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Insider Power Techniques For Microsoft® Windows® XP (Bpg-Other)



Synopsis

Accept no limits! Tweak Windows XP for ultimate performance with the undocumented secrets and hidden gems of the experts who work with the technology every day. Three Microsoft Consulting Services (MCS) professionals have teamed with well-known Windows book author Paul McFedries to reveal their best from-the-field techniques, practices, hacks, tricks, and workarounds for putting all of your PC's muscle to work. Smart, straightforward, and uncompromisingly practical, this book is the ultimate insider's guide to pushing Windows XP as far as it can go! Put professional-level practices to work for you: Tweak registry settings without getting burned Employ lethal techniques to help fight viruses, intruders, and spam Customize startup and shutdown "get work done behind the scenes" Install devices and drivers "painlessly" Learn 10 ways to help give your system rock-solid stability Write your own scripts "or run the ones inside" Share your PC using group policies, account lock-outs, and other management tools Optimize memory, performance, and usability Easily synchronize files between your mobile and desktop PCs Troubleshoot problems the way the experts do

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If this book was written about cars, their "Power Techniques" would include how to set your radios pre-sets, reset the trip odometer, and roll down both the driver and passenger power windows by using two fingers to work both switches at once. Knowing how to use your OS as a proficient user is

not a utilizing "field-proven secrets of the pros", as the back cover would have you believe. The first section of this book is devoted to teaching you how to configure, find, and launch control panel applets (mostly using the GUIs - really), followed by an overview of the Tweak UI add-on Microsoft provides as a standard free download. Another section includes an overview of how to open and read items within the registry (using the standard registry editor) which does not go into any specific configurations or tweaks, but rather on an explanation of what you are looking at and a warning about messing with it. Subsequent sections cover such things as controlling which applications start up, managing local users, installing devices, configuring the Explorer, configuring the Windows Media Player and "getting the most of the Internet Explorer". None of these sections include anything which is not done through the Microsoft provided interfaces and which wouldn't be covered in an "Introduction to XP" style book. The book also includes an entire section "devoted" to scripting Windows (30 pages). Like so many other books that cover scripting, the section is not going to leave the reader with the ability to script anything and is more likely to confuse and "turn off" any desire to learn more.

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