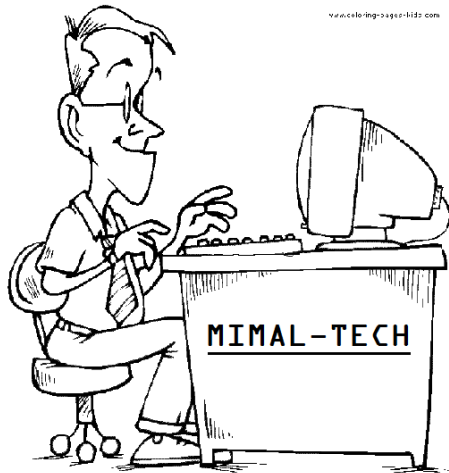


“Too Much Media”  
Leave Goldbricking to Heavenly Masons:

Media is all around us. It is with us from the time we start up our cars with surround sound and XM-radio as we travel to work. Media is with us throughout the day as we watch our favorite T.V. shows, download podcasts, and listen to our iPods. It is even there with us in the form of late-night television as



we gently fall asleep, only to start the vicious cycle another day. The truth is that MEDIA IS EVERYWHERE. As a manager of *MIMAL-TECH* (made up company), I realize that my 18 employees could view a YouTube video of a friend playing fetch with his dog, while listening to Pandora internet radio, as well as viewing a myriad of pictures of their friends on Facebook and Photobucket. With this realization, I understand that corporate internet access must be used with maturity and responsibility. There is no room for Goldbricking.

One of the biggest fears that I have for my company is that my employees could use corporate bandwidth to download and view media files. This is a concern because there are only so many Megabytes available to our employees through our company

internet connection. If my employees choose to use the bandwidth to download videos, they will be slowing the system down and causing others not to be able to do their jobs as efficiently as they would otherwise.

Because MP3 files are those formatted for music, and since nonesuch is required for the expedition of the work required by my company, I couldn't justify my employees being able to transfer those files. It makes the connection speed a lot slower and it distracts them from doing what they're actually being paid to do; WORK. I would want to have a block on the transfer and download of any MP3 files, because my employees aren't being paid to listen to music, and I can't afford to have



connection speeds slowed down. The term "**Goldbricking**" is used to describe any use of the internet while at work for purposes other than those required for the job. I frown upon Goldbricking, and my employees would be written up for such behavior.

I would also implement a block to prevent my employees from accessing sites with large amounts of streaming videos. These might include news sites and ESPN.com. Neither of these is required for their job, so, there is no need for them to have access to them. Applying this block will make it so that my employees don't take up the limited Megabytes required for the

research we do, and will also help to alleviate the issue of slowing down the system.

I realize that people have a desire to have cell phones with digital cameras to take pictures of their friends and families. They are capable of recording anything that goes on in the workplace, and/or releasing the confidential information with which we work at *MIMAL-TECH*. This raises a huge concern, as we deal with credit card information and other personal data about our



customers. I would feel very uncomfortable being recorded were I not to know about it. In order to deal with this issue up front, I would inform new-hires that cell phones are not allowed on the floor while at work. I will ask that they leave them in their cars, or in their closets in the break room. Because it is so easy to text and discuss other people's personal information, I will constantly remind my employees of the necessity to respect other people's privacy, and will not allow cell phones on the floor.

If ever I were to find out that an employee had recorded me without my knowledge, they would be fired immediately. Besides being an invasion of privacy, it's plainly disrespectful. It's never socially acceptable to take a picture of someone else

without their permission or prior knowledge, so why would it be any different for video recording them?

I would want to block pornographic material so that the computers at my company would be less susceptible to viruses and attacks. It is a huge corporate expense to remove viruses; one that can be avoided by blocking such material in the first place.

As part of the company policy, I would not allow my employees to check their personal e-mail. A company e-mail will be provided to them for work purposes, but any e-mail outside of work would be strictly off-limits. A lot of computer viruses come from e-mail, so that will be avoided.

I would not allow my employees to use their own flash disks from home to perform any tasks on the computer. There is a risk that they might have a virus on their home computer, and, by using their flash disk at work, they could spread it on to corporate computers. External memory devices would be prohibited.

In order to avoid having my employees distracted when they are supposed to be working, I will not allow Instant-messaging. This is essentially "computer texting." If an employee needs to speak with another employee within the company, they will be welcome to use the company e-mail, but, for the purposes of

maintaining privacy and avoiding distractions, I will require that my employees not Instant-message during work.

Conclusively, I realize that there are tons of media devices around us all of the time, and that I can't control everything. The purpose of restricting certain internet access for my employees is that I do not want to risk decreasing productivity for them or other workers. Also, I want to avoid having viruses uploaded to corporate computers (by way of external memory devices), and downloaded from the internet (spyware and adware). I would want my employees to focus on work, not on the latest update on Facebook. There is too much media around to distract us, and, were I actually to be a manager of a company whose employees had constant internet access, I would certainly implement these steps to tackle each issue along the way.