

## FROM BEHIND THE SERVICE COUNTER

The truth behind the "Fix-it Stick".

The Fix-It USB stick is a USB drive with embedded software that you can either boot from or run from a Windows system. It purports to remove viruses and glitches at the boot level of your hard drive and 88% of users report great results.

The other 12% report issues with blue screens of death, non-booting PCs and most citing nothing of note being done to their PC.

At the going price of \$60 it's not a bad deal but will it replace the expertise of a human specialist? Not likely. Especially given that the face of the viruses changes every day and new ingenious methods of making your life miserable cannot always be fixed by a stick that hasn't been updated.

We originally toyed with the thought of trying one else and then the reviews showing client issues began to pop up. As usual the cyborg package isn't intuitive and cannot differentiate between a file that is an infected, a file that looks like its infected and a file that is real data. Making a comprehensive image backup of any drive that is to be treated is highly recommended.

Of course, (and you shouldn't expect anything less from us) we suggest that you bring your sick system to us to avoid any hiccups or headaches. That's why you pay us the big bucks (but only once in a while).

In the meantime, safe computing out there as we gear up for December. Ho Ho Ho.

Harpy Computing! Harley Bloom Bloom MicroTech