

F. Y. I.

A Monthly Newsletter to Inform and Entertain Our Clients

A Little Relief During These Taxing Times...



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Income Tax Facts

It's tax time once again...time to file your return and pay up what you owe to Uncle Sam. We thought it would be fun to pass along a few interesting tax facts.

- ❖ The U.S. Supreme Court once ruled federal income tax unconstitutional.
- ❖ Federal income tax was first imposed during the Civil War as a *temporary* revenue-raising measure.
- ❖ The proponents of the first income tax proposed it as a tax on the wealthy (hmmm, some things never change!)
- ❖ The average American pays more in taxes than for food, clothing and shelter put together.
- ❖ The IRS employee's tax manual has instructions for collecting taxes after a nuclear war.
- ❖ The federal tax code has grown from 400 pages in 1913 to over 70,000 pages today.
- ❖ There are more IRS employees (106,000 in 2010) than troops in Iraq.
- ❖ Americans spend \$27.7 Billion a year on tax preparation.

The Worst Investment Ever

In a typical year, as many as 75% of us will feel the "thrill" of receiving a tax refund check. Recently, refunds have averaged just less than \$3,000. However, while it's hard to complain about a check with your name on it, there are actually a few reasons to take a dim view of this annual tradition.



The check represents an interest-free loan to the government. And, while there are still many who think a refund means they paid no taxes at all and actually received money from Uncle Sam, in reality, it means that more money was withheld from each of your paychecks than required.

By adjusting your withholding, you can avoid locking your money into a no-interest prison cell. Ask your employer for a fresh W-4, grab your most recent pay stub and last year's tax return and use a payroll tax calculator (search online) to guide your adjustments. Better yet, speak with a tax consultant.

Having a Financial Plan

Taking care of your finances means that however much money you earn, you keep a reasonable amount of it in order to achieve your goals. After all, it does not matter if you earn a fortune if you keep frittering it away. You need to understand your own financial habits, and one way of doing this is to create a budget for yourself and then make certain that you stick to it. Be sure to have a solid understanding not just of how much you are earning but also of your other assets — and, of course, of your expenses and liabilities as well. Having a plan is essential to achieving any goals you wish to set yourself, and if you are in a position where it feels as though your finances are no longer in your control, then you need to seek professional help as soon as possible.

Government Dependence at All-Time High

The 2012 *Index of Dependence on Government* was released last month and it should be a wake-up call for America. Published for the past 10 years by *The Heritage Foundation*, the Index tracks the growth in government dependence dating back to the early 1960s. This year's edition shows an alarming trend.

Among the most troubling facts:

- One in five Americans – the highest in America's history – relies on the federal government for housing, health care, food stamps, college assistance and/or retirement assistance. That's 67.3 million Americans!
- Gov't dependence jumped 8.1% in 2011
- The federal government spent more taxpayer dollars than ever before to subsidize Americans. The average individual could receive \$32,748
- Almost half the US population (49.5%) does not pay any federal income taxes
- 70% of the federal government's budget goes to individual assistance programs. That is up dramatically in the past few years

A Little Humor

This joke was recently sent to me by my 84 year old mother and I just had to pass it along...

A 6 year old and a 4 year old are upstairs in their bedroom. The 6 year old asks, "You know what? I think it's about time we started cussing." The 4 year old nods his head in approval. The 6 year old continues, "When we go downstairs for breakfast, I'm gonna say something with hell and you say something with ass." The 4 year old agrees with enthusiasm.

When the mother walks into the kitchen and asks the 6 year old what he wants for breakfast, he replies, "Aw, hell, Mom, I guess I'll have some Cheerios."

WHACK!! He flies out of his chair, tumbles across the kitchen floor, gets up, and runs upstairs crying his eyes out, with his mother in hot pursuit, slapping his rear with every step. His mom locks him in his room and shouts, "You can stay there until I let you out!"

She then comes back downstairs, looks at the 4 year old and asks with a stern voice, "And what do YOU want for breakfast, young man?"

"I don't know," he blubbers, "but you can bet your fat ass it won't be Cheerios!"

Monthly Quotes

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not."

– **Thomas Jefferson**

"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it."

– **Ronald Reagan**

"We contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle"

– **Winston Churchill**

MARK YOUR APRIL CALENDAR ...

April 1 April Fools' Day

April 6 Army Day

April 8 Easter

April 17 Income Tax Day

Nat'l Public Health Week – **April 2 - 8**
National Library Week –

April 8 - 14
National Park Week –

April 21 - 29

Jazz Appreciation Month

Financial Literacy Month

STOP! If You Do Nothing Else With This Newsletter, You Owe It To Yourself Read This...

Introducing the Long Awaited, One-of-a-Kind, Breakthrough Technology That Will Radically Change the Way You Manage Your Data Center

It's finally here...

-- Avocent's **Universal Management Gateway** --
is a multi-purpose appliance that represents a new generation of data center management technology.

The **UMG** combines the functions of:

- ❖ KVM over IP
- ❖ **Service Processor**
- ❖ Serial Console over IP
- ❖ **Rack PDU**
- ❖ Environmental Management



in a single chassis. And, when used with **DSView 4** software, you gain a total solution for secure access and control of any device with an interface.

Let's forget the sales brochure speak. Consider this:

1. A single 1U multi-purpose device that does everything – **no longer need to purchase different products; simplifies deployment; saves rack space; reduces operational expenses with up to 30% less power usage**

2. 40 **Auto-Sensing** RJ-45 ports provide Service Processor (i.e. iLO, DRAC, etc.)/KVM/serial connection & discovery – **connect anything you want; just plug it in...done**
3. Best SP support on the market- **auto discovery & auto management, including iDRAC6, iLO3 & Cisco UCS-C; up to 40 physical SP connections and 1024 SP's managed; one network connection for 40 SP's means port savings = \$\$\$\$**
4. 40 Concurrent KVM sessions & 20 additional shared sessions- **non-blocking KVM support means unlimited access when needed**
5. Local console port- **walk right up for local out of band access to not only KVM sessions, but, and this is BIG, Service Processor and serial sessions, too!**
6. UMG is also the data collection & monitoring appliance for **Trellis** (Q2 release)- **even more functions coming including facilities monitoring!**

I want you to take a closer look at UMG to see what it can do for you. Call or email me right now and I'll send you, at no obligation, a UMG Data Sheet that will provide additional important information.

800-500-1346

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