUMBER OF INCOMPATIBILITIES. THE GOOD NEWS IS, BECAUSE IT'S HERE AND IT'S SORT OF REPRESENTING A THREAT TO THE DEVELOPERS, IT'S LIKE, HEY ONE OF THESE DAYS WE'RE GOING TO TURN THIS ON SO NOW'S YOUR GRACE PERIOD TO FIX YOUR CODE. THE DEVELOPERS CAN TURN IT ON TO MAKE SURE THEIR PROGRAMS ARE DEP-FRIENDLY AND FIX THEM IF THEY'RE NOT. SO IT'S REALLY GOOD NEWS DOWNSTREAM.

Leo Laporte: YOU SAID XP, HOW ABOUT VISTA?

Steve Gibson: VISTA HAS A DIFFERENT PROGRAM. YOU NEED SOME COMMAND LINE TRICKERY IN ORDER TO GET IT TURNED ON BECAUSE THERE IS NO MORE BOOT.INI FILE. IT'S ONE OF THE MANY THINGS-- NOW THERE'S SOME DATABASE, BOOT DATA THING--

Leo Laporte: SOMETHING INACCESSIBLE, THE USER CAN'T GET ANYWHERE NEAR--

Steve Gibson: EXACTLY.

Leo Laporte: SO IT REALLY ISN'T ADVISABLE AT THIS POINT FOR USERS TO TURN ON HARDWARE DATA EXECUTION PREVENTION BUT IT WILL BE SOMETHING THAT WILL BE TURNED ON BY DEFAULT IN THE NEXT VERSION OF WINDOWS.

Steve Gibson: WELL MY NEXT PIECE OF WORK, I'M GOING TO BE DOING A PROGRAM CALLED DEPUTY WHICH IS THE NEXT STAGE IN THIS. IT WILL ALLOW PEOPLE TO SAFELY TURN IT ON, AUTOMATE ALL THIS. SO I'LL BE BACK ON THE SHOW WHEN WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THIS AND GIVE PEOPLE SOMETHING THEY CAN REALLY DO TO BEGIN TO FIND OUT.

Leo Laporte: MEANTIME YOU CAN GET SECURABLE RIGHT NOW TO FIND OUT IF YOUR HARDWARE IS COMPATIBLE OR NOT. AT grc.com. THAT'S STEVE'S WEBSITE. THAT'S ALSO WHERE YOU CAN RUN SHIELDS UP AND HEAR HIS PODCAST, THE ONE WE DO TOGETHER.

Steve Gibson: OUR PODCAST.

Leo Laporte: OUR PODCAST CALLED "SECURITY NOW". AND SPIN RIGHT IS ALSO AT grc.com THAT'S HIS WORLD FAMOUS AND JUSTLY SO DISK RECOVERY MAINTENANCE UTILITY. THE ONE THAT I USE TO SAVE MY HARD DRIVE JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO. HEY WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A BREAK BUT WHEN WE COME BACK, MORE OF YOUR CALLS. RIGHT NOW, IT'S TIME FOR WHAT THE TECH SEGMENT. NOW THIS ONE'S EASY. WHAT THE TECH IS THAT? MAYBE NOT SO EASY. WHAT'S IT A PART OF? THINK ABOUT IT A LITTLE BIT. WHEN WE COME BACK FROM THE BREAK, WE'LL TELL YOU. [Commercial]

Leo Laporte: WELL NOW IT LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF OBVIOUSLY CIRCUIT BOARD BUT WHAT KIND IS IT. WILL WE SEE SOME RESISTOR- - I DON'T KNOW, WHAT DO YOU THINK STEVE? OH IT'S A SIM! [Singing] IT'S MEMORY. MEMORY. SEAN DID IT AGAIN, WITH HIS MACRO FOCUSED LENS. LET'S GET ANOTHER CALL ON THE SHOW KATE, WHO DO WE HAVE NEXT?

Kate Abraham: I'M GOING TO TRY AND PRONOUNCE THIS CORRECTLY. THIS IS SAUD FROM RONKONKOMA, NEW YORK.

Leo Laporte: SAUD FROM RONKONKOMA? DID SHE DO IT RIGHT? DOES SHE WIN THE PRIZE THERE SAUD? Saud: IT'S SOMEWHAT RIGHT.

Leo Laporte: HOW DO YOU SAY IT? Saud: IT'S SAUD FROM RONKONKOMA [emphasizing second syllable]. YOU'VE GOT THE EMPHASIS ON THE WRONG RONKONKOMA.

Leo Laporte: WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU SAUD? Saud: I HAVE A QUICK QUESTION FOR YOU.

Leo Laporte: SURE. Saud: I HAVE TWO HARD DRIVES ON MY COMPUTER, BOTH OF THEM HAVE WINDOWS XP. IS THERE ANYWAY I CAN SWITCH BACK AND FORTH TO WHICH ONE I WANT TO BOOT FROM?

Leo Laporte: SO YOU HAVE TWO DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF THE SAME OPERATING SYSTEM. YES.

Leo Laporte: THAT'S INTERESTING. NORMALLY WHEN YOU INSTALL A SECOND VERSION OF WINDOWS, IT WILL SEE THE FIRST VERSION OF WINDOWS AND IT WILL PUT A BOOT LOADER IN THE C DRIVE. THAT SECOND ONE DID YOU INSTALL IT WITH THE FIRST ONE WAS THERE OR DID YOU PUT IT ON ANOTHER COMPUTER? Saud: I INSTALLED IT FROM ANOTHER COMPUTER.

Leo Laporte: YEAH, THAT MAY NOT EVEN RUN BECAUSE THE MOTHERBOARD AND OTHER DRIVERS MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR THAT COMPUTER BUT LET'S ASSUME IT RUNS BECAUSE NOW YOU HAVE AN INTERESTING SITUATION BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE A BOOT LOADER SO YOU HAVE ANY WAY FOR WINDOWS TO DECIDE. I THINK THIS WILL WORK. I DON'T SEE ANY REASON WHY THIS WOULDN'T WORK. IT'S A STAND ALONE BOOT LOADER FOR WHAT WE CALL DUAL BOOT SYSTEMS. IT'S CALLED GAG. IT'S NOT AS GOOD AS RONKONKOMA BUT IT'S GOOD. gag.sourceforge.net GAG IT TURNS OUT IS A SPANISH, THE INITIALS IN SPANISH HAVE A GRAPHICAL BOOT MANAGER. IT IS NOT SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU GAG MAN. ABSOLUTELY FREE AND HERE'S THE BEAUTY OF THIS AND I'M PRETTY SURE THIS WILL WORK WITH YOUR SET-UP. YOU PUT IT ON A FLOPPY DISK. YOU BOOT FROM THE FLOPPY DISK. THE FLOPPY DISK THEN LOOKS AT ALL THE OPERATING SYSTEMS AT ALL THE HARD DRIVES INSTALLED ON THAT COMPUTER. IT SEES WINDOWS, IT'LL SEE LINUX, IT'LL SEE OS2 AND THEN IT SAYS TELL ME WHICH ONES YOU WANT TO BOOT FROM AND IT KNOWS WHICH PARTITIONS AND HOW TO LAUNCH THOSE PARTICULAR PARTITIONS AND THEN IT RUNS A NEW MASTER BOOT RECORD. IT PUTS THE BOOT LOADER IN THE MASTER BOOT RECORD. IT DOESN'T IMPINGE ON EITHER VERSION OF WINDOWS. I'M ALMOST POSITIVE, I CAN'T IMAGINE ANY REASON WHY THIS WOULDN'T WORK FOR YOU. STEVE GIBSON.

Steve Gibson: ONE THING YOU COULD DO JUST TO FIND OUT IF THIS OS YOU'VE GOTTEN FROM ANOTHER MACHINE WILL RUN, IS JUST CHANGE THE BOOT SEQUENCE IN YOUR BIOS AND THAT WILL ESSENTIALLY BUT THE SECOND DRIVE IN THE FIRST PLACE AND THE FIRST DRIVE IN THE SECOND PLACE AND THAT'LL ALLOW YOU TO--I MEAN IT'S CUMBERSOME TO GO INTO SETUP AND CHANGE THE BOOT ORDER. IT'S NOT LIKE HAVING A NICE MENU WHERE YOU'RE JUST CHOOSE THIS TIME WHAT YOU WANT TO USE, BUT CHANGING THE BOOT ORDER WILL BOOT THE OTHER HARD DRIVE BECAUSE IT THEN BECOMES THE PRIMARY HARD DRIVE.

Leo Laporte: THAT'S A VERY GOOD POINT. YOU DON'T WANT TO DO ALL THIS EFFORT IF IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK.

Steve Gibson: YOU CAN DO THAT IN THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES.

Leo Laporte: THIS IS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE WHEN YOU RUN GAG. A PRETTY GRAPHICAL MENU THAT GIVES YOU ALL THE DIFFERENT OPERATING SYSTEMS AND YOU CAN PRESS S TO SET IT UP WHICH MEANS YOU CAN THEN SEE WHICH SETTINGS YOU WANT TO CHANGE AND SO FORTH. I'VE USED THIS FOR YEARS. IN FACT I KEEP A GAG FLOPPY DISK AROUND IN CASE I LOSE THE MASTER BOOT RECORD OF A SYSTEM. I CAN ALWAYS GAG IT AND IT'LL START WORKING AGAIN. YOU CAN USE THIS TO BOOT ONE MORE TIME. I THINK THIS WILL WORK FOR YOU. I WOULD TRY THIS. IT'S VERY GOOD AT RECOGNIZING OPERATING SYSTEMS. IT SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM SEEING BOTH XPS AND DOING THE RIGHT THING, PUTTING IT ON THE MASTER BOOT RECORD. OKAY? ALRIGHT.

Leo Laporte: THANKS SAUD. RONKONKOMA! WHERE'S RONKONKOMA? LONG ISLAND.

Leo Laporte: IT'S PROBABLY AN INDIAN NAME I WOULD IMAGINE. HEY SAUD NICE TO TALK TO YOU. I HOPE THAT HELPS. TAKE CARE. TIME FOR OUR QUIZ QUESTION OF THE DAY. LET'S SEE HOW SMART OR HOW GEEKY YOU ARE. [Blank for boards]

Leo Laporte: IN OTHER WORDS WHAT DO THESE ACRONYMS STAND FOR AND WHICH OF THEM HAS A REDUNDANT, AN EXTRA WORD. WHICH OF THEM IS NOT REDUNDANT. THAT'S A TRICKY ONE, THANK YOU SEAN. [Commercial]

Leo Laporte: [Singing] WELCOME BACK TO THE LAB, TO THE LAB, TO THE LAB. I WILL NOT DANCE ANYMORE.

Kate Abraham: THAT WAS GOOD.

Leo Laporte: YOU LIKE THAT?

Kate Abraham: I LIKE THAT.

Leo Laporte: I HAD TO HOLD ON WHILE I WAS DOING THAT.

Kate Abraham: BRACE YOURSELF.

Leo Laporte: YOU GOT A CALL FOR ME KATE?

Kate Abraham: I HAVE. THIS IS GARY FROM PLEASANT PRAIRIE, WISCONSIN.

Leo Laporte: PLEASANT PRAIRIE. HEY GARY. [Pop captions up] Gary: HEY LEO.

Leo Laporte: HOW ARE YOU TODAY? Gary: I'M DOING FANTASTIC. THANKS FOR INVITING ME ON YOUR SHOW.

Leo Laporte: WELL YOU KNOW YOU SENT US AN EMAIL AND WE SAID I GUESS WE BETTER

LET HIM ON ESPECIALLY SINCE HIS NAME RHYMES WITH THIS CITY. Gary: YEAH.

Leo Laporte: WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU GARY. Gary: I READ THAT YOU DON'T SUGGEST SOFTWARE FOR COMPUTER BACKUPS AND SUCH.

Leo Laporte: GET THIS CLEAR. CAUSE I DON'T WANT ANYBODY TO GET CONFUSED. I ABSOLUTELY SUGGEST BACKUPS, I JUST DON'T LIKE TO USE BACKUP SOFTWARE. Gary: RIGHT.

Leo Laporte: ESPECIALLY SOMETHING THAT COMES WITH WINDOWS AND OS10, THAT'S JUST AWFUL. Gary: AND I'M CURIOUS WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST-- I HAD A LOT OF PROBLEMS WHERE I THOUGHT I BACKED UP A LOT OF THE FOLDERS LIKE IN OUTLOOK AND IN BOOKMARK AND SUCH AND WHEN I COME TO NEED IT AND I REINSTALL, I FIND OUT I DON'T HAVE WHAT I NEED.

Leo Laporte: ISN'T THAT FRUSTRATING. Gary: OH IT'S HORRIBLE! AND I WAS WONDERING IF THERE'S A WAY THAT I CAN DO IT, EVEN FROM MICROSOFT, I HATE TO SAY, THAT CAN THINK THINGS THAT I KNOW EVERY TIME--

Leo Laporte: FIRST OF ALL WE HAVE TO FIND WHERE YOUR FILES ARE AND THAT'S ACTUALLY FAIRLY SIMPLE TO USE. IF YOU OPEN YOUR COMPUTER AND I'M ACTUALLY IN VISTA BUT THIS IS PRETTY MUCH THE SAME THING IN XP, AND LOOK IN YOUR HARD DRIVE. AND YOU OPEN UP THE C DRIVE. IF YOU LOOK IN USERS, YOU'RE GOING TO SEE...NOW THIS IS VISTA IT SAYS "USERS" WHICH IS MUCH MORE CLEAR. YOU'RE GOING TO SEE THE TWO DIFFERENT USERS. IF IT'S ON WINDOWS XP IT'S GOING TO SAY "DOCUMENTS AND SETTINGS" AND INSIDE DOCUMENTS AND SETTINGS WILL BE THE USER. IF YOU BACKUP THE USER FOLDER, THAT'S 99% OF WHAT YOU WANT. THE ONLY FEW THINGS THAT MIGHT NOT BE THERE, SOME GAMES, SAVED THEIR GAME INFORMATION IN THE GAME PROGRAM FOLDER, STUPID STUFF LIKE THAT BUT PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS IN THIS HOME FOLDER, YOUR USER FOLDER. IF YOU SIMPLY BACK THAT UP, THAT WILL GET...ALL THE DATA THAT YOU CREATED. SO IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT IN VISTA. YOU OPEN UP THE BOOT DRIVE AND YOU LOOK IN THE "USERS FOLDERS". NOW IF YOU WANT TO BACKUP MULTIPLE USERS YOU JUST BACKUP THE WHOLE USERS FOLDER. SAME THING ON OS10. JUST BACKUP THE USERS FOLDER, YOU'LL GET EVERYTHING. AGAIN IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT IN XP, IT'S THE DOCUMENTS AND SETTINGS FOLDER. NOW HOW TO BACKUP IS THE NEXT QUESTION. AND THE REASON I DON'T RECOMMEND BACKUP SOFTWARE IS BECAUSE YOU GET THIS BLOB, THIS BACKUP BLOB AND YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU GOT. IN FACT, IT'S OFTEN THE CASE THAT YOU RESTORE THAT BLOB AND IT'S NOT THERE OR IT'S DAMAGED OR IT'S NOT GOT WHAT YOU THOUGHT IT HAD IN IT. THAT'S WHY IN GENERAL, MY FAVOURITE FORM OF BACKUP IS JUST TO COPY. IF YOU'VE GOT AN EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE, JUST COPY THIS FOLDER, THEN YOU CAN LOOK INSIDE THIS FOLDER AND MAYBE OPEN SOME SAMPLE FILES. YOU CAN SEE YOU'VE GOT WHAT YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT. YOU CAN BURN IT ONTO A CD THAT WAY. THERE IS A MICROSOFT TOOL THAT I'M GOING TO RECOMMEND THAT IS A VERY USEFUL TOOL CALLED SYNCTOY. IT'S ABSOLUTELY FREE. IT'S PART OF THE MICROSOFT POWERTOOLS. THEY HAVE SOME GREAT POWERTOOLS. IF YOU GOOGLE "SYNCTOY", IT'LL BE THE FIRST ENTRY IN THERE. IT'S FOR WINDOWS XP NOT FOR VISTA. I'M NOT SURE WHAT THEY RECOMMEND FOR--THEY HAVE SOMETHING IN VISTA BUILT IN. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: SO SYNCTOY WILL DO WHAT YOU JUST SAID WHICH IS IT'LL COMPARE, IF YOU HAVE AN EXTERNAL DRIVE FOR INSTANCE, THE COPY THAT IT MADE OF YOUR DATA WITH THE ORIGINAL DATA AND IF YOU HAVE ANY NEW FILES IN THE ORIGINAL DATA IT'LL MAKE SURE THOSE GET COPIED OVER SO IT'S A VERY HANDY WAY TO KEEP THEM SYNCHRONIZED. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: I ALSO USE, AND I STILL RECOMMEND A PROGRAM. IT'S NOT FREE, IT'S A SHAREWARE PROGRAM CALLED SECOND COPY. DOES THE SAME THING. IT'S FROM CENTRE SYSTEMS OR SECONDCOPY.COM AND THIS ALSO WILL SYNCHRONIZE TWO DIFFERENT FOLDERS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE FOLDER ARE THE SAME. I'VE LATELY STARTED USING ONLINE BACKUPS AND ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WITH BACKUP, LET'S SAY YOU HAVE AN EXTERNAL DRIVE AND YOU BACKUP ALL YOUR DATA TO IT BUT YOUR HOUSE BURNS DOWN, WELL YOUR BACKUPS BURNED DOWN WITH EVERYTHING ELSE. WHY MAKE IT EVEN WORSE? IT'S BAD ENOUGH YOUR HOUSE BURNED DOWN BUT ALL YOUR DATA TOO? SO I THINK AS IMPORTANT AS IT IS TO BACKUP, IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE IT OFFSITE. THAT COULD BE BACKING IT UP TO AN EXTERNAL DRIVE YOU TAKE TO WORK, MAYBE YOU HAVE ROTATING EXTERNAL DRIVE, BACKING IT UP TO CD WHICH YOU MAIL TO YOUR MOM. I KNOW PEOPLE WHO DO THAT LIKE THIS GUY RIGHT HERE WHO MAILES BACKUPS TO MOM SO SHE'S GOT IT. THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN USING LATELY. I HAVE TO DISCLAIM HERE, THIS IS A SPONSOR ON THE RADIO SHOW BUT I TAKE SPONSORS FROM COMPANIES I REALLY BELIEVE IN AND I'VE BEEN USING THIS, THIS IS AN ONLINE BACKUP. \$50 A YEAR. UNLIMITED BACKUP. YOU CAN PUT THOUSANDS OF GIGS IF YOU WANTED TO. IT PUTS A LITTLE CLIENT, A LITTLE SYNCHRONIZATION CLIENT THAT RUNS ALL THE TIME IN WINDOWS. ALL YOU DO TO BACKUP A FOLDER IS RIGHT CLICK AND MAKE THAT ONE OF THE FOLDERS YOU BACKUP AND FROM THEN IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY KEEP IT BACKED UP. AND DOING IT THIS WAY, THIS IS THE BACKUP I LIKE. IT'S OFFSITE. IT'S AUTOMATIC SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT AND IT CONTINUOUSLY WORKS. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: AND I THINK THAT'S A REALLY, REALLY GREAT WAY TO DO IT. \$50 FOR UNLIMITED WHICH MEANS YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU'RE BACKING UP. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: BUT I ACTUALLY USE IT TO BACKUP THE PODCAST SO WE NEVER LOSE ANY PODCASTS. I LOST PODCASTS ONCE. IT WAS VERY EMBARRASSING. I HAD TO SEND SOMEBODY A FRUIT BASKET. YOU THINK I'M JOKING? I DID, I SENT SOMEBODY A FRUIT BASKET BECAUSE I LOST AN INTERVIEW TWO OR THREE TIMES. ANYWAYS SO I'VE BEEN USING CARBONATE AND THAT'S JUST REALLY, REALLY NICE. IN ANY EVENT NO MATTER WHAT YOU USE, MAKE SURE THAT NOT ONLY DO YOU BACK UP REGULARLY, AUTOMATICALLY BUT YOU ALSO GET IT OFFSITE, YOU GET IT OUT OF THE HOUSE OTHERWISE IT'S NOT REALLY BACKED UP. OKAY? DOES THAT ALL MAKE SENSE MY FRIEND? Gary: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Leo Laporte: JUST BACKUP THE DOCUMENTS AND SETTINGS FOLDER. THAT'S IT. NOW BECAUSE I USE CARBONATE I CAN GET A LITTLE MORE GRANULAR AND I ONLY BACKUP THINGS THAT I KNOW I NEED. IT'S VERY EASY, JUST RIGHT CLICK ON THE FOLDER. I THINK IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT YOU DO THIS. AS STEVE SHOWED US ON AN EARLIER EPISODE, ACTUALLY I THINK IT'S AN UPCOMING EPISODE, ALL HARD DRIVES DIE. SOME

SOONER THAN LATER. THANK YOU GARY. TAKE CARE. WE ARE GOING TO TAKE A BREAK AND COME BACK WITH MORE OF YOUR CALLS. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: ALSO DEE- ANN LEBLANC IS HERE TO TALK ABOUT RUNNING SOFTWARE ON LINUX WITHOUT BUYING WINDOWS. STAY RIGHT HERE. [Pop captions down] [Commercial]

Leo Laporte: MANY PEOPLE DON'T KNOW BUT THE HOUSEBAND PLAYS THE ENTIRE TIME DURING COMMERCIAL BREAKS AND WE ALL GO CRAZY DANCING OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FLOOR AND THEN THE MUSIC ENDS AND WE RUN BACK TO OUR PLACES AND WE PLAY A LITTLE GAME TO SEE WHO CAN GET CAUGHT. BRIAN HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT YET. SEAN HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT YET. ONLY I HAVE BEEN CAUGHT. KATE?

Kate Abraham: I HAVEN'T BEEN CAUGHT.

Leo Laporte: NO YOU HAVEN'T BUT I DO KNOW YOU HAVE A CALL FOR ME.

Kate Abraham: I DO. OUR LAST CALLER OF THE DAY IS JAY AND HE'S FROM SYDNEY, NOVA SCOTIA.

Leo Laporte: HELLO JAE. HOW ARE YOU TODAY? [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: I'M GREAT. WELCOME TO THE LAB. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU? Jae: I JUST HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE DEVICE I BOUGHT. [Pop captions down] Jae: IT'S AN EXTERNAL DRIVE I BROUGHT FOR MY PC. I BOUGHT IT FOR EXTRA STORAGE. IT'S IOMAGIC AND IT CAN HOLD 250 GIGABYTE OF DATA. WHAT I'M TRYING TO DO, I'M HAVING SOME TROUBLE WITH MY PC, I'M THINKING OF REFORMATTING MY PC AND THEN PUTTING ALL THE INFORMATION OFF MY PC ONTO THE DRIVE.

Leo Laporte: RIGHT. Jae: WHAT I'M THINKING THOUGH IS ONCE I DO THAT AND I CLEAN OFF THE DRIVE, WILL I LOSE MY DATA ON THE EXTERNAL DRIVE? BECAUSE THE DRIVE SHOWS UP AS AN "A", "B", "C" OR "D" OR "F" ON THE COMPUTER. IT'S AN ENCRYPTED DEVICE RIGHT.

Leo Laporte: OH IT'S ENCRYPTED. IS IT THE DATABANK? Jae: ESSENTIALLY YEAH.

Leo Laporte: SO IOMAGIC SELLS THIS. THE IDEA IS THIS IS ENCRYPTED STORAGE THAT NOBODY CAN GET INTO AND YOU DRAG IT INTO THE FOLDER AND IT ENCRYPTS IT AND STORES IT THERE AND IT'S INVISIBLE. IN THIS CASE, QUICK ANSWER, YOU'RE FINE, IT'S PASSWORD PROTECTED. BUT YOU'RE RIGHT TO ASK BECAUSE WINDOWS ENCRYPTION DOES SOMETHING THAT GETS PEOPLE IN TROUBLE ALL THE TIME. THE WAY, IF YOU USE AN ENCRYPTED FOLDER OR DISK WITH WINDOWS XP, IT STORES AN ENCRYPTION CERTIFICATE IN THE FOLDER AND IF YOU WERE TO COPY THE DATA BUT NOT THE ENCRYPTION CERTIFICATE, YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO UNENCRYPT THE DATA AGAIN. IT NEEDS THAT CERTIFICATE TO UNENCRYPT. SO I THINK A VERY FLAWED SYSTEM. I GET CALLS ALL THE TIME FROM PEOPLE SAYING I DIDN'T KNOW THAT. HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW THAT? SO YOU'RE RIGHT, YOUR NATURAL CONCERN IS YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FORMAT THE DATABANK BUT YOU'RE GOING TO FORMAT THE MAIN HARD DRIVE, IS THERE ANYTHING ON THAT MAIN HARD DRIVE LIKE A CERTIFICATE TO UNENCRYPT THE DATABANK. BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS. THE DATABANK USES BLOWFISH ENCRYPTION

WHICH IS PASSWORD BASED NOT CERTIFICATE BASED SO AS A RESULT YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY AT ALL. AS LONG AS THE DATABASE ITSELF IS INTACT, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO REINSTALL THE SOFTWARE ON YOUR WINDOWS MACHINE AND THEN UNENCRYPT IT AS YOU HAVE IN THE PAST. IT WORKS GREAT NOW. BEFORE I GO THROUGH THAT PROCESS; HAVE A LOT OF INFORMATION.

Leo Laporte: BOY I DON'T BLAME YOU AT ALL. LET'S JUST GO TO THEIR KNOWLEDGE BASE AND SEE IF THEY SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THIS. IT DOESN'T ACTUALLY SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT--THEY REALLY SHOULD. IT DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING LIKE WHAT DO I DO IF I ERASE MY HARD DRIVE. MY UNDERSTANDING OF HOW IT WORKS IS THAT IT'S ABSOLUTELY SAFE TO USE, TO FORMAT THE HARD DRIVE, THAT THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE AN ISSUE AT ALL. I WISH THEY HAD BETTER DOCUMENTATION. Jae: THERE'S NOT MUCH DOCUMENTATION.

Leo Laporte: THERE SURE ISN'T. HOLY COW! WHEN YOU GO TO THE FAQ, IT SAYS SORRY THERE'S NO INFORMATION ON THIS PRODUCT AT ALL. Jae: NO.

Leo Laporte: THAT WOULD BE NICE. Jae: THE ONLY WARNING THEY GIVE YOU IS NOT TO FORGET YOUR PASSWORD BECAUSE THEY CAN'T EVEN RESET--

Leo Laporte: THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S PASSWORD BASED. THEY'RE USING HIGH QUALITY BLOWFISH ENCRYPTION WHICH IS VERY GOOD. THERE'S NO BACK DOOR. THERE'S NO CERTIFICATE EITHER SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT. Jae: I JUST SUGGEST TO PEOPLE IF THEY EVER DO, DON'T MAKE MANY MANY PASSWORDS FOR THE DIFFERENT VAULTS THAT YOU PUT IN THERE.

Leo Laporte: [Chuckling] DID YOU DO THAT? Jae: NO I JUST HAVE ONE.

Leo Laporte: YOU'RE SMART. Jae: YOU'RE BOUND TO FORGET SOMETHING.

Leo Laporte: YOU'RE BOUND TO. THERE'S AN EXPERT, A PASSWORD EXPERT WHO SAYS DON'T USE PASSWORDS AT ALL BECAUSE INEVITABLY WHAT HAPPENS IS PEOPLE EITHER MAKE THEM EASY TO REMEMBER IN WHICH CASE THEY'RE EASY TO GUESS CAUSE IT'S YOUR KIDS NAME, YOUR DOG-- OR THEY MAKE IT HARD TO REMEMBER WHICH CASE THEY DON'T REMEMBER SO THEY WRITE IT DOWN ON A POST IT NOTE ON THE SCREEN. [Laughing] Jae: MY METHOD TO DO THAT IS I TAKE IT AND PUT IT ON A DISK AND I PUT THE DISK IN A SECURE PLACE--

Leo Laporte: THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. Jae: THIS IS MY PASSWORD, THIS IS ALL MY PASSWORDS.

Leo Laporte: THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. IT'S A TOUGH ONE BECAUSE BILL GATES HAS EVEN SAID THE SAME THING. THE PASSWORDS ARE NOT THE SOLUTION. WE'RE GOING TO NEED EITHER BIOMETRICS OR THUMB PRINTS OR EYE SCANS OR EVEN SMART CARDS BUT PASSWORDS DON'T WORK. IN CASE THOUGH THAT'S FINE. YOU HAVE A GOOD SYSTEM YOU CAN FIGURE IT OUT AND WHAT WORKS FOR YOU. THANKS FOR THE CALL. NOTHING TO FEAR. YOUR DATABANK WILL BE INTACT. NOW IT'S TIME TO CHECK OUT MY FRIEND RYAN YEWELL, THE STAR OF YEWELL'S JEWELS, OUR FREE FILES OF THE DAY.

Leo Laporte: I MADE SENSE. JUST BECAUSE OF YOUR NAME. Ryan Yewell: IT MADE SENSE. IT MADE GOOD SENSE. IT WAS A GOOD FIT.

Leo Laporte: AT CHRISTMAS TIME IT'LL BE YEWELL'S LOG. STARDATE 2424. Ryan Yewell: THERE'S YEWELLTIDE. IF I HAD MY OWN OCEAN.

Leo Laporte: YOU'VE HEARD ALL OF THESE HAVEN'T YOU? Ryan Yewell: FOR YEARS.

Leo Laporte: BUT I THINK YEWELL'S JEWELS IS-- I'M SO SORRY. Ryan Yewell: IT'S ALL GOOD.

Leo Laporte: I FEEL BAD AND HUMBLLED BY THIS EXPERIENCE. Ryan Yewell: IT'S BEEN FUN. IT'S REALLY COOL. I LIKE THE ATTENTION.

Leo Laporte: YOU'RE A GOOD MAN RYAN SO WHAT'S OUR FREE FILE? [Pop captions up] Ryan Yewell: IT'S AN XP WINDOWS SIDE OF THINGS SO WE'RE NOT CONFUSING EVERYONE. ON THE SURFACE IT SEEMS LIKE KIND OF AN EASY ONE BUT IT'S GOT SOME COOL FEATURES. IT'S WORDWEB 5.00. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: WORDWEB 5.00? Ryan Yewell: 00, YES. THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT YES. I'M SURE THEY'LL BE OTHER VERSIONS AFTER THIS. BUT IT'S AN OFFLINE DICTIONARY SO YOU CAN DOWNLOAD IT TO YOUR COMPUTER, YOU INSTALL IT AND IT'S ALWAYS RUNNING IN YOUR TASKBAR AND YOU CAN JUST GO INTO ANY PROGRAM. RIGHT NOW I'M IN EDIT PAD LIGHT, AND IF I HOLD DOWN CONTROL AND RIGHT CLICK ON THE WORD INSTALLATION, THERE YOU GO. THE DEFINITION POPS UP. AND THE COOL THING I LIKE ABOUT THIS, IF YOU HAPPEN TO BE ONLINE AND YOU COME ACROSS A WORD THAT'S NEW LIKE "OPEN OFFICE" AND WHAT COMES UP WELL OF COURSE IT DOESN'T KNOW BUT IF WE HIT WIKIPEDIA--

Leo Laporte: OH NEAT. IT PULLS UP THE SEARCH RIGHT THERE. Ryan Yewell: SO IF YOU'RE ONLINE, IT ADDS THE FUNCTIONALITY OF MORE UP TO DATE WEB-BASED PLACES LIKE THIS THAT WILL GIVE YOU MORE RECENT DEFINITIONS.

Leo Laporte: BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO-- Ryan Yewell: YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE, YOU CAN BE ONLINE. SO FOR SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE A COMPUTER CONNECTED TO A NETWORK, LIKE ON A PLANE, IT'S GOT 150 000 WORDS. IT'S WORDWEB 3.

Leo Laporte: THIS WOULD BE A VERY HANDY THING FOR A STUDENT. PROBABLY EVERY STUDENT SHOULD HAVE THIS INSTALLED. Ryan Yewell: IT HAS DIFFERENT LANGUAGES YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM. IT'S A NICE LITTLE DICTIONARY.

Leo Laporte: HOW DID YOU FIND THIS? Ryan Yewell: I FOUND THIS downloads.com

Leo Laporte: YOU JUST SCAN THROUGH LOOKING FOR THE BEST STUFF. Ryan Yewell: THIS GOT A VERY HIGH EDITORS RATING. I THINK IT GOT FOUR AND A HALF OR FIVE. A LOT OF PEOPLE LIKE THIS PROGRAM. WORDWEB I NEVER HEARD OF IT, THAT'S WHY I WAS WONDERING. AND RYAN JEWELL'S ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: JUST GO THERE AND YOU'LL FIND FIVE SO FAR, EVERY DAY ANOTHER JEWELL. THANK YOU RYAN, APPRECIATE IT. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: STILL TO COME, WE'RE GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW YOU CAN USE WINDOWS WITHOUT BUYING WINDOWS. IT'S A NEW WAY, ACTUALLY IT'S NOT A NEW BUT IT'S GETTING BETTER ALL THE TIME. PUTTING WINDOWS ON LINUX. IT'S CALLED CROSSOVER OFFICE. BUT BEFORE WE TAKE A BREAK, LET'S GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE TO TAKE THE QUIZ. WE HAVE TO TAKE ANOTHER CHANCE TO CORRECT THE FIRST QUESTION, THERE WAS A TYPO. [Blank for boards] IN OTHER WORDS, DOES IT REPEAT ONE OF THE WORDS IN THE ABBREVIATION? GPL LICENSE, DSL LINE, DVD DISC OR POX SYSTEM. GET TO THE WEBSITE. GIVE US THE ANSWER. ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER. TELL US WHICH ONE. WE'LL BE BACK. [Commercial]

Leo Laporte: WELCOME BACK TO THE LAB. WHICH OF THESE IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER? WHICH OF THESE IS NOT THE SAME? WELL GPL IS "GNU PUBLIC LICENSE" SO GPL LICENSE IS GNU PUBLIC LICENSE LICENSE. DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER LINE LINE. DIGITAL VIRTUAL DISC DISC POINT OF SALE SYSTEM. AHHS, POINT OF SALE SYSTEM MUST HAVE BEEN THE ANSWER. YES IT IS. THAT'S KIND OF LIKE AN ACRONYM OLYMPICS. THAT'S FINE, I LIKE THAT. HEY WE'VE GOT A GREAT GUEST. DEE-ANN LEBLANC IS THE AUTHOR OF DS FOR DUMMIES. SHE'S NO DUMMY HERSELF. SHE WORDS FOR splunk.com. . IS THAT OPEN SOURCE?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: NO.

Leo Laporte: IT IS NOT? SHAME ON YOU.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: THERE'S A FREE VERSION AD THERE'S A COMMERCIAL.

Leo Laporte: THE I.T. PROFESSIONALS LOG ANALYSIS TOOL. IS THAT A GOOD WAY TO DESCRIBE THEM?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: COULD BE.

Leo Laporte: DEE-ANN'S GOING TO BE OUR LINUX EXPERT AND ACTUALLY I'M REALLY GLAD YOU'RE GOING TO SHOW THIS. THIS IS CALLED CROSSOVER OFFICE AND THEY MAKE A VERSION FOR THE MAC. IN FACT A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE ASKING IS IT A GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR SAFE PARALLELS? DOESN'T DO THE SAME THING THOUGH DOES IT? IT ALLOWS YOU TO RUN WINDOWS PROGRAMS WITHOUT WINDOWS! [Pop captions up]

Dee-Ann Leblanc: THEY'VE GONE THROUGH THE APIS AND THEY'VE REIMPLEMENTATION THEM AND THEY JUST KIND OF TEST THE HECK OUT OF THE PROGRAMS THEY WANT TO SUPPORT AND THEY KEEP TWEAKING IT. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: AND THAT'S IMPORTANT CAUSE IT DOESN'T MEAN IT WORKS WITH EVERYTHING. IT ISN'T WINDOWS, IT'S ONLY ACTING LIKE WINDOWS SO SOME PROGRAMS MAY IN FACT FAIL.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: AND IN FACT, ONE THING WE'LL GO THROUGH IS I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO FIND OUT HOW WELL THINGS WORK.

Leo Laporte: SO YOU'RE RUNNING, LET ME JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY ASK, CAUSE I ALWAYS

ASK LINUX EXPERTS WHICH DISTRIBUTION THEY RUN. WHICH DISTRO ARE YOU RUNNING?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: I'M RUNNING A FEDORA, FEDORA 6.

Leo Laporte: ARE YOU A FEDORA FAN?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: I'M A RED HAT CERTIFIED ENGINEER SO I'M VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE RED HAT PRODUCTS.

Leo Laporte: FEDORA IS KIND OF THE OPEN VERSION OF RED HAT ENTERPRISE LINUX. AND RED HAT OF COURSE IS ONE OF THE GREAT LINUX COMPANIES.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: INDEED.

Leo Laporte: SO IS CROSS OVER OFFICE RUNNING ON THIS?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT IS RUNNING RIGHT NOW. RIGHT NOW I'VE GOT THE WEBSITE UP AND I'VE GOT MICROSOFT WORD.

Leo Laporte: NOW IT'S NOT FREE IS IT?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: NO.

Leo Laporte: HOW MUCH IS MICROSOFT CROSSOVER OFFICE?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT IS \$36 OR SO.

Leo Laporte: SO IT'S NOT EXPENSIVE.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: NO.

Leo Laporte: IN FACT SPONSORS OF THE WINE PROJECT. CODEWEAVERS IS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YES.

Leo Laporte: SO IT'S THE SAME AS WINE OR IT IS THE SAME AS WINE?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT'S WINE WITH COOL STUFF ON TOP.

Leo Laporte: WINE PLUS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YES.

Leo Laporte: WINE'S STILL AROUND.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YES.

Leo Laporte: WINE IS THE WINDOWS, I WAS GOING TO SAY EMULATOR, BUT THAT'S WHAT

WINE STANDS FOR. WINE IS NOT AN EMULATOR.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT'S A SEMANTIC-- IT'S A RE-IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APIS.

Leo Laporte: SO CROSSOVER OFFICE WOULD BE YOUR RECOMMENDATION IF YOU WANT TO HAVE WINE WORK A LITTLE BIT BETTER. I GUESS THAT'S ONE WAY TO PUT IT. THERE'S A LOT OF DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS OUT THERE. YOU HAVE VM WARE AND YOU'VE GOT TO HAVE POWERFUL HARDWARE TO RUN THAT.

Leo Laporte: AND WINDOWS. VM WARE REQUIRES YOU TO INSTALL WINDOWS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: THERE'S ALSO [indistinct] WHICH YOU RUN WINDOWS IN. THERE'S ALSO PARALLELS FOR THE MAC.

Leo Laporte: THOSE WILL GIVE YOU BETTER EMULATION BECAUSE YOU'RE REALLY RUNNING WINDOWS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: RIGHT, BUT AT THE SAME TIME YOU'VE GOT MORE OVERHEAD. SO IT'S ALL A MATTER OF CHOOSING THE BEST TOOL FOR WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO.

Leo Laporte: WHICH PROGRAM YOU WANT TO RUN. IF YOU JUST WANT TO RUN MICROSOFT WORD, CROSSOVER OFFICE WOULD BE FINE.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: PERSONALLY I RUN OPENOFFICE ANYWAY BUT IF YOU REALLY HAVE TO HAVE MICROSOFT PRODUCTS THEN THIS IS THE GOOD WAY TO TRY IT.

Leo Laporte: SHOW US HOW IT WORKS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: OKAY. LET ME SHOW YOU FIRST, TO ME THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN A SOLUTION LIKE THIS IS GOING AND SEEING IF YOUR SOFTWARE IS SUPPORTED.

Leo Laporte: THEY HAVE A DATABASE IN THERE WITH ALL OF THE PROGRAMS THAT WORK WITH IT AND HOW WELL THEY WORK.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YES. RIGHT HERE YOU CAN SEE THAT THERE'S GOLD. CW IS THE COLDWEAVER'S RANKING. ADVOCATE IS THE ADVOCATE RANKING. ADVOCATE IS SOMEBODY WHO PSEUDO WORKS FOR CODEWEAVERS AND THEIR JOB IS TO KEEP TESTING THE APPLICATION THEY'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR AGAINST EVERY RELEASE, ALL THE BETAS, EVERYTHING.

Leo Laporte: SO IF I'M A MICROSOFT ACCESS ADVOCATE, IT'S MY JOB TO REALLY TEST IT TO SEE HOW WELL IT WORKS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: RIGHT, RIGHT.

Leo Laporte: THAT WOULD PROBABLY BE THE ONE TO USE RIGHT? THE ADVOCATE'S RANKING.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: I KIND OF USE A COMBINATION OF BOTH. YOU CAN SEE OFTEN THE

RANKINGS MATCH.

Leo Laporte: THEY SHOULD, IN MOST CASES I WOULD THINK.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: FOR EXAMPLE MICROSOFT OFFICE 2000 WHICH IS WHAT I'VE GOT INSTALLED HERE. IT'S GOLD FOR BOTH.

Leo Laporte: THAT MEANS COMPLETELY COMPATIBLE OR--

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT MEANS THAT THERE'S HARDLY ANY BUGS, HARDLY ANYTHING- - [Pop captions up]

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IF YOU LOOK ON THE WEBSITE, I'VE INCLUDED A LINK DIRECTLY TO THE DESCRIPTION OF THESE GOLD, SILVER--WHAT EXACTLY THESE MEAN. [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: I NOTICED WORLD OF WARCRAFT IS ON THERE AND CODEWEAVER SAYS IT'S SILVER BUT THE ADVOCATE SAYS IT'S GOLD. DOES THAT MEAN THE ADVOCATE IS WRONG?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: I DON'T THINK SO. IT MIGHT JUST BE A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION, A DIFFERENCE OF THRESHOLDS. BUT ALSO YOU'VE GOT THE GAMERS VERSION OF GOLD AND THE COMPANY'S VERSION OF GOLD, THEY'RE PROBABLY GOING TO BE VERY DIFFERENT THINGS. THEIR QA TEAM.

Leo Laporte: I THINK IF THE ADVOCATE SAYS GOLD, I'M GOING TO TRY IT.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: RIGHT AND THERE'S A FREE DOWNLOAD, YOU CAN TRY IT FOR 30 DAYS.

Leo Laporte: CROSSOVER OFFICE?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: RIGHT.

Leo Laporte: NOW IF I'M RUNNING WORLD OF WARCRAFT, I HAVE TO HAVE WINDOWS VERSION OF THAT GAME.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: RIGHT.

Leo Laporte: I'M NOT LOOKING FOR A LINUX VERSION, I'M RUNNING A WINDOWS VERSION OF THAT GAME. WELL SHOW US THE PROCESS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: UM...

Leo Laporte: WE'VE VALIDATED THAT OUR APPLICATION RUNS. WE WANT THIS. WE'RE GOING TO DOWNLOAD CROSSOVER OFFICE.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: SO WE WOULD GO TO CODEWEAVER SITE AND YOU CAN SEE THE LINUX OR THE MAC, AND THEY'VE GOT A SERVER PRODUCT. SO YOU CLICK THROUGH THE LINUX ONE. YOU COULD EITHER TRY IT OUT, GET THE FREE DOWNLOAD OR YOU CAN GO AHEAD AND BUY IT. MOST PEOPLE NEED THE STANDARD VERSION. THERE'S A THING ON

HERE, CROSSOVER DIFFERENTIATIONS, I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY WENT LIKE THAT BUT IT GOES THROUGH CROSSOVER, VIRTUAL MACHINE SOLUTIONS AND DUAL BOOTING. THERE'S ANOTHER PAGE, HERE'S THE DIFFERENCES IN WHAT'S SUPPORTED--

Leo Laporte: PEOPLE CAN FIGURE THAT OUT. I WANT TO SEE IT RUNNING. I WANT TO SEE HOW IT WORKS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: OK.

Leo Laporte: I DON'T BELIEVE THIS. IS IT GOING TO RUN A MICROSOFT WINDOWS PRODUCT WITHOUT WINDOWS? OH MY GOD. AND UNLIKE PARALLELS AND VM WARE, IT DOESN'T OPEN A WINDOW WITHIN A WINDOW, IT'S RUNNING AS IF IT'S RUNNING ON LINUX. THAT'S WORD.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: THAT'S MICROSOFT WORD. [Pop captions up]

Leo Laporte: AND YOU CAN TYPE. IS IT FAST? DOES IT FEEL LIKE IT'S-- [Pop captions down]

Leo Laporte: YEAH, IT'S NOT DELAYING, IT'S KEEPING UP WITH YOU. I'M IMPRESSED. SO I GUESS THE BIGGER APPLICATIONS ARE GOING TO RUN BETTER. I SEE YOU HAVE INTERNET EXPLORER. I DON'T KNOW WHY ANYONE WOULD WANT TO RUN INTERNET EXPLORER ON LINUX--

Dee-Ann Leblanc: BUT IT'S A DEFAULT THAT'S ADDED.

Leo Laporte: IN SOME CASES YOU HAVE TO. THERE ARE BUSINESS IN THEIR INTERNAL NETWORKS THAT ARE DESIGNED TO RUN WITH INTERNET EXPLORER AND NOTHING BUT AND IF YOU WANTED TO RUN LINUX IN THAT PLACE YOU'D HAVE TO FIGURE IT OUT. SO EXPLORER WITH RUN?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YUP, IT WAS INSTALLED WITH CROSSOVER OFFICE.

Leo Laporte: SO IT COMES WITH IT?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT WAS INSTALLED WITH MY WINDOWS 2000 STUFF.

Leo Laporte: DOES IT EMULATE WINDOWS XP, WINDOWS VISTA. WHAT DOES IT EMULATE?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT'S KIND OF HARD TO EXPLAIN. THEY HAVE THIS CONCEPT CALLED BOTTLES WHICH REPRESENTS A DIFFERENT HARD DRIVE. TYPICALLY YOU'RE GOING TO TELL IT TO BE WINDOWS 98.

Leo Laporte: THAT'S THE MOST COMPATIBLE I GUESS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT'S THE NEWEST ONE THEY'VE GOT. BUT WHAT THEY'RE FOCUSING ON, THEY'RE NOT TRYING TO BE ALL OF WINDOWS. THEY'RE JUST TRYING TO LOOK EACH APPLICATION, WILL THE APPLICATION WORK? SO THEY'RE NOT SO MUCH FOCUSING ON WINDOWS 2000, WINDOWS XP--

Leo Laporte: YOU DON'T GET THE OPERATING SYSTEM, YOU'RE NOT SEEING THE USER INTERFACE OR ANY OF THAT STUFF. HOW BIG OR HOW HEAVY IS CROSSOVER OFFICE? IS IT GOING TO SLOWDOWN MY LINUS OPERATION? DOES IT RUN IN THE BACKGROUND ALL THE TIME?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: I'VE HAD TO USE VM-WARE A LOT AND BOY IS CROSSOVER OFFICE FASTER.

Leo Laporte: VM-WARE WILL ALWAYS SLOW YOU DOWN. IS IT RUNNING ALWAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: NO ONLY WHEN I LAUNCH IT.

Leo Laporte: SO AS SOON AS YOU LAUNCH WORD, IT AUTOMATICALLY LAUNCHES CROSSOVER.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IF I GO UP TO MY MENU, WHICH IS INVISIBLE HERE BUT IF I WENT YOU, YOU'D SEE A WINDOWS APPLICATIONS SECTION AND THEN YOU'D BE ABLE TO DRAW DOWN TO MICROSOFT OFFICE STUFF AND THEN SELECT ONE OF THE OFFICE TOOLS. AND THEN IT'LL LAUNCH.

Leo Laporte: DO YOU USE THIS REGULARLY YOURSELF? DO YOU NEED TO?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: I DON'T USE WINDOWS PERSONALLY AND I HAVEN'T USED WINDOWS--

Leo Laporte: MOST LINUX ADVOCATES HAVE NO DESIRE AT ALL, BUT OCCASIONALLY YOU'LL GET SOMEBODY WHO SAYS I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO PLAY WORLD OF WARCRAFT AND THERE'S NO LINUX VERSION OF THIS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: SO YOU'D EITHER USE TRANS- GAMING TO DO THAT --

Leo Laporte: THAT'S ANOTHER WAY TO DO IT.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: TRANS- GAMING MOSTLY FOCUSES ON GAMES. CROSSOVER OFFICE HAS BEEN ADDING GAMES.

Leo Laporte: BUT IT'S MORE PRODUCTIVITY SOFTWARE.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: BUT THEY'RE ADDING MORE AND MORE. FOR EXAMPLE THIS IS CROSSOVER SIX. THEY'RE HOPING IN CROSSOVER 7 AND LATER, IT HAS EVE ON LINE. THEY'RE FOCUSING MORE ON OUTLOOK. I TALKED TO JEREMY WHITE THE CEO--

Leo Laporte: DOES OUTLOOK WORK ON THIS?

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YES.

Leo Laporte: THAT WOULD BE PRETTY IMPORTANT. WE'VE GOT EVOLUTION ON LINUX BUT OUTLOOK IS OUTLOOK SO IF YOU'RE USED TO USING OUTLOOK IN BUSINESS, YOU REALLY NEED OUTLOOK.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YOU'RE GOING TO NEED VIRUS PROTECTION AND OTHER TOOLS.

Leo Laporte: WAIT A MINUTE! CAN YOU GET VIRUSES IN CROSSOVER WINDOWS OFFICE?!

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YOU'RE RUNNING WINDOWS STUFF.

Leo Laporte: THAT'S VERY INTERESTING. YOU DON'T INTENTIONALLY SUPPORT VIRUS BUT IF A VIRUS DOESN'T MAKE VERY COMPLICATED API CALLS AND YOU GET AN ATTACHMENT FROM AN EMAIL THAT HAS A VIRUS IN IT, IT MIGHT ACTUALLY INFECT YOUR SYSTEM.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF THE BOTTLE. CAUSE IT'S NOT-- BUT IT WILL SAY YOUR WORD.

Leo Laporte: INTERESTING. SO YOU WOULD HAVE A MACRO VIRUS AND WORD WOULD HAVE THAT VIRUS. WINDOWS COMES WITH ITS OWN FLAWS AND THREATS.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: THE ONLY TIME I USE CROSSOVER OFFICE IS WHEN A CLIENT ASKS ME TO WRITE SOMETHING THAT HAS A LOT OF WINDOWS MACROS.

Leo Laporte: NO MATTER WHAT, IF YOU USE LINUX, WE LIVE IN A WINDOWS WORLD. THEY WILL COME A TIME WHEN YOU NEED TO RUN A WINDOWS APPLICATION FOR WHATEVER REASON. THIS IS SOMETHING TO LOOK AT. CROSSOVER OFFICE FROM codeweavers.com AND DEE- ANN HAS WRITTEN UP EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW. WE'LL PUT THAT IN THE SHOW NOTES AT labwithleo.com YOU CAN READ DEE-ANN'S BOOK TOO WHICH IS LINUX FOR DUMMIES. IT'S AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORES EVERYWHERE AND amazon.com AS WELL. FOR HER DAY JOB SHE WORKS AT SPLUNK!

Leo Laporte: I JUST SAY IT BECAUSE I LIKE TO SAY IT.

Dee-Ann Leblanc: IT IS A GOOD WORD.

Leo Laporte: THANK YOU DEE-ANN, IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU. WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A BREAK. COME BACK WITH A FINAL WORD RIGHT AFTER THIS. LAB WITH LEO CONTINUES. YOU STAY RIGHT HERE. [Commercial]

Leo Laporte: OK WE SURVIVED ANOTHER SHOW. I DON'T KNOW HOW WE DID IT. WE MANAGED NOT TO CRASH AND BURN. I HAVE TO SAY I SAW SILENT BOB OVER HERE PLAYING THIS VIDEOGAME ALL THROUGH THE SHOW, IT'S DRIVING ME CRAZY. I HAVE TO GO OVER. BOBBY YOU'RE GOING TO LET ME PLAY THIS? I CAN TAKE THIS GUY. I CAN GET HIM. I CAN GET HIM! THIS IS RESISTANCE FALL OF MAN ON PS3. YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET UP, THAT'S ALRIGHT. PRESS THAT, OKAY. OH! OH! I CAM JUMP! OH MY GOSH, WAIT A MINUTE, I'VE GOT THE WRONG THING! THIS IS FUN. I'M DUCKING, I'M DUCKING. HOW DO I SHOOT? THIS BUTTON? WHICH BUTTON? THIS BUTTON? OH YEA THAT WORKS. WE'LL BE BACK IN JUST A MINUTE OR ANOTHER 24 HOURS. IF YOU WANT TO ASK A QUESTION ON THE SHOW, I'M GOING TO JUMP AND SHOOT, WHOA! OH, I'M DEAD. IF YOU WANT TO ASK A QUESTION ON THE SHOW, JUST GO TO labwithleo.com. I DON'T KNOW ABOUT GAMES BUT I CAN HELP YOU WITH EVERYTHING ELSE ON YOUR COMPUTER. WE'LL SEE YOU LATER.

KATE, YOU WANT TO TRY? OH YOU'RE GOING TO ENJOY YOURSELF. [Pop captions up]
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