

Cool New Software 2008

TRIAD Consulting –Gini Courter

This workshop is an old favorite with new content every year – a demonstration of free or cheap utilities, applications, and websites (and the occasional piece of hardware) that fill the gaps in the large applications suites. In this session, we'll take a tour of several hot new products that won't bust your budget and might make you a hero in the eyes of your organization.

Travel and Mapping Software

Microsoft Streets and Trips with GPS Locator

(<http://www.microsoft.com/streets/default.mspx>)

Microsoft Streets & Trips with GPS Locator Combines Streets & Trips software with a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver hardware component to create a planning and driving tool that turns your laptop into a real-time GPS tracking device, so you can pinpoint your exact location on the map at all times. (Approximate cost: \$129; \$39 without GPS)

MSN Virtual Earth (<http://local.live.com>)

MSN Virtual Earth shows detailed satellite imagery. Search for a location, search by category and location, get driving directions, view current traffic conditions for some cities, pinpoint your location with Location Finder. Combine with **Windows Live Local for Outlook**

(<http://www.microsoft.com/mappoint/outlook/download.mspx>)

Map your appointment and meeting locations directly from within Microsoft Office Outlook. Get driving directions, print detailed maps, find optimized trip routes, and estimate travel times. Receive reminders based on the estimated travel time. Send Outlook appointment location details to others—even those without the add-in. Locate restaurants, hotels, coffee shops, gas stations and other points of interest near your meeting location and map the best route. (Cost – Free)

Google Earth (<http://earth.google.com>)

Google Earth combines satellite imagery, maps and Google Search to put the world's geographic information at your fingertips. Google Earth puts a planet's worth of imagery and other geographic information right on your desktop. View locations around the world as well as points of interest such as local restaurants, hospitals, schools, and more. (Cost – Free)

Graphics and Photo Tools

Picasa (<http://picasa.google.com>)

Picasa is software that helps you instantly find, edit and share all the pictures on your PC. Every time you open Picasa, it automatically locates all your pictures (even ones you forgot you had) and sorts them into visual albums organized by date with folder names you will recognize. (Cost – Free)

Snag-It (<http://www.techsmith.com/products/snagit>)

SnagIt is screen capturing software. Whatever you can see on your screen, SnagIt will capture for your immediate use. Once you've taken your capture, SnagIt lets you edit, enhance, save, and use the capture for numerous tasks. (Cost - \$40)

PDF995 (<http://www.pdf995.com>)

PDF995 creates documents in the PDF file format. PDF995 supports network file saving, fast user switching on XP, Citrix/Terminal Server, custom page sizes and large format printing. PDF995 is a printer driver that works with any Postscript to PDF converter. Because it is considerably less expensive, it is a great alternative to Adobe Acrobat. (Cost - Free version includes popup windows and watermarks. Full version \$10)

PDF Converter 4 (<http://www.nuance.com>)

PDF Converter allows you to create and edit PDFs, but that's not why you want this software. PDF Converter converts PDF files to Word, WordPerfect, and Excel formats. PDF forms are converted into Word forms. You can set up a batch process to convert all the files in a folder. Developed in collaboration between Microsoft and ScanSoft, PDF Converter Professional is seamlessly integrated into the "File Open" menu in Microsoft Word. Short cut buttons and right mouse access is available within Microsoft Word, Outlook, Internet Explorer, Windows Explorer and the Microsoft Windows desktop. (Cost: \$100)

Zamzar (<http://www.zamzar.com>)

Convert files without the need to download software. Zamzar converts dozens of file types, and they're adding more all the time.

Survey Tools

SurveyMonkey (<http://www.surveymonkey.com>)

SurveyMonkey has a single purpose: to enable anyone to create professional online surveys quickly and easily.

Zoomerang (<http://info.zoomerang.com/>)

Zoomerang is online survey software that businesses, organizations and individuals use to create professional, customized surveys.

Desktop Search Tools

XI Desktop Search (<http://www.x1.com>)

A powerful desktop search tool that indexes desktop and network files and displays results instantly in a view window. Displays multiple file types, including Microsoft Office documents, Visio drawings, PDFs, e-mail messages, contacts, and music files. (Cost - \$50)

Utilities

Send-File (<http://www.send-file.com>)

Use Send-File to transmit PowerPoint or other files that are too large to be emailed. Guests can send files up to 5 mb in size; members can send files up to 1 gb in size, and membership is free.

NeatReceipts (<http://www.neatreceipts.com>)

The **NeatReceipts SCANALIZER** is a scanner and software solution that helps you get rid of the paper clutter and get organized on your PC. It converts everyday papers into digital format and stores them neatly on your computer.

RoboForm (<http://www.roboform.com>)

Roboform is the top-rated Password Manager and Web Form Filler that completely automates password entering and form filling.

MeetingWizard (<http://www.meetingwizard.com>)

Online scheduling and meeting invitation tool. Takes the headache out of scheduling meetings with people who are not on your network. (Cost – Free)

SendToFax (<https://www.send2fax.com>)

Inexpensive online fax service. Get your own fax number to send and receive faxes.

Ad-Aware 2007 (<http://www.lavasoftusa.com>)

The free version of **Ad-Aware 2007** is the most popular anti-spyware product for computer users around the world, with nearly one million downloads every week. Ad-Aware provides you with advanced protection against spyware that secretly attaches and takes control of your computer, resulting in aggressive advertising pop-ups, sluggish computer activity, even identity theft through stolen bank details, passwords, and credit card account numbers. If you want real-time scanning capabilities, consider upgrading to Ad-Aware 2007 Plus for real-time protection against spyware, all the time! (Cost – Free)

Looking for Best in Class training in Microsoft Office? Come to Office BootCamp! For more info or to register: www.officebootcamp.com.

For materials and links from this session, visit our web site
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