



# COMPUTER TROUBLESHOOTERS

## Global NEWS

® December 2004

*“Local service,  
global strength”*

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*“Thousands of businesses  
around the world depend on  
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# Global strength

## PC Gadgets & Gizmos



Now we are into the holiday season, it is a good time to look out at what you could buy for your computer(s). There are many useful ‘gadgets’ out there for your home and your business.

### Home Users

#### *Graphics Card*

Graphics Cards boost the visual quality of your computer. Just because you have an ‘on-board’ graphics card on your computer doesn’t mean you are getting the best graphics you can. A new graphics card can increase the looks of games, pictures, movies and even the smoothness of scrolling down web pages.

#### *Speakers*

You probably have two standard speakers that sit either side of your monitor, but have you thought about getting more? You can get 5.1 (5 speakers and a subwoofer) “desktop theatre” for your computer. You can watch movies with surround sound on your computer as well as use them for your TV! 5.1 speakers also make quality of music on your computer amazing, and will greatly improve your listening experience.

#### *DVD Writers*

DVDs don’t have to be movies, they can be great for writing data to as well. 4.7 GB for a standard DVD-R has over 6 x more space than a CD. Great for backup, storage and you can even make your own full length DVD movies to play on your television’s DVD player.

### Business Users

#### *PDA*

Why not put the information you need in the palm of your hand? PDAs or Personal Digital Assistants are small PCs that fit in your hand. New models are extremely powerful and can be used for web browsing, e-mail, add on GPS navigation and some can even be used as phones. PDAs can also connect to other devices (including your PC) with wireless connections to transfer data.

#### *DVD Backup*

With more and more space being needed for backup, more and more CDs are being used for this purpose. You can now get Dual Layer DVD writers, which can backup 8.5 GB of data onto one DVD. That’s 12 CDs compressed down to just one DVD.

#### *Monitors*

LCD screens are coming down in price, and they are better than ever! New LCD monitors have many fancy features, such as doubling as a TV, touch screen or even anti-static and anti-glare coatings! All this on a screen that is only 1” (or less) thick.

Talk to your local Computer Troubleshooter for more upgrades, and how to give your PC that little boost it always wanted. Make sure that you get an expert to install any upgrades. Installing yourself may lead to problems or you not getting the full benefit from all the features.



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