



In this edition of **ASK News**, we review ASK partnerships with Datto for data protection, and Splunk for data mining and analysis. I am also happy to announce two notable ASK milestones. Firstly, ASK has been awarded the Top 25 Systems Integrators & the Top 25 Software Developers in the Philadelphia region, presented by the Philadelphia Business Journal. ASK also released the completely redesigned asktech.com website loaded with updated content, our full product and services offerings and improved navigation. Enjoy your summer.



Inside this issue:

**Stephen Pirolli, ASK Technologies, Inc.**

Splunk Light	2
Fujitsu Wins Quality Award	3
Kaspersky Gets Hacked	4
Windows Server 2003/R2 End of Support	5
Splunk App for Palo Alto	5
HP Acquires Aruba	6

**Datto: Protecting the World's Data**  
From the ASK Sales Staff

*Who is Datto?*

Datto is the award-winning provider of image-based backup, disaster recovery and Intelligent Business Continuity solutions built on a hybrid-cloud model, for businesses of every size, regardless of infrastructure.

The Datto family consists of SIRIS 2, Virtual SIRIS, ALTO XL, ALTO 2, Virtual ALTO and Datto NAS. All solutions are based on Datto's core technologies, including Instant Virtualization, Inverse Chain

Technology, Screenshot Backup Verification and End-to-End Encryption. Datto leverages its core technologies, service, and support for maximum performance ensuring protection of both virtual and physical servers.

Founded in 2007, Datto is headquartered in Norwalk, CT, with five offices and five data centers worldwide, protecting over 100 Petabytes of data. The company has thrice been listed on the Inc. 500 (2012, 2013 and 2014)

and twice listed as the fastest growing technology company in Connecticut (2013 and 2014).

*Why Datto?*

Quite simply, Datto keeps businesses running. Datto delivers more than traditional backup; Datto delivers business continuity.

- Image-based backup: Entire systems are backed up, not simply files.

**continued on pg. 2**

**WELCOME NEW CLIENTS**



Immaculate Conception Academy



**BALA CYNWYD, PA — MAY 2015:**

**ASK TECHNOLOGIES, INC.** is once again a proud recipient of the Philadelphia Business Journal prestigious awards for "Top 25 System Integrators" and "Top 25 Software Developers" for the Philadelphia and Metropolitan Area. This marks the twelfth consecutive year that **ASK TECHNOLOGIES, INC.** has been recognized as an industry leader in our region.

**ASK** provides our clients the ability to transform current information technology into productivity. Whether utilizing technology to bridge the gap between employees, business workflow and computers, or using technology to supply access to data, regardless of connection, location and time, **ASK** offers the solutions you need to survive in a very competitive world.



## Splunk Light: Putting Out IT Fires—Fast

*From our Sales Team*

You have a small IT team, but a big range of large issues to deal with, often with no warning. You're constantly in reactive mode, trying to put out the latest IT fire. Splunk Light was designed as a one-stop solution for small IT environments to quickly put out—and even prevent—those fires.

Splunk Light gathers all of your log data from different and distributed systems in real time, puts it in one place and provides dynamic alerts, reports and dashboards. With a powerful search language, Splunk Light enables real-time machine data analysis and issue resolution, and doesn't require a data scientist with special skills. Now you can proactively

analyze problems and take immediate action—all without having to manually gather, organize and sift through gigabytes of data.

### *The Splunk Light Difference*

Built on Splunk's proven technology, Splunk Light is a single solution that provides key features that you won't find in other individual tools for log search and analysis—or even if you pieced together multiple point tools.

### *Analyze all of your log data with a single solution*

Splunk Light can gather and correlate data from virtually any source, format or location and provide you access to it in one place. Sources can

include data streaming from packaged and custom applications, app servers, web servers, databases, network wire data, virtual machines, telecom equipment, operating systems, sensors, cloud-based servers and much more.

### *Be proactive with integrated monitoring and alerting*

With Splunk Light, you can create alerts across your entire IT infrastructure, enabling you to solve IT problems before they happen. Alerts can automatically trigger actions, including sending automated emails, executing remediation scripts or posting to RSS feeds.

***continued on pg. 3***

**splunk > light**

***Splunk was founded to pursue a disruptive new vision: make machine data accessible, usable and valuable to everyone.***

## Datto: Protecting the World's Data

*Continued from pg. 1*

- Hybrid cloud: Ensures that a business' data is always available. Should the local site be compromised, redundant data in the secure cloud is available. After Superstorm Sandy, Datto had many businesses running full operations from the Datto cloud.

- Instant Virtualization: With Datto, backups can be virtualized either locally on the Datto appliance or remotely in Datto's secure

cloud, in mere seconds, with the click of a button. This means no loss in business operations should a disaster occur (be it server failure, rogue employee or flood).

- A solution for businesses of every size, regardless of infrastructure. The ability to streamline all your data protection with one vendor will save time and money, and reduce stress.

- Screenshot Backup Verifi-

cation is Datto's proprietary technology that quickly and easily confirms the availability of fully functional system images.

- 24/7/365 support from in-house experts—not out-sourcers.

Datto's flexible solutions can be customized to work in any environment and across all platforms. Contact **ASK** today at (610) 617-0300 to learn more today.



**datto**

## Fujitsu Takes The Quality Award For Enterprise Arrays

*As featured in Storage Magazine*

The term enterprise array may be broadly defined these days, but common wisdom says these data center mainstays share at least three prominent traits: a lot of I/O horsepower, ample capacity and a price tag that usually has more digits than a storage manager cares to count. But even measured against those high expectations, enterprise array vendors don't disappoint their customers, as underscored by our ninth annual Quality Awards user satisfaction survey for enterprise arrays. All the usual suspects were represented and fared quite well, but this year a surprise winner emerged: Fujitsu, featuring its high-end Eternus systems.



# FUJITSU

## Splunk Light: Putting Out IT Fires—Fast

*Continued from pg. 2*

Alerts can be set to any level of granularity and can be based on a variety of thresholds, trend-based conditions and complex patterns such as server or network performance degradation or brute force attacks.

*See the whole IT picture with reports and dashboards*

With centralized log data, you can look across all of your systems in a single dashboard and continuously analyze your systems from your desktop. Splunk Light dashboards enable you to drill down from anywhere in a chart to the underlying raw events or to another dashboard, form, view or external website. Build and edit dashboards through a simple drag-and-drop interface that allows you to rearrange and reuse previously built panels so you can create custom dashboards that meet specific needs.

*Perform sophisticated data analysis*

To gain value from your centralized log data, you need a way to analyze it with tools that don't require you to have a degree in data science. Splunk Light includes the Splunk Search Processing Language (SPL™), which enables IT personnel to easily correlate events and detect patterns across multiple data sources to reveal new insights. With SPL, you can search using specific terms or expressions, as well as powerful statistical and reporting commands. Users zoom in and out of the data using a visual timeline to spot trends and spikes. Every search you create can be turned into a report and added to a dashboard, so you get ongoing value from it.

*Easily get started in 10 minutes*

You can buy, install and start using Splunk Light in

just 10 minutes without any system configuration. Splunk Light provides an introductory tutorial and tools to help you start collecting all of your distributed data immediately.

*Priced and packaged for small IT environments*

Get the power of Splunk in a package and for a price that is ideal for small IT environments, by contacting ASK Technologies, a Splunk Light reseller.

*Scales as you grow*

As your business and IT needs grow, Splunk products will grow with you. Need to expand beyond tactical troubleshooting? Add more users? Analyze more data? No problem. You can upgrade to Splunk Enterprise by simply getting a new license key and restarting your Splunk application.

Learn more about the value of Splunk Light by contacting **ASK** today at (610) 617-0300.

### Splunk Highlights

- **A comprehensive tool for log search and analysis built on proven technology**
- **Centrally correlate, report and alert on all of your log data in real time, with one solution**
- **Designed for small IT environments with easy setup and online purchase**
- **Free up to 500MB per day and attractively priced as you grow**
- **Easily upgrade to**

## Major Cybersecurity Company Hacked

As featured in CNET

Guess what: Even the best security companies can be hacked.

That's what Moscow-based Kaspersky Lab said earlier in June when it announced its systems had been attacked, most likely by hackers working on behalf of a country.

Kaspersky customer's data is safe, the company said. The sophisticated attack stayed away from user information and focused instead on Kaspersky's own systems and intellectual property, the company said. The company has since fixed the hole that allowed for the attack.

The attack isn't the first

that's targeted Kaspersky, but it highlights how prolific hacking has become, and how vulnerable even the most knowledgeable and prepared companies are. Of course, everyone else is in an even bigger pickle. Attacks are happening to companies small and large every day, and they've even been able to break into US government computers.

The hackers were "a generation ahead of anything seen," Kaspersky said in a lengthy explanation of the hack on its website. The attackers used a method that preys on "zero-day" vulnerabilities, or holes in software that developers

don't know exist. They left few traces too.

Kaspersky won't name which country it thinks attacked them, but it has pointed fingers at Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States in past reports on cyber espionage.

The company said venues that hosted talks about Iran's nuclear program were also targeted by the attack. Additional targets were identified throughout the world in Kaspersky's investigation, and the sheer cost of the infrastructure required to carry out the attack led the company to believe a government was responsible.



**"Attacks are happening to companies small and large every day, and they've even been able to break into US government computers."**

### CLIENT QUOTE

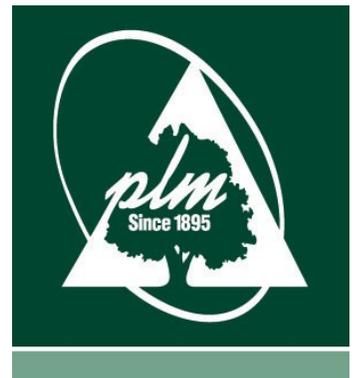
*"I just wanted to say how grateful I am (and PLM) for your assistance with what was the biggest outage of a system that I have had to deal with in my professional career. The feeling I had at 3am on Wednesday morning when Microsoft said they were dropping the case and would no longer assist was indescribable. We had worked on the issue all afternoon and into the night Tuesday with my last resort to call Microsoft and they would work with us until resolution. So when that plan came and went, I had a very helpless feeling in me and no plan for resolution to speak of.*

*I feel bad I had to disturb you guys in the middle of the night by using your emergency service. I have to say that my call to you guys was a no brainer though. I knew you guys would assist through to resolution. The resources you guys carry and the relationships you guys foster are absolutely priceless. ASK always seem to bring "A" level people to every part of technology, whether it is Cisco, Security, Exchange, etc..*

*Than you, again."*

*William Gardner, Jr., IT Manager*

*Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Insurance Co., Philadelphia, PA*



## Planning for Windows Server 2003/R2 End of Support

*From out Tech Staff*

Microsoft will end support for Windows Server 2003/R2 on July 14, 2015. Now is the time to migrate.

### Understand what end of support means

End of support for Windows Server 2003/R2 can have a dramatic impact on your business. It will mean no more updates or patches from Microsoft, which can result in a less stable and less secure infrastructure for your organization.

### No updates

Microsoft will no longer develop or release any updates after ending support. To put this in perspective—37 critical updates were released in 2013 for Windows Server 2003/R2 under extended

support. Imagine what impact zero updates will have on your infrastructure.

### No compliance

After support ends, your organization will likely fail to meet most industry-wide compliance standards and regulations. This could result in lost business or dramatically increase the cost of doing business, in the form of high transaction fees and penalties.

### No savings

The costs of maintaining your legacy servers can add up quickly. Maintenance costs for aging hardware will likely increase, and you will have to deal with added costs for intrusion detection sys-

tems, more advanced firewalls, and network segmentation—all simply to isolate 2003 servers. Staying put will likely cost more in the end.

### What are your options?

There are many options for small and medium businesses. If your current server meets the system requirements, you can upgrade to Windows Server 2012. If your server does not meet system requirements, consider purchasing a new server with Windows Server 2012, offering the latest productivity and collaboration tools.

Please contact **ASK**, your Microsoft Certified Partner, to understand the best options to meet your business needs.



***"End of support for Windows Server 2003/R2 can have a dramatic impact on your business. It will mean no more updates or patches from Microsoft, which can result in a less stable and less secure infrastructure for your organization."***

## Splunk App for Palo Alto Networks

*From our Sales Staff*

Today's cyber threats, whether they be known threats or unknown, are increasing in both number and sophistication. IT Security practitioners are leveling the playing field by using next generation security technologies.

Enter the combination of Palo Alto Networks, a leading next-generation firewall, and Splunk, a leading next-generation SIEM/security analytics

solution. Both have partnered to deliver the Splunk App for Palo Alto Networks to help organizations detect and defeat cyberthreats in real-time, perform incident investigations faster, reduce costs, and improve their security and compliance posture.

Palo Alto Networks next-generation firewalls enhance network security and enable enterprises to look beyond IP addresses

and packets. These innovative firewalls let you see and control applications, user behaviors and content using three unique identification technologies: App-ID, User-ID and Content-ID. The Palo Alto Networks identification technologies enable you to create business-relevant and application-based security policies.



***continued on pg. 6***

**ASK Technologies, Inc.**

7 Bala Avenue  
Suite 201

Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

610-617-0300 Office  
610-617-0307 Fax  
[info@asktech.com](mailto:info@asktech.com)

*For operational excellence  
at predictable costs, turn  
to **ASK**.*

## **Our New Website has Launched!**

We've given our website a fresh new look. The new asktech.com has been completely redesigned to improve user navigation and provide updated content regarding the products we sell, install and support. We've streamlined all menus to give you quick access to the products and services you are looking for.

Please take a moment to visit our new website today asktech.com.

We will be rolling out new pages, new functionality, and updated and relevant content over the next several months so be sure to visit our website often.



## **HP Acquires Aruba Networks**

*From our Sales Staff*

HP has completed the acquisition of Aruba Networks, a leading provider of next-generation network access solutions for mobile enterprise. Aruba designs and delivers best-of-breed mobility solutions and WLAN products, and employs a software approach that extends mobility intelligence across wired and wireless net-

works all the way to users through devices and apps.

The two companies are highly complementary – Aruba brings best-of-breed mobility software and WLAN hardware, and HP has a leading networking portfolio. This potent combination will enable enterprises to easily,

quickly and securely deploy end-to-end mobile solutions, including the latest multi-gigabit wireless technology, across their campus. Together, HP and Aruba will offer a unified solution with value-added software features, including policy management, security and orchestration.

## **Splunk App for Palo Alto Networks**

*Continued from pg. 5*

This approach goes beyond the traditional "all-or-nothing" method offered by traditional port-blocking firewalls used in many security infrastructures.

The Splunk App for Palo Alto Networks makes it easy to get event data from potentially hundreds of Palo Alto Networks

appliances and WildFire into Splunk. Every field in your Palo Alto Networks event data will be indexed in Splunk and made available for fast searching and reporting. The resulting data also automatically populates reports and dashboards in the Splunk App for Palo Alto Networks related to traffic, threats, and firewall configura-

tions. The App also contains custom commands to enable Splunk to interact with Palo Alto Networks appliances.

If you are a Palo Alto Networks customer, contact **ASK** at (610) 617-0300 to learn more about using Splunk to improve your security and compliance posture.



You can format your email content while writing it on your iPhone.

Just **highlight the text** you want to format, then **tap on the option arrow** to look for the "**BJU**" button. Tap on it and select the format you want from **Bold**, **Italics** or **Underline**.