

Cry for Help

Computer Tips & Tricks for the novice to the advanced.

Bigpond Office

Everyone who uses Telstra Bigpond as their internet service provider will by now have received their invitation to use the new FREE Bigpond Office.

Like all internet software it is slower than using Office on your own computer, and like all free stuff it includes annoying advertisements, but it does have a lot of potential.

Scenario 1: A traveller can update a travel diary on line from an internet café and make it available to their friends. Because the document is stored on line you are not sending email attachments, and because the computer doesn't need MS Word, it should work from anywhere (provided the computer you use has the ability to install the Java software required).

Scenario 2: A business sales team on the road that does not have access to their head office database, can instead reference a central spreadsheet of stock prices on an as needs basis. The spreadsheet would be updated by head Office whenever changes are made.

Scenario 3: Say a document or presentation needs to be worked on by a team. When collaboration is required, you can find yourself emailing many copies of the presentation around the group with the chance of missing some changes. Where as when using Bigpond Office there is only 1 copy of the document and it sits on the server. The creator of the document can decide who gets to see the document and who can make changes.

So in summary, it is the latest of a new breed of virtual team software. I can't see it replacing MSOffice, but it is FREE and will be very useful for some people. Give it a go – good luck!

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