



3	Upgrade Your TDMA Cell Phone Before January 31st and Save
4	Online Privacy – A Contradiction?
5	FCC Implements Rules for Customers' Account Protection
8	Are You a High School Junior? You can go to Washington, D.C. for FREE!

Volume X Number I Winter 2008



Connections

XIT Will Begin an E-mail Migration to MagicMail

XIT Communications has purchased and will be upgrading to a new e-mail system – MagicMail. This new e-mail system will provide a much higher level of junk e-mail and virus protection. It will allow each customer to configure his own spam and virus settings according to his own individual needs. As preparations have been made for this migration, it has been noticed that many customers have large amounts of e-mail stored on XIT's mail server. When the migration occurs, there is the possibility that some or all of these messages could be lost.

This will not affect anyone who downloads his messages to his computers using an e-mail client. An e-mail client is any program such as Microsoft Outlook, Outlook Express, Mozilla Thunderbird, IncrediMail, Apple Mail, etc. These programs download and store a copy of each e-



mail on the computer itself. Any messages stored in this way cannot be lost when the upgrade happens.

Any customer that primarily uses XIT's WebMail website may be affected. The WebMail website stores all e-mail on the mail server itself. If a problem occurs during the upgrade due to virus e-mails

or corrupted mailboxes, any or all messages stored on the mail server may be lost. It is highly recommended that all customers install and configure an e-mail client on their personal computers. E-mail clients will prevent any loss of e-mail during the system upgrade. For instructions on how to install and configure an e-mail client on your computer, please visit XIT's website at www.xit.net and click on the MagicMail link.

We will migrate to the new e-mail server from Saturday, January 26th to Monday, January 28th. During this time, customers may experience problems connecting to the e-mail server and accessing all of their e-mails. The migration should be completed by January 29th with customers having access to all their e-mail.

XIT does not take responsibility for any e-mails or their contents. Please call XIT's Help Desk at 1-800-687-0780 for any assistance related to this upgrade.

The New Year Brings a New Look for XIT Connections

The New Year represents a fresh start, a whole year filled with possibilities. We at XIT felt that this exciting time was the perfect opportunity to unveil the new style of XIT Connections newsletter.

XIT is constantly striving to meet our customers' ever changing needs. The new design will more efficiently convey important messages concerning the latest technologies and services.

We want to feature information that is valuable to you, so tell us what you want to see in XIT Connections.

Please contact us with your photo and article ideas at xitcom@xit.net.

Out with the OLD, In with the NEW *It's time to upgrade from TDMA to GSM!*

Love that old bag phone or permanent mount? It's time for it to go. You can ring in the New Year with a new phone utilizing the new GSM technology! Upgrading to our GSM technology has never been easier. XIT Wireless has a GSM phone and rate plan that will work for you!

Now, about that beloved bag phone or permanent mount... XIT Wireless has all the latest in handheld and smartphones, but if you prefer the durability and power of a bag phone, we have that too! XIT Wireless currently has available the Motorola M900, which comes in 2 models: the M900 Bag Phone and M900 Install. In February, XIT Wireless will also have available a new and very affordable bag phone option. The Get Wireless Telular SX7P Bag Phone will provide you with all the functionality of a wireless phone and the convenience of landline phone features all rolled up in one sturdy bag phone design.

Motorola M900 GSM Bag Phone:

- A powerful, GSM bag phone featuring a built in durable M900 hands-free phone
- All the convenience of a handheld phone with:
 - > Privacy Handset with large keypad
 - > High Resolution Display with adjustable backlight and contrast display
 - > Multiple Ringtones
 - > Adjustable ringtone volume and call volume
 - > 4-way navigation key
 - > 500 entry phonebook & voice tag options
 - > Name and number dialing
 - > Text Messaging
 - > Full duplex with excellent audio quality
- The M900 bag phone works without an external antenna; but an external antenna can be purchased for use with this phone.



Motorola M900 GSM Install:

- The M900 Install is permanently mounted hands-free wireless phone.
- The M900 Install does not include a privacy handset. It is an optional accessory.
- The M900 Install has the same features and functions as the M900 Bag Phone.
- The M900 Install can be wired for horn alert. A universal horn relay maybe required.
- An external dual band antenna is a required additional accessory.

GET Wireless Telular SX7P Bag Phone:

- This feature rich wireless phone provides all the convenience of a landline phone in a new bag phone design.
 - > Privacy Handset with large keypad
 - > Large easy to read LCD display
 - > Full duplex hands-free speakerphone
 - > 2.5 mm headset jack
 - > Internal rechargeable battery providing up to 3 hours of talk time & up to 96 hours standby time.
 - > 4-way navigation button
 - > 500 entry phonebook
 - > Caller ID, Call Waiting/Call Hold, Call Forwarding
 - > SMS capability for text messaging
 - > Speed Dial, Alarm, Time & Date, Calendar, Calculator
 - > **Wattage up to 2 watts for the 850 band and up to 1 watt for the 1900 band**
 - > And much more

For more information regarding any of these phones, our GSM Rate plans or other wireless handset options, please contact your local XIT Wireless Customer Care Center.



Getting the Job Done with the Motorola M900 Permanent Mount

Communications is important to every business, even if your business takes you to remote areas like the Texas/New Mexico state line. Brian Bezner of 3B Farms, like many folks in this area find themselves working and communicating from a mobile office – a pickup truck. In December 2007, Brian upgraded his TDMA service to the new GSM Motorola M900 Permanent Mount and says “It’s a great phone”. Brian often finds himself on that state line road and with his new M900 he can get the job done! He said, “It’s a cool phone, very simple to use and it always has full signal strength.” He particularly likes

Upgrade Your TDMA Cell Phone Before January 31st and \$ave

If you carry a cell phone that relies solely on analog or TDMA technology, please plan to update your phone before the end of January. Although XIT Wireless will not turn down our TDMA service until early summer, you will probably notice a decline in analog or TDMA coverage as major wireless carriers such as AT&T, formerly Cingular Wireless, will be turning down their TDMA system as early as February 18, 2008.

This means that XIT customers will continue to have some TDMA coverage in XIT's service areas for a few more months, but as soon as February TDMA users should expect little or no coverage when roaming.

We, at XIT, value all of our customers and want to make your transition to GSM technology as painless as possible. That is why we are offering *GSM phones and our Call Capture Amplifier at great discounted rates to TDMA customers through January 31.*

Our large selection of phones includes rugged and dependable bag and permanent mount models along with numerous convenient handheld styles.

In our continued effort to increase coverage and improve signal strength, we have added numerous cell sites. We currently have 40 towers with plans to add more. Plus, by using portable amplifiers in the vehicle, our customers can enhance their signal strength and improve their geographic coverage significantly within our service area.

Not only are you getting great coverage with XIT, you get great rate plans to fit your lifestyle. Our GSM rate plans provide you with more minutes, regional and nationwide roaming with no long distance charges, unlimited night and weekend minutes, FREE XIT mobile to XIT mobile calling, family add-on plans, and more.

Take advantage of these great offers. Call or visit your local XIT Customer Care Center today for more details.

the large keypad, ease of use and features like call transfer and voice dialing. When Brian had his M900 installed, he opted for the privacy handset and horn alert installation. Brian is really enjoying his new M900 Permanent Mount. He said, "I never lose a call with my new phone, and it's a great phone to use when driving down the road!"

XIT Wireless is pleased to hear Brian's great review of this new phone. The Motorola M900 comes in two models: the permanent mount installation, or portable bag phone. This powerful GSM phone is designed to keep the lines of communications open in even the most remote locations – in the field, out on the ranch, and on rural and urban highways. For more information about this phone, contact your local XIT Wireless Customer Care Center today!



HONK! HONK! HONK!

Hear that HONKING horn? It's music to some folk's ears!

You could be feeding your cattle or sitting in the coffee shop when that all important call comes in? You sure don't want to miss it! Well, XIT Wireless has a solution for our GSM customers. With the Motorola M900 Permanent Mount – when that important call comes in – the HORN will HONK to notify you.

Horn Alert is available with the new Motorola M900 Install. This rugged and powerful GSM phone will keep you connected whether you're sippin' coffee or roundin' up cattle.



Check XIT's Channel I for local weather, great shopping and new announcements. Get the most up-to-date information from XIT.



Online Privacy – A Contradiction?

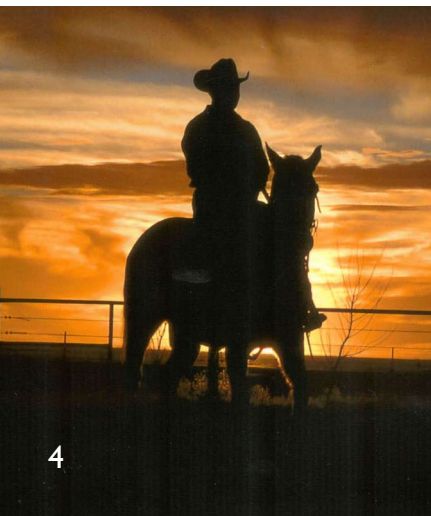
How much do people actually KNOW about your online travels? The answer is simple: Only as much as you tell them. Many companies will offer you low-price or even free services and products in exchange for your personal information. Is it a worthwhile trade? Depends.

Before I give ANY online company information about myself, I check out their “privacy policy.” Any reputable company that asks for personal information will have one. It should be very specific about the use of your information. Will they sell it to third parties or use it only internally? If they use it internally, HOW will they use it?



This point becomes very important when accessing information on various web sites. Some web sites will give you free access to their information, but only after you tell them a little something about yourself. Read their privacy policy first. I’m not saying that you should NEVER give out your personal information. In most cases, these companies will only aggregate the information to better determine their target customers. In other words, the tradeoff is worth it. Just be careful.

But what about your day-to-day surfing? Can a website know who you are when you visit them? Sort of. Every computer on the Internet MUST have a unique ID called an IP address. “IP” is short for “Internet Protocol.” The address is a series of four three-digit numbers, such as “134.056.002.253” Your ISP has large blocks of these IP numbers assigned to them by THEIR provider.



XITTECH
TIPS

from guest columnist
Eric Spellmann

Chances are, your ISP does NOT have enough of these numbers to assign an IP address to every customer, so an IP pool of addresses is created. Whenever a person logs onto an ISP, their computer is assigned one of these pooled IP addresses on a first-come-first-served basis. Your IP address changes every time you access the Net. Not only does this give you more privacy, it makes it harder for criminal hackers to target your machine. We call this strategy, “dynamic address allocation.”

When you visit ANY web page, you leave a footprint, called a “hit.” A hit actually consists of the following information: IP address of the visitor, Date of the visit, Time of the visit, Operating System used by the visitor, and Browser used by the visitor.

Please note that your e-mail address is not included in that list. Reputable ISPs do NOT track where their customers go on the Net. A customer’s privacy is paramount to the surfing experience. ISPs only track when users log in, log out, and the IP address they were assigned. If presented with a court order, an ISP can produce a report tying an IP address to a particular user based on those time-stamps.

Eric Spellmann is the Owner and President of Spellmann & Associates, a technology company offering employee training, website design, PC repair, and network maintenance. He is a featured speaker at a number of state and national technology conferences and writes a syndicated column in fourteen newspapers. In addition, he produces a weekly television segment for his local ABC affiliate. To contact him, visit his website, www.EricSpellmann.com.

Linda Childers Wins Directory Photo Contest

Linda Childers’ photo of her husband, Terry, and a beautiful West Texas Sunset, will become the cover of XIT Communications’ 2008 Regional Telephone Directory. Linda claims to be an “amateur” photographer. She said it took her a week to capture the right moment to snap the picture of her husband on horseback in their arena located 25 miles east of Dalhart, Texas, on Farm to Market Road 297. Linda said that she had to lay on her stomach in the dirt to get the angle she wanted for the photo. She also said that the photo is a family favorite. A framed copy can be found hanging on the wall in the Childers’ living room. Congratulations, Linda!

XIT would like to thank everyone who entered the competition for their interest, involvement and time. All pictures submitted will be placed in a file and may be considered for future directory covers.

FCC Implements Rules for Customers' Account Protection

XIT Requires Password and Shared Secret Question

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has implemented more stringent rules to protect your Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI). CPNI information includes call detail information such as the services you subscribe to and the dates, times, and duration of the calls you place. As part of an ongoing effort to protect the privacy of your account information, and to comply with new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) privacy regulations, XIT will require you to set up a password and a "shared secret question and answer" for access to your account information.

The new rules allow XIT to discuss account information ONLY with the person(s) listed on the account. We must be able to authenticate that person by asking for an account assigned password or by asking a specific question to which you have previously provided us the answer. You also may designate an authorized user, which you request, be given access to your account information (i.e. spouse, significant other, adult child). That authorized user must have the password and the answer to the security question to access your account.

What should my password be?

Choose a password that is easy to visualize and completely personal to you

– something no one else might guess or know about. Do not choose easy, personal information like your birth date, your address, your phone number, mother's maiden name or your social security number because this information would be easy for anyone to know and would be poor password choices.

In the event you have forgotten or lost your password, XIT will have your "shared secret question and answer" on file. Answering the "shared secret question" is also a means of authenticating you as an XIT customer. Examples of a "shared secret question could be:

What's your favorite color?

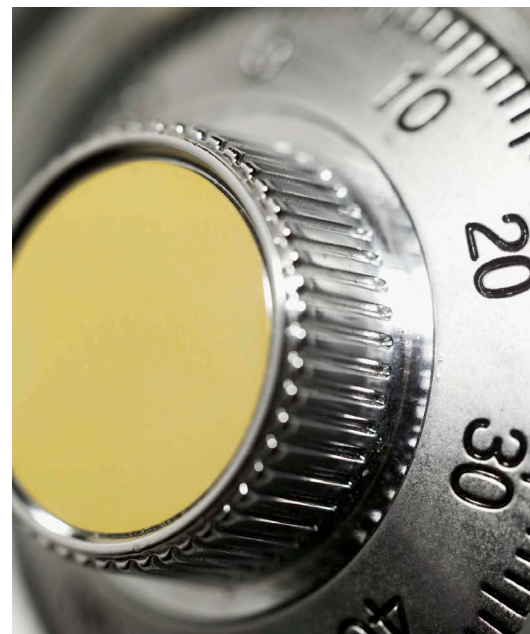
What was your first car?

What's your favorite TV show?

If the password or shared secret question and answer cannot be provided, XIT is only allowed: (1) to mail or email you a copy of your bill to your billing or email address of record, (2) call you with the information at the telephone number of record, or (3) you may come to our office with a valid photo ID to discuss questions on your account.

What should you do now?

To make sure that your service requests are handled efficiently, we are



asking you to add a password and a shared secret question and answer to your XIT account as soon as possible. There should be only one (1) password and one (1) shared secret for each account. If you have a joint account, please make sure that the password and shared secret you choose are known to both parties on the joint account. Please contact your local XIT Customer Care Center for assistance.

Thank you for taking the time and making the effort to update your XIT account with a password and a shared secret question and answer. Working together, we will continue to keep your XIT connections safe and secure.

Purchase Your Directory Advertising

Sales are under way for this year's yellow and white page advertising in the tenth edition of the XIT Communications' Regional Directory. If you are interested in advertising in the directory that targets the area where your customers do business, call the XIT Marketing Department at 384-3311 or 1-800-232-3312 and set up a time to discuss all your advertising options in the new directory.

XIT Communications' Regional Directory features include: Convenient Size – Large Print on Quality White Paper – Extensive Government Section – Amarillo/Canyon Listings – Numerical Listing Section – City Maps – Yellow & White Page Advertising – XIT Services Section.

With the features offered in the XIT directory, you no longer need to carry multiple directories. Everything you want is located in one, convenient, and easy to use location.

Holiday Open Houses

On December 7th and 14th, XIT hosted its annual open houses in Dalhart, Stratford, Hereford and Dumas. A special thanks to all the customers who took the time to come in and help us celebrate the season. It's a special time for our employees to meet you in person and let you know just how much we appreciate your business!





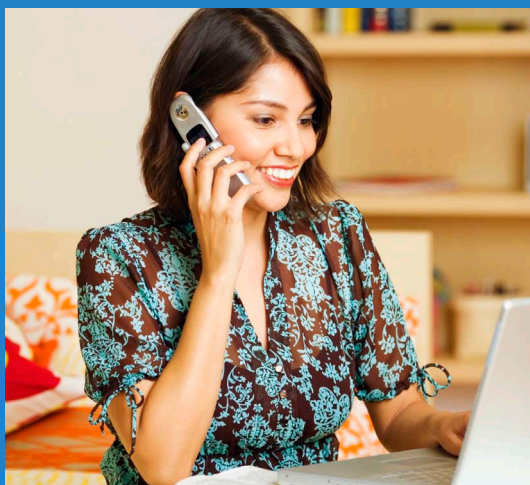
Our Customers Generously Support Toys for Tykes

This Christmas season was one of XIT's Merriest! Each of our four Customer Care Centers collected toys and donated them to local charities. Almost 300 toys were collected throughout the locations.

Debra Moss, of Panhandle Community Services, picked up the toys donated at our Dumas Customer Care Center. Major Barela picked up the toys collected at the Hereford location. These toys were donated to the Hereford High School ROTC. The local girl scouts helped out tremendously! In their third year to participate, four different troops donated toys. Each girl scout who participated received a commemo-

rative girl scout badge. The Ministerial Alliance and Safe Place, Inc in Dumas shared the 68 toys collected in Dalhart. The Angel Tree at Happy State Bank of Stratford received 61 toys.

XIT and its spirited customers have been partnering with local charities in the Panhandle for over 10 years. It's been our pleasure to help brighten Christmas for children in our area. XIT Communications would like to thank each and everyone for their gracious generosity and kindness. Your toy donation helped a local child have a very Merry Christmas.



XIT to Employ New Automated Message Service

There are times when we need to contact our customers regarding important reminder notices, service upgrades or new product information. We believe that an automated message service will allow us to effectively accomplish this while expending only minimal time and money. The new automated system will enable XIT to compose, record and deliver a short message to all or a select few customers via landline/cell phone.

We would like to know how you feel about this service. Please contact us at xitcom@xit.net or 800-232-3312

is a quarterly publication for *XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.* members, *XIT Communications* and *XIT Wireless* Customers.

Direct correspondence to:
XIT Connections
Attn: Marketing Department
P.O. Box 711
Dalhart, TX 79022

or e-mail to xitcom@xit.net

www.xit.net

12324 US Highway 87
Dalhart, TX 79022

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Dalhart TX 79022
PERMIT NO. 92



It's time for the TTA Scholarship Program

The Texas Telephone Association Foundation is proud to support Texas students in their efforts to pursue an education by providing five deserving students with four-year scholarships. The recipients of these scholarships will receive \$1,500 per year to put toward their college education. For more information or an application you can visit www.tta.org and click the TTA Foundation link. Please note that all applications must be postmarked by March 14, 2008 to be eligible for consideration.

Are You a High School Junior? You can go to Washington D.C. for FREE!

XIT is going to send one area high school junior on an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C. with \$100 cash in their pocket. You will experience the exciting lifestyle and fascinating culture of Washington D.C. while seeing the sites and forming lifelong friendships with students from all over the country, and we're paying!

All 2008 juniors, who live in XIT's 6-county serving area and subscribe to at least one XIT service, are eligible to apply for the trip of a lifetime – the Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour to be held May 31 through June 4, 2008.

All interested students should see their school counselor or visit an XIT Customer Care Center for an application, which should be completed and returned to your school counselor or XIT Headquarters no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 21, 2008.



Applications include an essay on one of the following topics:

- How telecommunications has impacted your life in rural Texas
- What would my life be like without a telephone?
- Why should you be selected to participate in the 2007 Youth Tour?
- If you could use only one form of telecommunication – landline, wireless, Internet – what would you choose and why?

This is an opportunity of a lifetime, apply today!



EWTN Now Available on XITv Channel 93

EWTN, the world's largest religious media network, airs family and religious programming from a Catholic point of view. Providing more than 50% original programming, EWTN offers inspiring talk shows, entertaining children's animation, exclusive teaching series, live coverage of church events, and thought-provoking documentaries. EWTN's programming is designed to enrich the viewer's time, not just consume it. Programs are for all ages and faiths, but especially the Catholic viewer. EWTN is a commercial-free channel that was founded by Mother Angelica, a Franciscan Nun, in 1981.