



FROM BEHIND THE SERVICE COUNTER

This month I'd like to discuss the performance quotient or "how fast can your computer go"?

Every once in a while we speak with a customer who is concerned about their computer speed. Not the day-to-day speed issues caused by faulty hardware or the dreaded virus. The speed issues that plague the already over endowed system owner who wants to achieve nirvana.

We're talking about tweaking the huge towers already crammed with hundreds of cooling fans and water cooled CPU towers, tons of RAM, a major array of hard drives, etc. These few are obsessed with power and speed. Some legitimately need it, some just like it, but most are way over equipped and still want more!

Back on the ground, after hearing about these behemoth systems the everyday man on the street has to pause and wonder whether he is ill-equipped... to which I would respond thusly; You can buy a Lamborghini for around \$200,000. You can buy a Dodge Viper for around \$90,000. Both travel faster than the speed limit on the Queensway. If you want to race on your own private race track then the investment may result in improved performance but if you want to use the public highways, then not unlike the internet, you will be restricted by the legal speed limit on the roads or for the sake of this example, the speed of your internet connection and even that will be restricted by your Internet providers abilities and your target website or friend at the end of the wire.

For most average end users who are using their systems to read their email, surf the web, write letters or reports, work with spreadsheets or presentations for school or work, today's computers have long since moved into the Viper performance comparison. A decent *upgradeable* refurbished computer will more than likely provide as much computer muscle as you'll ever need.

And now for the disclaimer: As I write this, more and more software and games are becoming more adept at using the new duo and quad processors that the newer systems offer. It's a bit of a push from the backside to move you into newer hardware. Typically if your needs reach the level that requires new technology, you'll know about it. The concept of buying to protect yourself for the future is completely misplaced. By the time the future is here, the whole platform on which we work will have changed and all you'll have is a more expensive but still outdated computer.

Don't sell your soul to the demons of speed. Know what you want to do with your computer and buy accordingly.

And have a great computing experience!

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