



e-Tips Newsletter

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Firefox Web Browser Is Better Than Internet Explorer



Please keep in mind that because of the volume of e-mail we receive and the fact that we are volunteering our time and this free newsletter, we can't routinely answer individual questions by phone or e-mail, or consult on individual problems or purchasing decisions.

When one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us.
Alexander Graham Bell

Love does not begin and end the way we seem to think it does. Love is a battle, love is a war; love is a growing up.

James A. Baldwin



ADVANTAGE SOFTWARE

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Microsoft's Internet Explorer Web browser is used by more than 90% of Windows users, but a tiny upstart is nipping at its heels. There are important reasons that you should find out why.

IE has been built into the Windows operating system. It seems that almost every day there is news of security holes and a corresponding Windows update attempting to patch these flaws used by hackers, virus writers and spyware pushers to attack your computer. And only recently has IE had a pop-up ad blocker option.

Many people in the know consider Firefox to be a better browser. It is a free program available for download at www.mozilla.org. It has many user-friendly features that Microsoft has not matched.

Firefox has been downloaded over 50 million times. It's spreading like wildfire. There are many happy people using it daily. I've been using it for months and recommend that you check it out as well.

Firefox isn't completely secure, but it has had way less security problems than Internet Explorer. It also has better privacy than IE. One of the reasons is that it sits in a software layer above the operating system, whereas IE lives deep in the bowels of your Windows operating system making any security breaches much more lethal and potentially dangerous.

Firefox has a better built-in pop-up ad blocker than IE. Also, my favorite feature of Firefox is tabbed browsing. You can open as many Web pages you want at once. The keyboard shortcut for this is CTRL-T. Then the Web pages appear in tabs much like when you have multiple transcript windows open in Eclipse. You can even set it up so that you can open multiple bookmarks inside tabbed Web windows. So if there are Websites you visit on a regular basis, you can open them all at once in various tabs.

Firefox also has a search box up on the top row where it's super easy to type in Web searches which search Google. Google is also the default home page for Firefox.

Continued on page 6

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- 6. Total Eclipse Overview

**For more details on specific tutorials,
visit Keith's website at:
<http://www.kvincent.com>**

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Speaker Table Accessible in Globaling Dialogue

By Keith Vincent



This falls in the category of "Good Things We Forget." In a recent development version of Total Eclipse, Jeremy just added some nifty shortcuts to the globaling dialogue. F3 inserts {Q}, F4 inserts {A}, Ctrl period inserts {.} and Ctrl comma inserts {,} and Ctrl slash inserts {?} These certainly make it easier to create entries that involve paragraphing and punctuation.

I also asked him to have F2 open the Speaker Table within the globaling dialogue, just to make it easier to insert a speaker. Here's his reply: "I can do even better than that. Here, wait, let me wave my magic wand... * POOF * There! It's not only done, but it's done retroactively so that it is magically implemented in previous versions dating back several years!"

So if you haven't tried it out, give it a shot. The next time you have the globaling dialogue open to create a speaker entry, press F2. If you're creating one more global for a speaker who's already on the list, just pick the speaker. If not, just type in the MS. SMITH or MR. JONES or whatever and press Enter. Of course, you don't have to use F2; you can just type {S:MS. SMITH}. It just takes less steps to use the F2 method

Continue to page 8 for another great tip from Keith



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Eclipse e-Power Workshop Agenda
Beginning & Intermediate/Advanced Sessions Offered
Earn up to 1.8 CEUs

Day 1: Registration is at 8:00 a.m. Sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. Sessions end at 4:00 p.m.

Lunch is on your own from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. (all 3 days)

Topics will include: (joint session) Overview of Total Eclipse CAT Software

Exciting New Technologies for Court Reporters

Days 2-3 concurrent sessions: Registration is at 8 a.m. Sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. Sessions end at 4 p.m.

Beginning Sessions: Speaker Wil Wilcox (No more than 30 per session)

Topics include:

Day 2

- User Setting
- Efficient Editing
- Auto Replacements
- Realtime Transcription
- Block Files
- Auto Indexing
- Form Fields

Day 3

- Hyperkeys
- Macros
- Dictionary Entries
- Number Conversions
- Translation Issues
- Audio Recordings

All topics are time permitting and may vary slightly.

Intermediate/Adv. Sessions: Speaker Keith Vincent (No more than 30 per session)

Topics include:

Day 2

- User Settings
- Paragraph & Document Settings
- Automatic Number Conversions
- Efficient Editing
- Hyperkeys
- Macros
- Auto Replacements

Day 3

- Form Fields
- Auto Indexing
- Realtime Transcription
- Audio Recording
- Dictionary Entries
- Editing from the steno keyboard

CEU Credits: NCRA/Texas paperwork/forms will be given to each attendee who needs CEUs as well as a Certificate(s) of Completion. Attendees are responsible to submit forms and any fees to NCRA and/or the State of Texas. Each day will have 6 hours of classroom time.

Total Eclipse e-Power Workshops

REGISTRATION FORM

San Diego, CA June 3-5, 2005

Sessions: Beginning Inter/Advanced

Fees: 1 day: \$195.00 2 days: \$325.00 3 days: \$400.00

Students and Scopist save \$100 off 3-day registration

Days Attending: Friday Saturday Sunday

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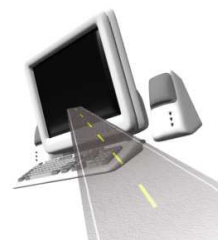
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Continued from page 1 (Wil Wilcox)

There are a couple drawbacks of using Firefox in that some Websites have been optimized for Internet Explorer and don't display correctly, but even this can be overcome. Whenever I encounter one of these, which is rare, I just open it up in IE instead. Or there is even an update called IEView available for Firefox that you can download from <http://ieview.mozdev.org/> that adds an option called "Open link target in IE." After installing the IEView extension, if you encounter an incompatible site, just right click anywhere on the page and select "View this page in IE" and up it will pop in IE.

To sum up, my top ten reasons for using Firefox Over Internet Explorer are:

1. Most spyware is programmed to attack your computer when using IE. By using Firefox you will find much less spyware on your computer.
2. Better pop-up ad blocking.
3. A wonderful download manager.
4. Tabbed Web browsing, a much better way of managing multiple open windows.
5. Integrated Search Engine search window.
6. More user-friendly options, easier to configure.
7. Faster Response. Web pages open faster in Firefox than IE.
8. Better Security. Does not support ActiveX controls which is the number one security flaw of IE.
9. Less Cluttered Interface. Less buttons taking up space allowing for more of each Web page to be viewed.
10. Smaller Download. Firefox is one lean, mean browsing machine.



Firefox is my current favorite Web browser. This young upstart does a better job than Internet Explorer.



Total Eclipse 3-Day e-Power Workshop

June 3-5, 2005

SAN DIEGO, CA

Holiday Inn—Mission Valley Stadium

Cancellation Policy: A refund will be given minus \$35.00 administration fee for cancellations made on or before 15 DAYS of the event. NO REFUND/CREDIT/TRANSFER will be offered for cancellations made after the said 15 DAYS. ASI training certificates will be accepted but NO REFUNDS will be offered on such certificates. Your registration will be transferable to credit someone else to attend in your place the event in which you originally registered for.

e-Power Workshops in the works:

Houston, TX—October, 2005

Burbank, CA—November, 2005

Maui, HI—October 2006**DISCLAIMER:**

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A First StenoCast Experience—By Keith Vincent

I first heard of the StenoCast X1 and X7 wireless realtime products when a post card arrived in the mail. Realtime without wires? Sounded good to me.

As it turns out, I had just recently installed a USB adapter for Bluetooth devices. When I got the StenoCast X1 for my writer, I opened “My Bluetooth Places” and searched for the X1. Connected to Comm 8, it said. I opened my CAT software and changed the writer setting to Comm 8. Now my writer cable can just stay in my steno case.

The StenoCast X7 connects to the reporter’s computer. There’s nothing to install. Just connect it to a serial port and give it power. I connected it to the serial port that I used to use for my writer. Now I don’t need to drag out a PC card or USB adapter to get a second serial port, nor do I have to string a cable from my computer to an attorney’s computer.

Setting up the receiving computer was easy, too. The attorney was really hooked on realtime, but Bluetooth was not part of his setup. So we couldn’t use what he already had available. We needed a Bluetooth receiver, and that’s where the StenoCast EZ Receiver came into play. I just plugged it into the serial port that he normally uses for realtime cables. There was no extra software to install or configure, and nothing to change in his realtime browser. Worked like magic!

Do I miss sitting at the corner of some crowded table, just so I can run cables to other computers? Not at all. Do I miss wires that get tangled at my feet or among exhibits? Not at all. Do I miss having my own computer jerked by someone who tries to walk away before they’re unhooked? Not at all.

You know how some things you just put up with, but you’re relieved when you can get rid of them? Realtime wiring is definitely one of those things.

If you'd like to learn more about these products, check out the StenoCast pages at my website. Here's a link for your convenience:

<http://kvincent.com/html/stenocast.html>