

Basics of Technology and Data Integration

This document provides a high level and understandable view of the unlimited possibilities for integrating your technology and data into a simple, seamless, secure and portable whole.

Technology has evolved to the point that any form of information that can be digitized (documents, audio files, video files, images, software, etc.) can be absolutely freed from the need to be tied to any specific piece of technology and to be accessible from anywhere at anytime.

In the past we were forced to think in terms of the devices (hardware) we needed to access the specific services or media we wanted (TV, radio, movies, records, CD's, DVD's, videodisks, telephone calls, slide projectors, tape decks, newspapers, comic books, magazines, books, mail, photo albums, etc.) in order to see the specific type of media we wished to access be it records, tapes, photos, CD's, USB sticks, mp3 players etc. In fact, most people are still stuck in this mode of using and implementing technology.

The Internet has and is continuing to change all that!

Current trends toward open operating-system-independent standards for all data types will not stop any time soon. Vendor-owned and controlled standards and formats are, for most types of media, becoming obsolete.

The consequence of this trend is that no matter what hardware and/or software and media you wish to create or consume, or what operating system, brands, or service providers you prefer to use your valuable data will always be available and can be accessed and/or created on any run of the mill current PC.

In the future all of your personal information, data, and media for both work and play will be accessible from a centralized, secured, and backed up location that is not tied to any specific piece of hardware or any specific entertainment or communications device.

That future is right now, but you need to know how to realize it.

Single media devices such as CD players, digital video recorders, etc. are quickly becoming obsolete as a well equipped computer, a laptop, and a single portable media device such as an iPhone is all that's required to realize one completely user friendly integrated system.

If you are still stuck setting the time on your VCR or changing that annoying cell phone ring you will need some help to realize this wonderful vision.

The basic idea is simple.

Don't think about your technology - think about what you want to do with it and how you wish it would work and let us do the rest.

The idea is simple:

1. One central computer and/or network with a simple back-up and recovery system in place, possibly using an external hard drive.

2. One or more monitors for use with both your computer and audio, video, and gaming needs, even allowing simultaneous use on the same monitor.
3. One optional amplifier (if you're an audiophile).
4. Only one remote (your wireless mouse!).
5. Convert all your media to digital format or start purchasing only digital media and create a simple system for organizing and backing up these files.
6. Integrate all your systems to share this data based on your moment to moment needs and desires.
7. Use your portable media device and/or laptop to access your data and/or media anywhere, anytime without worrying about losing anything or having others maliciously accessing your systems or data.

No more messes of wires, piles of remotes, and confusing counter-intuitive user manuals, interfaces, complicated set ups, or constant upgrading of components to render some new media.

Just one well configured PC with all the hardware and software you need and all your data safe, sound, and instantly accessible through a mouse!

And if you move or change service providers, not a problem. Everything in the system is designed to be portable and to not tie you to any specific products or vendors.

What's the catch?

You need to learn enough about how your technology works to maintain the system once it is set up, but as you are the one who decides how you want it to work and we are the ones who accomplish that for you even this process is stress-free.

You can become empowered to take ownership of both your technology and systems.

What are the limits?

There are none, only imagination.

If your robot vacuum has a wireless interface and you want to vacuum your house before you get home from surfing in Tofino just send a text message to it from your cell phone.

Warm up the house, start a pot roast cooking, cue up your favourite book, send email invitations for an impromptu book club meeting and receive all the confirmations in one email message sent to your phone.

Are we kidding?

No.

Take your phone everywhere you go and use your local service, even from long distances, update your blog from your blackberry, make a documentary with your digital camera, record a local band

to use for the sound track, edit it all together at an Internet café and burn it to a DVD back in your office for your son to email to the editor of that contest you wanted to enter.

Are we kidding?

No.

The best and simplest example of how data and systems can be integrated in way that creates unlimited possibilities can be demonstrated with your music collection.

No matter what audio formats you prefer to use at home you may still wish your limited edition vinyl or that bootleg Grateful Dead tape could be listened to in your car or on your laptop, even when you visit friends without an IPod or mp3-player friendly stereo or a rental car with only an AM/FM radio. No worries. Unless the sound system you wish to use is more than 15 years old or really cheap once you have converted all your music to mp3's and organized and backed it up it up the sky is the limit.

Take your entire music collection, including playlists everywhere you go and play it using an mp3 player, even your cell phone, on any sound system with at least one free input or a radio!

Simple technology - wireless transmitters for the IPod, or simple inexpensive cables are all that's needed to move your music (or movies) around with something as small as an IPod or Netbook.

All the work is done up front, can be automated, and is even relatively inexpensive to complete for even a collection of thousands of records or CDs, but will take some initial investment in time, money, and/or technology, or simply let us do it for you based of how, where, and when you wish to access your favourite ebooks, music, movies, comic books, etc.

Other examples

Did you know that your Playstation can be connected to your network and the Internet and all your movies can be downloaded or converted and stored on your computer or Playstation to be instantly played through your Playstation at HD quality. Throw out those CD and DVD players now!

Keep your favourite movies available for travel or visiting friends and relatives and amaze them when you interface your portable device and quickly have everyone watching a multimedia presentation of your hike up Mt Baker.

Wait, you forgot the file at home. Simple. Just connect to their wireless network or LAN and use your FTP server to quickly download the file you forgot from your home computer.

1 PC

1 LCD Monitor

1 set of speakers

1 laptop or Netbook

1 portable media device

1 well-designed system and some imagination

You don't have to learn every detail of how it works or everything the pieces do, only provide the vision for what you want, what it should look like, and how you want it to work. A system can be set up that isn't tied to any specific piece of hardware or software and can be sustained for 7 to 10 years before migration to new systems is required due to component failure or a need for more capacity.

The world really is your digital oyster

Let us show you how!