



Seminar highlights use and abuse

IT consultancy RAMSAC is to host a free seminar to highlight the issues of IT misuse. The company warns that insufficient acceptable usage policies, and a lack of policing of the content of PCs and servers, means that company directors leave themselves open to prosecution.

Speaking at the event will be Keith Potter, Employment Specialist at Stevens & Bolton Solicitors, who will discuss the legal implications of failing to implement IT usage policies. Robert May, RAMSAC's Managing Director, will talk about how to create and implement these policies; as well as good practice for IT managers and software that can help companies police their systems.

"Internet misuse goes far beyond staff simply wasting time at work," explains Robert May. "Companies are now legally obliged to stop serious incidents of Internet abuse such as storing illegal pornography. The law fixes criminal responsibility on companies that own and service the systems. Unless firms can prove they have taken reasonable steps to stop illegal material from being stored on their systems, prosecutions and even jail sentences could follow."

"Companies that pay lip service to employee Internet and email usage could find themselves in serious trouble," adds May. "Strict IT usage policies must be implemented along with clear, unambiguous disciplinary guidelines if firms want to avoid legal claims and maintain productivity. This isn't about bosses being killjoys, this is about companies acting responsibly, showing consideration to all members of staff."

The seminar will be held on the 8th July at 5.30pm. Anyone interested in attending should contact Melanie Wilcock, RAMSAC's Events Coordinator at melanie.wilcock@ramsac.com.

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