

Enterprise Solutions



Editor's Note

Duncan H. Brown
Editor, *Pocket PC Enterprise Solutions*
Duncan@PocketPCmag.com

When enterprises choose to deploy Pocket PCs they face many challenges. How will they be able to integrate these flexible little devices into their business model? How do they go about getting customized software developed for their particular needs? How can they insure that their valuable information is not put at risk? How can they deploy the devices so that everyone gets the software they need? How do they make mobile technology easier to support? And most importantly, can these devices really help make their organization more profitable, more efficient and more effective?

The authors in this month's Enterprise Solutions section provide answers to these questions.

- Kathleen Merrick's company creates facility management software, and she has some specific suggestions for companies looking at mobile solutions and the concomitant software development.
- Ken Mattern reviews PortNexus, a brilliant idea for the distribution and configuration of software. PortNexus works both for retail stores selling Pocket PCs and software, and for enterprises that want to deploy large numbers of Pocket PCs to their workers.
- Carol Hawkins gives us an inside view of the school system in Queensland, Australia. They have empowered their employees with Pocket PCs, encouraging them to use them for anything they find useful. This is not about using the Pocket PC to helping teach kids: it's about using Pocket PCs to help teachers and administrators organize and manage their work better; a success story that any organization, public or private, should consider implementing.
- Wei-Meng Lee shares his coding knowledge, showing us how to develop a file manager for the Smartphone. He shows us that careful and knowledgeable work on a software development problem results in an application that fits the bill. What Mr. Lee knows about coding mobile software would fill a book, and he's already written two of them.
- In his Directions column, Chris De Herrera tells us how to configure the new Windows Firewall that comes with Windows XP Service Pack 2, so that ActiveSync will continue to work. The additional knowledge Chris shares on port addresses will help you configure any firewall software or hardware to allow Pocket PC/ActiveSync IP traffic on the network. In these security-conscious days filled with a plethora of Internet threats, firewalls are becoming a necessity, not a luxury.

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For those with the programming bug, here's how to create a file manager for the Smartphone.
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