e-Shopping for Fall

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Now that you're on summer holidays and you have plenty of time to be Web-snooping for software and hardware to help your business in the fall, what should you be looking for?

Programs that are gaining popularity are remote control software packages like Citrix System GoToMyPC. Again, Microsoft does a good job here with its Remote Control Desktop feature and Windows 2003 Server administrators always have a couple of built in Windows Terminal Server sessions.

Lately, I've been using a program from a Canadian firm, 01 Communiqué (www.01com.com) called I'm InTouch.

Start by downloading, then installing, the I'm InTouch software onto the computer you want to be able to access. It is an easy install and you don't need to be an MCSE to do it. (READ: You don't have to know anything about your router settings).

Then, give your computer a name (EG: Elvis' Workstation) and you can log onto it through any browser by going to a secure website (https://locator.01com.com). Next, locate the computer then authenticate and log in with the definitions you gave it during the set up. Naturally, your PC must be turned on. The I'm InTouch's location server finds your PC on the Internet and makes a secure and private connection to your computer. Any data you view is safe and secure using industry standard 128 bit SSL encryption, the same level used for Internet banking.

I use I'm InTouch on a daily basis and it works like a hot damn; albeit sometimes slow. I liked the simple installation, the fact I can control my PC from a wireless unit, the improved access to my Outlook e-mail account and the price ($13.50/month or $135/year.). I really liked the free, 30-day evaluation unit and the fact that when signing up for the eval, you don't have to provide a credit card. GoToMyPC makes you supply a credit card, and then begins charging you when you don't cancel their evaluation.

How I'm InTouch Works