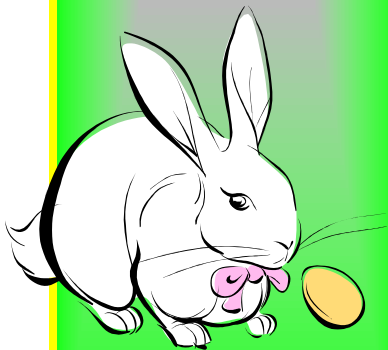


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*Inside:*

- Hardware
- Humor



# Vetech View

## Get the Most Out of Your System

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### Keep it Current

By Matt Sanregret

#### Current Hardware Specifications

Computer manufacturers are constantly improving their equipment. Faster processors are introduced almost monthly. Faster memory, video, and motherboards are also constantly being introduced along with larger and faster hard drives and larger and thinner monitors.

The good news is that these improvements typically come at little or no extra cost compared with their predecessors. In fact a business class computer purchased today is probably less expensive than a typical computer purchased five years ago. And today's computer will have 2-10 times the power and capacity of the computer from five years ago.

Here are the specifications for a "business class" computer that we would recommend for running your Advantage software today.

**CPU:** Intel Core 2 Duo processor. AMD also offers equivalent dual core processors.

**RAM:** 1 GB (for server computers consider 2 GB)

**Video RAM:** 128MB is fine for Advantage. Consider 256MB if you deal with other graphical applications or video applications.

**Hard Disk:** 80GB is plenty for your Advantage software and even large databases. Consider larger hard drives for an inexpensive upgrade if you are running other applications, especially graphical or video applications.

For server computers, we highly recommend dual hard drives that are mirrored. This means that each time data is saved to the hard disk it is actually written to two hard drives. This greatly minimizes the chances of data loss due to a hard drive failure, as two drives would need to fail in order for you to lose data. The popular term for this feature is RAID (**R**edundant **A**rrays of **I**ndependent or "*inexpensive*" **D**isks). This feature was once reserved for high end servers and high end budgets. Not anymore.

*Thought for the month* [The greatest thing in the world is to know how to belong to oneself.](#) - [Michel de Montaigne \(1533 - 1592\)](#)



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**Network Adapter:** 1000mps or Gigabit Ethernet adapters are common on new computers. To get the benefit of a gigabit adapter you must have a gigabit speed router or switch. This is a very worthwhile upgrade as you are upgrading equipment.

**Monitor:** Flat, Flat, Flat! Do they even manufacture large CRT monitors anymore? For the past year or two, a 17" LCD monitor was the best combination of size &/price. Now 19" monitors are almost the same price as 17" and the extra room is great. Wide screen monitors are also getting popular. Currently in Advantage only a few features are useful with a wide screen LCD. If your appointment schedule has more than six columns and looks a bit crowded, you should try a wide screen monitor and compare it to the standard screen.

**Operating System:** Windows XP Professional or Windows Vista Business. Windows XP Professional will continue to be the mainstream corporate product at least until the end of 2007. See the March 2007 newsletter for more info on operating systems.

### Tales From The E-Mail

Subject: FW: ... PRISONS VS WORK (UNCLASSIFIED)

PRISONS VS WORK

Just in case you ever get these two environments mixed up, this should make things a little bit clearer.

- @ PRISON you spend the majority of your time in a 10X10 cell
- @ WORK you spend the majority of your time in a 6X6 cubicle /office
- @ PRISON you get three meals a day fully paid for
- @ WORK you get a break for one meal and you have to pay for it
- @ PRISON you get time off for good behavior
- @ WORK you get more work for good behavior
- @ PRISON the guard locks and unlocks all the doors for you
- @ WORK you must often carry a security card and open all the doors for yourself
- @ PRISON you can watch TV and play games
- @ WORK you could get fired for watching TV and playing games
- @ PRISON you get your own toilet
- @ WORK you have to share the toilet with some people who pee on the seat
- @ PRISON they allow your family and friends to visit
- @ WORK you aren't even supposed to speak to your family
- @ PRISON all expenses are paid by the taxpayers with no work required
- @ WORK you get to pay all your expenses to go to work, and they deduct taxes from your salary to pay for prisoners
- @ PRISON you spend most of your life inside bars wanting to get out
- @ WORK you spend most of your time wanting to get out and go inside bars
- @ PRISON you must deal with sadistic wardens
- @ WORK they are called managers

THERE IS SOMETHING SERIOUSLY WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE!!!!  
Now get back to work. You're not getting paid to check emails.

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We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
[www.vet-software.com](http://www.vet-software.com)