

Your Urgent Action Required



Backup and system recovery: dated 13th August 2010:

Be pro active in safeguarding your computers data, the effects of not being able to recover data are bleak, at best severe disruption, possibly for days, worst case scenario bankruptcy.

In the event of a system failure it's imperative that you have the facility to restore the SOM data correctly. This applies equally to the small craft baker as to the industrial baker. Remember you can NEVER have too many backups when things go wrong.

For the larger businesses we recommend Multiple Mirrored Hard Drives (Raid system), or a Tape backup device, also backing up across the network to another server, possibly off site.

For the smaller businesses the cost to implement the above measures may be prohibitive. **However you do have alternative options to safeguard your data.**

If anyone is backing up to a CD we recommend you stop using the CD medium and change to backing up across the network to another PC, plus make use of a memory sticks for each daily backup. We suggest you purchase a number of small cheap memory sticks and rotate them (at least 3, but preferably one for each day of the week) properly labelled for ease of restoring. Merit will re-direct the backup script for you.

For added safety:

It's our recommendation you should also look at sending your data off-site. There are a number of companies offering (in many cases free) backup space, such as www.idrive.com we have tested the service offered by idrive.com by backing up 28MBs of SOM data to www.idrive.com and then restoring it back to a blank SOM database here in the office. I have to say this application works like a dream.

You get 2GB free which is many times more space than a small to medium company would require. Between 2GB and 50GB the cost is \$9.95 per month or under £2 a week. Between 50GB and 100GB the cost is \$19.95 per month or under £4 a week.

Other companies offering this service include www.jungledisk.com and www.mozy.co.uk

As a point of interest you can utilise the off-site backup for any data, not just SOM e.g. family photo's, important documents, in fact the whole drive if you had the need to.

Merit is not affiliated with any off-site backup company; the advice is given in good faith. You should do your own research regarding which company you go with. Merit will not be responsible for any issues relating to third parties.

Please be pro-active in periodically checking the authenticity of your companies backed up data,

BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.