



**May 2008**

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### **New Core Data Center**

The Office of the CIO is pleased to announce that work is in full swing on our new Core Data Center located in the 501 Building. We are anticipating completion in early June, and Network Services equipment currently in the building will be relocated to this new facility. The data center features secure access to the room and cabinets, including cameras at all entrances; separate PDUs with backup; and redundant metered power and gigabit connectivity to the core network in each cabinet. It was designed following BICSI best practices and industry standards by Don Phares who is a BICSI Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD), RCDD/Network Transport Systems (NTS) Specialist and RCDD/Outside Plant (OSP) Specialist. A multitude of other OCIO staff have participated in getting this data center completed and ready for the move.

We are excited about the progress this new data center will bring to the State of Nebraska. Over the next few weeks you will be receiving individual agency information from us such as checklists, etc. to prepare for the move. If you would like additional information, please contact Annie King ([annie.king@nebraska.gov](mailto:annie.king@nebraska.gov)) or Don Phares ([don.phares@nebraska.gov](mailto:don.phares@nebraska.gov)).

### **Alltel Equipment Activation Assistance**

Have you experienced difficulty when activating your Alltel cellular phone during upgrade or new service? In order to better assist our customers, Alltel has made a change in their contact number. Previously you were asked to call 1-800-Alltel-1, this number is has been changed to 877/501-3813. Choosing Option 1 and following the instructions will reach a live person at National Accounts who will assist you with activation. This person will ask you for your company name and your mobile number. To assist you, the company name you should provide is State of Nebraska, Office of the CIO. Option 2 will provide an opportunity to activate your equipment automatically. Please note the OCIO is providing this information as an added convenience.

Please don't hesitate to contact our office for assistance with activations. You can contact Norma White at 402/471-3562 or Susan Dodds at 402/471-6391.

[Norma.White@Nebraska.gov](mailto:Norma.White@Nebraska.gov)

[Susan.Dodds@Nebraska.gov](mailto:Susan.Dodds@Nebraska.gov)

## Looking for ways to stretch your training

# Dollars!

### Computer Based Training could be the solution you're looking for!

For \$75.00 per user you get unlimited access to over 3,000 courses until December 31, 2008. Certification prep materials and mentoring are available on a variety of topics.

To put this in perspective – no one is offering classroom training at \$75.00 per person. The SkillPort catalog contains courses on all active Microsoft suites in addition to other end user topics. A large number of IT professional and business development (management, communication, etc.) courses are available. Most courses are equipped with audio and some simulation.

Migrating to Outlook or upgrading to Office Suite 2007? The CBT application course offerings have you covered. Use the URL below to see what's available in the SkillSoft catalog <http://www.skillport.com/catalog/default.asp>

To learn more or to sign up contact Judy at, 402/471-7732 or [judy.davidson-whitehead@nebraska.gov](mailto:judy.davidson-whitehead@nebraska.gov)

### Computer Training Lab

Need a place to hold your computer or online training classes? The OCIO training lab is available for \$300.00 per day (half day rates are also available). The lab contains 12 student stations, plus an instructor's station and a projector. Assistance with loading training software or other setup needs are available at an additional charge. The training lab is located in the lower level of the Nebraska State Office Building.

Is classroom training on applications such as Word 2007, Excel 2007, etc. held in the training lab? Application training courses can be scheduled by request. There are minimum student requirements that must be met in order for classes to run and be cost effective. Local vendors are used to facilitate the classes. We have found that public offered courses by vendors are more likely to run and pricing is fairly reasonable. Local vendors offer discounts to State groups.

Contact Judy at 402-471-7732 or [judy.davidson-whitehead@nebraska.gov](mailto:judy.davidson-whitehead@nebraska.gov) for more information.

## Training Tapes

VHS training tapes on a variety of technology topics are available for check out. The featured video for May is "Escape from Voice Mail Jail." This humorous video covers the essentials to effective voice mail use. The video focuses on benefit of use, effective greetings and messages. It offers some good bonus tips.

The recommended approach is to view and then discuss the video contents in relationship to what your current practices are. This 24 minute video is a product of The Telephone Doctor and is closed-captioned. Use of the tape is free to customers of the Office of the CIO.

Contact Judy at, 402/471-7732 or [judy.davidson-whitehead@nebraska.gov](mailto:judy.davidson-whitehead@nebraska.gov) if you require additional information or to request a full video library listing.

## Directory Listing Closing Dates

City / Location	Due Date
Aurora	July 1 <sup>st</sup>
Bladen	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
Byron	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
Lincoln	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
O'Neill/Valentine	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
Sandhills Area Regional	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
Sioux City	July 15 <sup>th</sup>
Wahoo	June 1 <sup>st</sup>
North Platte Valley /Scottsbluff-Gering	June 1 <sup>st</sup>