

RE: Business Thoughts

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Chuck:

I have a similar problem, 20 years ago, with a company, data secured on Mainframes, very limited in utility, and data easily manipulated using PC's at the time. Senior management resisted using PC's even though they were common place elsewhere for several years.

So I took work home to do, retyped the data onto my PC, then generated reports that everyone agreed was more useful compared to the mainframe data, where the system guys said they "couldn't do this, couldn't do that".

Problem was I spent 15 hours, some weeks 20 hours, of my own time each week doing it. After 3 months, the following situation developed:

- Management says "can you do this and that report"??, mainframe guys make a face, I said "no problem".
- Management says "when can you do it,"??, and the answer is "when I get home toniite because I don't have a PC" at the office.
- Eventually convinced the department head to have me go home early, "how about 2:00PM" so I can do even more company work on my PC.

On "month four", senior management gave in. My boss laughed and said I made them look ridiculuous since all of the important work is done at a employees's basement PC, and they even have to let the guy go home early to do it, and in their desire to safeguard security, someone had to duplicate everything on his system at home.

Some years later, I headed my own department there as well as taking over IT.

My boss told me later that if wasn't for me spending all that time doing the work on the PC at home, they figured I was serious, and show them the end product, that they can't imagine, I would be just another "whiner" like all the others they got rid off. The difference was I was willing to spend 15 hours of my own time at home for the first three months, instead of spending 3 months whining how ridiculous the place is. Senior management finally came to that conclusion themselves, i.e. how ridiculous they were.

Maybe you can do something along the same lines,. like, can we work from

RE: Business Thoughts

home to do this and that, since we can't do it from the office.

"Chu Rey" wrote:

Please direct us to another posting board if this is an inappropriate listing.

We're totally frustrated end users working with an international retail company. We work in marketing, advertising.

We work in a very secure network with unbelievable constraints. To protect the accounting department's databases we in the creative section are unable to perform basic operations. Downloading software. Adding the printers. Inserting usb devices. We are unable to start an online retail business because of "security." We cannot take online college courses. We are unable to explore opportunities using blogs. We are prevented from checking out retail opportunities on MySpace, and You Tube. We thought all these marketing business exploits would be basic, normal internet activities. Just the usual day to day operations in retail.

Here in this corporate office it's all convoluted passwords, secured emails, and very limited internet site exploration. In the past month the company was shut down twice because of hackers infiltrating the business. Suspicious packets? Security specialist are paid to come in and fix the compromised system. It's completely annoying. It's as though the creative end is held hostage not from the outside hacking violation but from the networking department.

A fellow worker thought why not just sign up for a Dsl service and run a connection into our department. The cost for this would be around \$40.00 monthly. We have all those spare computers, monitors, hardware, and so forth so the only cost to the company would be for a Dsl connection.

We would be completely independent from the corporate network. No more files sharing, print sharing, firewall security, changing passwords, and so on. We would have two to four computers running on this alternate connection. We would be able to do our work, unfettered, without restraints.

We are so frustrated. One would have thought the network administrators would have thought of this very simple arrangement. We just want to get our job done. Create an online retail presence. Get involved with the current technologies such as MySpace and YouTube. Get savvy with integrated social networking. We need to think 'out of the box' and somehow get out there into the internet ocean. This marketing pond we are housed within is becoming very stagnant.

RE: Business Thoughts

I would appreciate feedback on the plausibility of bringing in a line, independent of the corporate network, so we can fully participate in the internet retail experience.