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Repair or Replace Your PC?

by Gary Slager

► The unpredictable economy is affecting decisions you are making for your business, your job, your home, and yes sometimes your computers. In today's economic climate even a small decision like repairing versus replacing a computer requires more consideration. What is the wisest economic choice for you? Should you repair and upgrade that old computer that has become slow and having issues or should you replace it with a new computer? Let us throw some light on the decision path you must travel in order to answer these questions.

It has often been said for a typical home computer that if repair costs exceeds 50% of what the computer is worth you would be wise to just retire it and replace with a new one. However that is not a



good rule-of-thumb for computers that a business is dependent on. Many businesses today not only require computers that are running without issues but they must be fast and capable of getting work done efficiently.

The question remains - should you buy a new PC or repair the old one? It depends on many factors and we will walk through some of them. What is old? When was the computer purchased? What operating system does it have? How much RAM does it contain? How large is the hard drive? Earlier models have older operating systems, slower processors, lower amounts of RAM and smaller hard drive sizes. What most people do not realize is that the apparent speed of a computer has many factors not normally considered, including the speed of various motherboard controllers, the front side bus, video or graphics adapter, etc. I hope you get the picture... with a brand new computer, all of the individual components of what makes up a computer are all faster and more powerful.

Perhaps if the PC is just a few years old it might be worth investing some money into it, such as adding additional RAM memory. With more RAM the computer will not have to work so hard to move data around internally and the result is that you get your work done faster. The computer seems faster because it is more efficient at doing its job.

It is natural as the months roll by that your software automatically updates itself with new patches and security updates and the software requirements on the hardware increase. This phenomenon just never stops. Your old computer can be in like new condition but this natural process of software

demanding more and more computer hardware resources will have the net effect of your computer feeling like it is getting slower and slower.

There are other reasons for a slow system including Internet Security, virus and spyware software issues. The *CCS Computer Repair Center* is always busy assisting customers by removing malicious infections and repairing the damages it causes to their computers.



Repair or Replace?

The next question you must consider is how do you use your PC? Often a new PC is going to offer a greater amount of processing power for

the dollars invested. Another good question - what do you want to do with your computer that you cannot do now? A common answer is simply faster Internet surfing or perhaps just reducing the wait time for the system to finish a command or you may just need more room to store your data such as digital pictures and media.

The dollars cost to repair vs. buy new. The immediate cost to repair and upgrade will most of the time be less than buying new, but you are adding costs to an older PC. The payback is you can make it last another year, possibly more if you're lucky. If you buy new, you should expect to get a good four years or more out of it. With a new computer you start with a manufacturer warranty and all the components are new technology. Obviously the old saying of you get what you pay for has some value here.

CCS Technologies is here to help you with your repair versus replace decisions. We know how to assist you in making the best decision to insure that you get the most value for your dollars. *CCS* has a great reputation for offering quality service at a fair price. We have a store you can stop in or call to talk with a qualified tech if you ever have a problem. For 33 years West Michigan folks have trusted us to assist them with repairing and replacing computer equipment. Businesses literally depend on *CCS* to help keep their businesses going. You can as well. You will be glad you did.



"Relax...
we're on IT"

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- Microsoft Windows Vista Business with XP Professional Downgrade Preinstalled



It's Time for a New Computer.