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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

CT is celebrating 20 Years this Fall! We want to thank all of our customers and friends for their support over the last 20 years. It has been quite a journey. We would not be where we are today without ALL of you! THANK YOU!



**Scott
Hirschfeld**

In November of 2007, when Google made the announcement that they were developing an operating system to power mobile phones of the future, many thought that they had finally overstepped their bounds. This was a bold move to say the least, but almost three years later it is quite obvious that the Android platform has been a success for Google.

Since Google "gives" the platform away to phone makers, many wonder where their benefit comes from. The benefit is two-fold. First, the platform has integrated Google Search, which drives searches to their engine, which nets them big advertising dollars. Second, Google operates the Android Market, where consumers purchase games, applications, and software tools for their Android Smartphone. This is big business when you consider that more than 60,000 Android phones are being shipped per day!

I recently switched Smartphones to the new HTC Evo from Sprint which runs on Android, and I have to say I am impressed.

Here are ten top features that make the newest Android phones great:

1. Voice Control – The Android has voice to text

recognition and it works well. You can speak a text or email and send it. So, if you are having trouble keeping up with your teenagers, just talk your texts!

2. The Market – The Android Market is full of games, applications, and utilities, just like iPhone and iPod users have come to expect from iTunes. Some of the programs pack some significant power and actually produce some real benefit. Other than the typical applications like Facebook, Pandora, and Weather.com, I am using a mileage tracking application, a slider keyboard application, and have tested a business card reader that works amazingly well.

3. Web Browsing – This sounds basic, but for those of you using a Blackberry, you will find that the Android phone has much better browsing capability. It works as well as a desktop browser, including moving video, and full display of web pages that often are crippled on other phones.

4. Screen Controls – Android allows you to control the zoom level of each screen with a tap, or with the iPhone-like pinch and expand or pinch and shrink type controls. This is extremely convenient when logging into a standard sized web-site. It has given me the ability to login to our CRM



TECH TIPS

Some of Scott's Favorite Applications

system remotely and get to all of the information I would like to see. My previous Windows Mobile phone only gave me very limited access.

5. Wireless – The HTC Evo Android phone that I have comes with Wi-Fi. This means that you can turn this feature on and use it as a wireless hot spot for your laptop, or a group of laptops. A few years ago this was unheard of because all of the wireless vendors were trying to make you pay extra for a card and another service plan. Now it is built-in.

6. Intuitive Controls - I'm not sure if this applies to all Android devices, or just my HTC Evo, but the controls are VERY well done. It doesn't take much to figure out how to operate this phone. The buttons make sense. After a short while you grow comfortable with how to navigate. This is a huge improvement over my old Windows Mobile device, and the touchscreen technology is much better.

7. Multitasking – The Android phone does a great job of letting you run multiple programs at once. Many of the older phones, and even the ever popular iPhone has very limited ability to do this. For instance, I can lookup a map location in my browser, check the weather, take a phone call, and then go right back to the browser without losing my map.

8. Notifications – Android does a great job of keeping track of things. It uses a drop down notifications panel to hold all of the notifications of new mail, alarms, missed calls, and anything else you want it to tell you

about. It also keeps track of the date and time of incoming and outgoing texts and calls very well. This was missing on my last phone, but comes in very handy when you want to know just what time your teenager sent you that text saying they were running a little late!

9. Motion Sensor – Okay, so you iPhone and iPod enthusiasts have had this for a long time. Android has it and it works well. Turn your phone sideways and the screen goes to Landscape. Use an application or game that uses this feature, and you will find yourself leaning left or right to make the application react!

10. Multimedia – The Android platform and the vendors who have adopted it have done a great job of implementing multimedia. My HTC Evo will stream movies to a mini HDMI port so that you can plug it into your TV and watch a movie. A little extreme for most of us! It will also allow you to take a full motion streaming video at your kids basketball game and stream it live to the web for their grandparents to watch! Pretty amazing stuff!

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SlideIT - Allows you to use a touch keyboard and slide the word out without picking up your fingers. It sounds simple, but this has increased my texting and emailing speed dramatically!

TripMaster – This free application is a great mileage tracker, that includes odometer readings that are required for accurate IRS mileage reporting. You can click a button to send yourself your mileage in an Excel readable file in your email.

CamCard – This very cool application takes a picture of any business card, does an Intelligent OCR on it, strips out all of the person's information, and puts it in the address book of your choice.

Fishin'2Go – This application uses the motion awareness built-in to your phone. Those around you might think you are crazy when you move your phone to cast or set the hook, but it is a diversion from a busy day to cast your rod... er, I mean phone... out over the pond and see what bites!

Windows XP Update

Microsoft is discontinuing OEM Windows XP Pro as of October 1, 2010. This means once manufacturer stock runs out, you will no longer be able to purchase Windows XP Pro with a new pc. It is time to begin to plan a migration to Windows 7. If you absolutely have to have Windows XP, there are ways to get there when you purchase new equipment. It will just be more costly and time consuming. Don't hesitate to give us a call to discuss this change if you have any questions.