

TAZ Technology Report

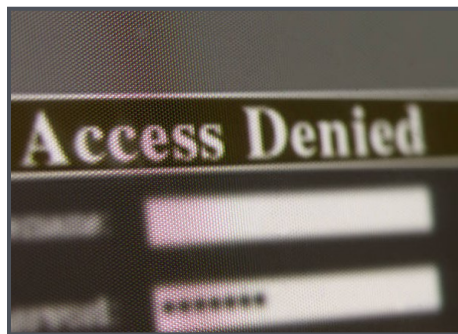
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Three Reasons to Cloud Connect Your File Server

Centralizing company files on a file server at your main office keeps data access fast and easy – for employees in that office.

Remote employees, however, may have a different perspective. VPN connections can be cumbersome to connect and slow to work on. Some critical files might not be available. Over time, difficulties with remote access cause employees to get out of sync with the rest of the company, leading to data sprawl for corporate documents and to critical content becoming trapped in personal silos.



Remote access frustrations can lead to big problems for your company data.

Business-class file sync services like TAZ Cloud Sync connect the central office server to the cloud and permits specific folders from the file server to be logically mapped to the correct users and team shares. This has two major benefits: Data from the file server is available in real time on users' mobile devices, and, as new content is created on a remote tablet or PC, that data is instantaneously synced back to the server.

Here are three reasons to consider cloud-connecting your file server:

1. **End data sprawl.** If users shun the cumbersome process of logging in over VPN, over time users can build up libraries of valuable work product outside of the company's central server. This data is almost certainly not protected at your business standards. File server enablement reverses this trend with bi-directional sync between the file server and remote users.

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Our Mission:

To provide the highest quality service and technology solutions for our clients, while pushing ourselves to greater knowledge and understanding.

Three Good Reasons to Cloud Connect Your File Server — continued from Page 1

2. **Keep people in sync.** Remote employees often complain about feeling out of sync with the rest of the organization. With file server enablement and business-class file sync, remote employees are now able to access all of their authorized files and team share content from any mobile device. Since field employees are the closest to the customer, it makes to have these critical team members in sync with the whole company and all the files they need to do their jobs best.
3. **Empower your employees.** Savvy, growth-oriented companies view their hyper-

connected workforce as an opportunity. Smartphones and tablets, even devices owned by the employee, can vastly improve the productivity of your workforce. The trick is to balance convenience with security when it comes to corporate data. Business-class file sync and file server enablement gives you the critical capabilities to protect your data, including fine-grained audit trails, per-user security policies, and remote wipe of lost or stolen devices. This way you can keep your employees happy *and* protect your company data.

File server enablement and business-class file sync can help you better organize your company and your data, while fully maximizing the power of employee mobility.

TAZ Networks offers TAZ Cloud Sync, a secure, business-grade file sync service, that keeps your employees working and your business information safe. Call us today for a quote or see details at tazcloud.com.

Microsoft Kills Clip Art, Promotes Bing Images. Hilarity (and Frustration) Ensues.

Microsoft quietly axed their clip art support back in December with all the fanfare of a two-paragraph blog post.

Instead, “Insert > Online Pictures” takes Office users to Bing Images that have been pre-screened for Creative Commons

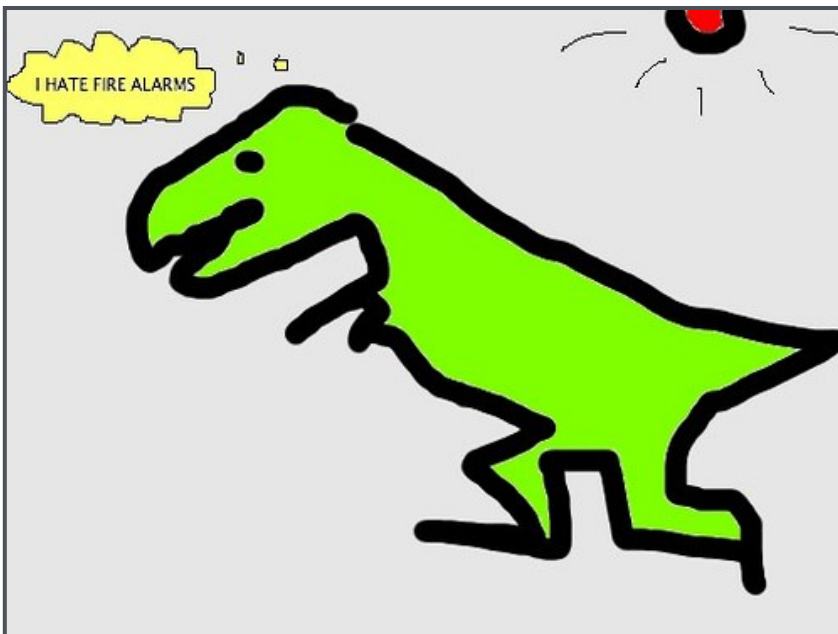
licenses, which generally allow the graphic to be used freely, without compensation to the creator.

While we’ve joked before about the bad clip art search results, the results in Bing Images are often not much better.

Since we talk a lot about mobile computing, we’re always looking for good photos of smartphone, tablet, and laptop use. The photo with this article is a search result for “laptop.” Seriously.

Looks like we’ll have to start paying for stock photos... or switch to Google.

This has been a minor rant by our resident graphic designer and layout artist, who thanks you for your time.



Actual search result for “laptop” in Bing Images. Not that this isn’t awesome...

The President's Corner – User Education Is a Must!

Ah, Opening Day — the true start of spring and summer for those of us that enjoy going down to a Tigers game and drinking a brew and eating a hot dog. It's definitely a great time of year, and I hope everyone gets the chance to just relax and take in a game or two or ten!



Do your employees know what data should be locked down?

Imagine if the game of baseball had no rules. Sure, players might know what they *should* do, but without enforceable rules in place, aren't they more likely to do whatever they can get away with? Or is it possible they could inadvertently hurt their team instead of helping it?

Likewise, your users need to be educated about what they can do and can't do on your computer systems. Do you have an acceptable use policy in place? Do you regularly communicate that to your employees? Having a well-known acceptable use policy in place could be the difference

between perhaps a lawsuit or not, or losing data or not.

One example could be allowing employees to bring in USB drives and take data with them. This is risky in two ways: USB drives easily transmit viruses that can get on your systems, and they are very easy tools for data theft and loss by a disgruntled employee.

Education is key. Have an acceptable use policy in place and be sure to enforce it.

— Tavis

Tavis Patterson is the President and founder of TAZ Networks.



Our Readers Ask: "Why Renew Our SonicWALL?"

We're making a concentrated effort to get all of our clients on an up-to-date SonicWALL maintenance plan. Sending out these quotes recently has led to a few questions, which we will answer here:

What is a SonicWALL renewal?

The renewal includes firmware updates as well as advanced technical support from SonicWALL. The advanced support is extremely useful on those rare occasions when something goes wrong that is beyond our expertise.

I thought our SonicWALL purchase included updates? Rest assured, your SonicWALL does automatically update against new viruses and other attack types. The difference here might be compared to the difference between the Windows updates

that Microsoft pushes occasionally at no charge, versus an upgrade from Windows 7 to Windows 8. Your SonicWALL automatically updates against new viruses, etc., but occasionally needs an "operating system" or firmware upgrade.

Why are you quoting a two-year renewal? If your renewal window was missed in the past, SonicWALL requires a reinstatement fee or a multi-year renewal to bring everything current. Often, the two-year renewal is a lower price than a one-year renewal plus reinstatement fee. In future years, you may be able to purchase an annual renewal. Two- and three-year renewals might also be available in future years, with some cost savings included.

Can we talk about this first? Absolutely! If you have a question that's not answered here, reach out to us at info@taznetworks.com or call 810-355-2280, option 1.



An updated SonicWALL ensures the protection your computer network needs.



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*Tell us what
you think!
Tweet to
@taznetworks
or find us on
LinkedIn and
Facebook.*



We're Going to the (Job) Fair!

As you may know, we've been looking to round out our support team over the past few months. While we have some great new hands on deck, we're still looking for candidates for at least one Network Field Technician position.

To that end, TAZ Networks will be exhibiting at the 2015 Livingston Regional Job Fair on Thursday, April 16, 3 pm to 7 pm at Crystal Gardens in Howell.

According to the Howell Chamber of Commerce, "last year more than 50 employers recruited candidates in manufacturing, retail, banking, insurance, real estate, health care, information technology and more."

Will your company be there? Do you know any customer-service oriented job hunters with computer networking and server experience? Please send them our way or come visit with us yourself!

As anyone who's ever recruited knows, finding the right candidate can be a long, exhausting process. Cut out some of the hard work and join us at the job fair!

Livingston Regional Job Fair
Thursday, April 16, 2015
3 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Crystal Gardens—Livingston
5786 E. Grand River Ave
Howell, MI

