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ArcBITS Newsletter

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ArcSys Hot Tip

When placing a support call or email, it is always helpful to have a date, patient, provider, or any specific details. This will help minimize trading messages or phone calls for clarification.

100% Uptime-24/7/365

The concept of "cloud" computing is nothing new. The wizardry of branding something "old" has taken on the persona of something "new". Remote computing has been in existence since someone was able to throw a cable across the street and make remote computer access a reality.

There are several aspects, however, of what really defines "cloud" computing in today's world.

- Guaranteed uptime of 100%.
- Accessibility 24/7/365.
- Remote access from any pc.
- Failsafe backup.
- Multi-site backup.

When you maintain your own inhouse server, you realize that not all of the above are achievable. As your dependency increases on your computer system, the lack of any of the above may become a liability in terms of running your business successfully.

As with all things, there becomes a tradeoff between time and money.

ArcSys Inc. has entered into a contractual relationship with Fibernet

of Orem Utah where we can now provide this level of absolute solid reliability. What does Fibernet have to offer? From their website:

As one of Utah's IT pioneers, Fibernet first established itself as the resident expert in Internet solutions in 1994. In the years to follow, we continued to build upon a reputation of expertise with the creation of our national brand, NetHosting, in 1998, and with the 2002 construction of our Tier IV data center. Fibernet is the only carrier neutral facility to house all eight of Utah's major fiber backbone providers. Power to our data center is protected by multiple Liebert UPSs and Cummins diesel generators. Through blackouts, brownouts, and lightning strikes, these systems have never failed to provide uninterrupted power to our customers' data.

You now need to ask yourself, should I make the move? Consider,

- Is your server over 3 years old?
- Are your backups on site, solely?
- Are you uncertain how to recover data?
- Have you been down for over 2 hours?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, you are a good candidate for cloud computing. Call us for details.



Snowflake on an Iceberg



The march towards Meaningful Use Stage 2 has begun. As with any approaching deadline, the number of people who are getting anxious about compliance is starting to grow.

From healthleadersmedia.com:

The American Medical Association and the American Hospital Association say they support widespread adoption of electronic health records, but are asking for flexibility to meet the program's requirements.

With Meaningful Use Stage 2 implementation deadlines looming in the next few months, the nation's two largest provider associations this week asked the federal government for "flexibility" to meet the program's "all-or-nothing" requirements.

In a joint letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, the American Medical Association and the American Hospital Association pledged their support for the widespread adoption of electronic health records.

"However, we believe that the best way to move the program forward and ensure that no providers, particularly small and rural ones, are left behind is to realign the Meaningful Use Program's current requirements to ensure a safe, orderly transition to Stage 2," AHA President/CEO Rich Umbdenstock and AMA CEO James. L Madara, MD, said in their letter.

And, from Frank Poggio The Kelzon Group Kelzon-Group.com:

And keep in mind that all Stage 1 vendor certifications 'die' on 09/30/2013 for inpatient, and 12/31/2013 for Ambulatory. That means although providers can still attest to Stage 1 in 2014 (as late as September), they cannot use a vendors 2011 (Stage1) certification to do it. The vendor system must have passed 2014 test Criteria, which is what can be used for Stage 1 attestations. As correctly pointed out in the article as of this week there are very few vendors certified under the 2014 Edition Test Criteria. Why? Because the test criteria, just like the provider attestations, are far more complex and the criteria keep changing. For example, on July 14 ONC issued no less than 14 test script changes/revisions. That impacts almost 50% of the

test scripts and clients I have been working with had to revise test applications and redo some software. Here we are some seven months into the program, and three months away for a drop dead date. Clearly there is a 'train-wreck' a coming but ONC seems to be oblivious.

From the Arcsys perspective, the process is more rigorous. Our certification partner, The Drummond Group, advised us that the testing for Stage 2 will take 3 days (for Stage 1 it was 1 day). The process of entering test data could take 50 hours (for Stage 1 it was 4 hours). The documentation covering the

outline of testing is nearly a 1000 pages. The Red Planet software needs to show compliance with "user centered de-



sign" as well as identifying the Quality Management System employed for development.

During the process of certification for Stage 1, it was obvious that the bar would be raised under Stage 2. An example is that under Stage 1 a provider had to have more than 40% of all clinical lab tests incorporated as structured data. Under Stage 2, the percentage is raised to 55%.

But wait, there's more. A simple pull down list of 8 languages is no longer acceptable. The list will now be 477. Two new choices have been added to smoking status: Light smoker and Heavy smoker. Using a simple text box to record family history is no longer acceptable. This will have to be converted to a table and all first-degree relatives will have to coded according to SNOMED-CT guidelines. The problem list, which has been a table, will need to be re-coded according to SNOMED-CT guidelines, too. (If you thought entering a list of meds was time consuming, these tasks will take substantial time.) The entry of immunizations will now require the time of administration and the amount.

Certainly, there will be more to come. Stay tuned.