



# EXCUSE OF THE DAY CALENDAR

## JANUARY

<b>1</b>	..disk or the processor is on fire
<b>2</b>	Vi needs to be upgraded to vii
<b>3</b>	Evil hackers from Serbia
<b>4</b>	Doppler effect
<b>5</b>	Reformatting Page. Wait...
<b>6</b>	You need to upgrade your VESA local bus to a mastercard local bus
<b>7</b>	Browser's cookie is corrupted - someone's been nibbling on it
<b>8</b>	Spaghetti cable cause packet failure
<b>9</b>	Temporary routing anomaly
<b>10</b>	Internet outage
<b>11</b>	Quantum decoherence
<b>12</b>	Because of network lag due to too many people playing deathmatch
<b>13</b>	Daemons did it
<b>14</b>	Virus transmitted from computer to sysadmins
<b>15</b>	Trojan horse ran out of hay
<b>16</b>	Software uses US measurements, but the OS is in metric...
<b>17</b>	System needs to be rebooted
<b>18</b>	Processes running slowly due to weak power supply
<b>19</b>	Communications satellite used by the military for star wars
<b>20</b>	Typo in the code
<b>21</b>	Secretary plugged hairdryer into UPS
<b>22</b>	HTTPD Error 4004 : very old CPU
<b>23</b>	Your processor does not develop enough heat
<b>24</b>	Someone is causing a kink in the cable
<b>25</b>	Static buildup
<b>26</b>	Insert coin for new game
<b>27</b>	Astropneumatic oscillations in the watercooling
<b>28</b>	Traffic jam on the Information Superhighway
<b>29</b>	Short leg on process table
<b>30</b>	Sounds like a Windows problem, try calling Microsoft support
<b>31</b>	Yes, yes, its called a design limitation

## FEBRUARY

<b>1</b>	Your process is not ISO 9000 compliant
<b>2</b>	Interrupt configuration error
<b>3</b>	Wrong polarity of neutron flow
<b>4</b>	Redundant acfs
<b>5</b>	I'd love to help you -- it's just that the Boss won't let me near the computer
<b>6</b>	Dry joints on cable plug
<b>7</b>	Positron router malfunction
<b>8</b>	Your computer hasn't been returning all the bits it gets from the Internet
<b>9</b>	Had to use hammer to free stuck disk drive heads
<b>10</b>	Pseudo-user on a pseudo-terminal
<b>11</b>	Halon system went off and killed the operators
<b>12</b>	Zombie processes haunting the computer
<b>13</b>	Incorrect time synchronization
<b>14</b>	(L)user error
<b>15</b>	User to computer ration too low
<b>16</b>	Permission denied
<b>17</b>	Traceroute says that there is a routing problem in the backbone. Not our problem
<b>18</b>	Big to little endian conversion error
<b>19</b>	Excess surge protection
<b>20</b>	Standing room only on the bus
<b>21</b>	We're on Token Ring, and it looks like the token got loose
<b>22</b>	Second-system effect
<b>23</b>	Your mail is being routed through Germany ... and they're censoring us
<b>24</b>	Vendor no longer supports the product
<b>25</b>	Heavy gravity fluctuation, move computer to floor rapidly
<b>26</b>	Tectonic stress
<b>27</b>	Your/our computer(s) had suffered a memory leak, and we are waiting for them to be topped up
<b>28</b>	Budget cuts
<b>29</b>	Daemon escaped from pentagram

**The Bastard Operator from Hell**



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## MARCH

<b>1</b>	The rubber band broke
<b>2</b>	Complete Transient Lockout
<b>3</b>	Your packets were eaten by the terminator
<b>4</b>	Piezo-electric interference
<b>5</b>	Post-it Note Sludge leaked into the monitor
<b>6</b>	Bit bucket overflow
<b>7</b>	Transient bus protocol violation
<b>8</b>	User was distributing pornography on server; system seized by police
<b>9</b>	Asynchronous inode failure
<b>10</b>	Hard drive sleeping
<b>11</b>	Solar flares
<b>12</b>	Insufficient processing power
<b>13</b>	Due to the CDA, we no longer have a root account
<b>14</b>	Waste water tank overflowed onto computer
<b>15</b>	Working as designed
<b>16</b>	Proprietary information
<b>17</b>	Your processor has processed too many instructions
<b>18</b>	Bugs in the RAID
<b>19</b>	I only janitor, me just wax floors
<b>20</b>	Temporal anomaly
<b>21</b>	It must have been the lightning storm
<b>22</b>	Decreasing electron flux
<b>23</b>	Poor power conditioning
<b>24</b>	Interference from lunar radiation
<b>25</b>	Daemons loose in system
<b>26</b>	Radiosity depletion
<b>27</b>	Program load too heavy for processor to lift
<b>28</b>	/dev/clue was linked to /dev/null
<b>29</b>	Recursivity. Call back if it happens again
<b>30</b>	Unfortunately we have run out of bits/bytes/whatever. Don't worry, the next supply will be coming next week
<b>31</b>	Somebody was calculating pi on the server

## APRIL

<b>1</b>	Your modem doesn't speak English
<b>2</b>	Radial Telemetry Infiltration
<b>3</b>	Increased sunspot activity
<b>4</b>	Budget cuts forced us to sell all the power cords for the servers
<b>5</b>	Someone stole your IP address
<b>6</b>	Telecommunications is upgrading
<b>7</b>	Your parity check is overdrawn and you're out of cache
<b>8</b>	Dumb terminal
<b>9</b>	PCMCIA slave driver
<b>10</b>	Roaches shorted out the ether cable
<b>11</b>	We only support a 28000 bps connection
<b>12</b>	Internet is needed to catch the etherbunny
<b>13</b>	/pub/lunch
<b>14</b>	Failed trials, system needs redesigned
<b>15</b>	Atila the Hub
<b>16</b>	Plasma conduit breach
<b>17</b>	Curved-space fault in write-only file system
<b>18</b>	Vapors from evaporating sticky-note adhesives
<b>19</b>	Incorrectly configured static routes on the corerouters
<b>20</b>	SIMM crosstalk
<b>21</b>	IRQ-problems with the Un-Interruptible-Power-Supply
<b>22</b>	Computer room being moved. Our systems are down for the weekend
<b>23</b>	Someone has messed up the kernel pointers
<b>24</b>	Too much radiation coming from the soil
<b>25</b>	Quantum dynamics are affecting the transistors
<b>26</b>	Bit rot
<b>27</b>	POSIX compliance problem
<b>28</b>	Small animal kamikaze attack on power supplies
<b>29</b>	Data for intranet got routed through the extranet and landed on the internet
<b>30</b>	Popper unable to process jumbo kernel



# EXCUSE OF THE DAY CALENDAR

## MAY

<b>1</b>	We only support a 1200 bps connection
<b>2</b>	BNC (brain not connected)
<b>3</b>	Internet shut down due to maintenance
<b>4</b>	The router thinks its a printer
<b>5</b>	Monitor VLF leakage
<b>6</b>	We need a licensed electrician to replace the light bulbs in the computer room
<b>7</b>	Cow-tippers tipped a cow onto the server
<b>8</b>	Manager in the cable duct
<b>9</b>	Improperly oriented keyboard
<b>10</b>	Dynamic software linking table corrupted
<b>11</b>	OS swapped to disk
<b>12</b>	Failure to adjust for daylight savings time
<b>13</b>	Satan did it
<b>14</b>	50% of the manual is in .pdf readme files
<b>15</b>	Overflow error in /dev/null
<b>16</b>	The mainframe needs to rest. It's getting old
<b>17</b>	Your Flux Capacitor has gone bad
<b>18</b>	Melting hard drives
<b>19</b>	The ring needs another token
<b>20</b>	Backbone Scoliosis
<b>21</b>	Hash table has woodworm
<b>22</b>	Defunct processes
<b>23</b>	Secretary sent chain letter to all employees
<b>24</b>	The UPS doesn't have a battery backup
<b>25</b>	No "any" key on keyboard
<b>26</b>	General Protection Fault
<b>27</b>	CD-ROM server needs recalibration
<b>28</b>	Sysadmin accidentally destroyed pager with a large hammer
<b>29</b>	Too many interrupts
<b>30</b>	Ionization from the air-conditioning
<b>31</b>	Password is too complex to decrypt

## JUNE

<b>1</b>	The UPS is on strike
<b>2</b>	System consumed all the paper for paging
<b>3</b>	ATM cell has no roaming feature turned on, notebooks can't connect
<b>4</b>	Paradigm shift...without a clutch
<b>5</b>	Having to manually track the satellite
<b>6</b>	Bogon emissions
<b>7</b>	A salesman drove over the CPU board
<b>8</b>	Lightning strikes
<b>9</b>	Dyslexics retyping hosts file on servers
<b>10</b>	New management
<b>11</b>	Error: one bad user found
<b>12</b>	Computers under water due to SYN flooding
<b>13</b>	Someone was smoking in the computer room and set off the halon systems
<b>14</b>	Too few computrons available
<b>15</b>	Interference between the keyboard and the chair
<b>16</b>	System has been recalled
<b>17</b>	Repeated reboots of the system failed to solve problem
<b>18</b>	Cache miss - please take better aim next time
<b>19</b>	Monitor resolution too high
<b>20</b>	The real ttys became pseudo ttys and vice-versa
<b>21</b>	Descramble code needed from software company
<b>22</b>	High nuclear activity in your area
<b>23</b>	le0: no carrier: transceiver cable problem?
<b>24</b>	Not enough memory
<b>25</b>	T-1's congested due to porn traffic to the news server
<b>26</b>	Backbone adjustment
<b>27</b>	Incompatible bit-registration operators
<b>28</b>	SCSI Chain overterminated
<b>29</b>	The Token fell out of the ring
<b>30</b>	You put the disk in upside down



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## JULY

<b>1</b>	We already sent around a notice about that
<b>2</b>	Unable to connect to remote host: Connection refused
<b>3</b>	Boredom in the Kernel
<b>4</b>	A plumber is needed, the network drain is clogged
<b>5</b>	The vulcan-death-grip ping has been applied
<b>6</b>	The printer thinks its a router
<b>7</b>	Not enough interrupts
<b>8</b>	The Internet is being scanned for viruses
<b>9</b>	Dew on the telephone lines
<b>10</b>	Mouse chewed through power cable
<b>11</b>	Network packets travelling uphill
<b>12</b>	Zombie processes detected, machine is haunted
<b>13</b>	Suspicious pointer corrupted virtual machine
<b>14</b>	The vendor put the bug there
<b>15</b>	Not properly grounded
<b>16</b>	Cellular telephone interference
<b>17</b>	Write-only-memory subsystem too slow for this machine
<b>18</b>	You need to install an RTFM interface
<b>19</b>	Stray Alpha Particles
<b>20</b>	We just switched to Sprint
<b>21</b>	HTTPD Error 666 : BOFH was here
<b>22</b>	Maintenance window broken
<b>23</b>	Crop circles in the corn shell
<b>24</b>	Recursive traversal of loopback mount points
<b>25</b>	Suboptimal routing experience
<b>26</b>	Neutrino overload on the nameserver
<b>27</b>	Electrical conduits in machine room are melting
<b>28</b>	TCP/IP UDP alarm threshold is set too low
<b>29</b>	Sysadmins busy fighting SPAM
<b>30</b>	The monitor is plugged into the serial port
<b>31</b>	Backup tape overwritten with copy of system manager's favourite CD

## AUGUST

<b>1</b>	You must've hit the wrong any key
<b>2</b>	We just switched to FDDI
<b>3</b>	The static electricity routing is acting up...
<b>4</b>	SCSI's too wide
<b>5</b>	Hardware stress fractures
<b>6</b>	Change in Earth's rotational speed
<b>7</b>	We'll fix that in the next (upgrade, update, patch release, service pack)
<b>8</b>	Runt packets
<b>9</b>	The electricity substation in the car park blew up
<b>10</b>	Cosmic ray particles crashed through the hard disk platter
<b>11</b>	Tachyon emissions overloading the system
<b>12</b>	Stubborn processes
<b>13</b>	High pressure system failure
<b>14</b>	Electricians made popcorn in the power supply
<b>15</b>	Stale file handle
<b>16</b>	The keyboard isn't plugged in
<b>17</b>	Multicasts on broken packets
<b>18</b>	Sysadmins unavailable
<b>19</b>	Borg implants are failing
<b>20</b>	There isn't any problem
<b>21</b>	Out of cards on drive D
<b>22</b>	Power Company having EMP problems with their reactor
<b>23</b>	Bad cafeteria food landed all the sysadmins in the hospital
<b>24</b>	Non-redundant fan failure
<b>25</b>	Loop found in loop in redundant loopback
<b>26</b>	The monitor needs another box of pixels
<b>27</b>	Rhythmic variations in the voltage reaching the power supply
<b>28</b>	Scheduled global CPU outage
<b>29</b>	The recent proliferation of Nuclear Testing
<b>30</b>	A star wars satellite accidently blew up the WAN
<b>31</b>	Did you pay the new Support Fee?

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## SEPTEMBER

<b>1</b>	Bad ether in the cables
<b>2</b>	Routing problems on the neural net
<b>3</b>	The Borg tried to assimilate your system. Resistance is futile
<b>4</b>	CPU-angle has to be adjusted because of vibrations coming from the nearby road
<b>5</b>	LBNC (luser brain not connected)
<b>6</b>	Alloc: /dev/null: filesystem full
<b>7</b>	We've picked COBOL as the language of choice
<b>8</b>	Just type 'mv * /dev/null'.
<b>9</b>	We didn't pay the Internet bill and it's been cut off
<b>10</b>	All of the packets are empty
<b>11</b>	That function is not currently supported
<b>12</b>	Static from nylon underwear
<b>13</b>	Parallel processors running perpendicular today
<b>14</b>	Digital Manipulator exceeding velocity parameters
<b>15</b>	Endothermal recalibration
<b>16</b>	User to computer ratio too high
<b>17</b>	Someone hooked the twisted pair wires into the answering machine
<b>18</b>	Change your language to Finnish
<b>19</b>	New guy cross-connected phone lines with ac power bus
<b>20</b>	It's the internic's fault
<b>21</b>	The cables are not the same length
<b>22</b>	It's not RFC-822 compliant
<b>23</b>	Feature not yet implemented
<b>24</b>	Electro-magnetic pulses from North Korean above ground nuke testing
<b>25</b>	Somebody ran the operating system through a spelling checker
<b>26</b>	Borg nanites have infested the server
<b>27</b>	Fractal radiation jamming the backbone
<b>28</b>	Stop bit received
<b>29</b>	The cord jumped over and hit the power switch
<b>30</b>	You did wha... Oh _dear_....

## OCTOBER

<b>1</b>	We've run out of licenses
<b>2</b>	Fat electrons in the lines
<b>3</b>	Boss' kid fucked up the machine
<b>4</b>	The air conditioning water supply pipe ruptured over the machine room
<b>5</b>	Terrorist activities
<b>6</b>	Old inkjet cartridges emanate barium-based fumes
<b>7</b>	Disks spinning backwards - toggle the hemisphere jumper
<b>8</b>	Feature was not beta tested
<b>9</b>	UBNC (user brain not connected)
<b>10</b>	Firmware update in the coffee machine
<b>11</b>	Collapsed Backbone
<b>12</b>	Magnetic interference from money/credit cards
<b>13</b>	Electromagnetic energy loss
<b>14</b>	Kernel panic: write-only-memory (/dev/wom0) capacity exceeded
<b>15</b>	You've been infected by the Telescoping Hubble virus
<b>16</b>	Lusers learning curve appears to be fractal
<b>17</b>	Sticky bit has come loose
<b>18</b>	Lawn mower blade in your fan need sharpening
<b>19</b>	According to Microsoft, it's by design
<b>20</b>	Root name servers corrupted
<b>21</b>	That would be because the software doesn't work
<b>22</b>	The file system is full of it
<b>23</b>	Jupiter is aligned with Mars
<b>24</b>	That's easy to fix, but I can't be bothered
<b>25</b>	CPU needs bearings repacked
<b>26</b>	The daemons! The daemons! The terrible daemons!
<b>27</b>	Struck by the Good Times virus
<b>28</b>	Emissions from GSM-phones
<b>29</b>	Bad user karma
<b>30</b>	The Dilithium Crystals need to be rotated
<b>31</b>	RPC_PMAP_FAILURE

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## NOVEMBER

<b>1</b>	YOU HAVE AN I/O ERROR -> Incompetent Operator error
<b>2</b>	Root rot
<b>3</b>	The electrician didn't know what the yellow cable was so he yanked the ethernet out
<b>4</b>	Boss forgot system password
<b>5</b>	Fiber optics caused gas main leak
<b>6</b>	Sticky bits on disk
<b>7</b>	Your keyboard cord are losing electricity
<b>8</b>	CPU needs recalibration
<b>9</b>	Unoptimized hard drive
<b>10</b>	What you are experiencing is not a problem; it is an undocumented feature
<b>11</b>	It was OK before you touched it
<b>12</b>	_Rosin_ core solder? But...
<b>13</b>	Only available on a need to know basis
<b>14</b>	We're waiting for [the phone company] to fix that line
<b>15</b>	It's an ID-10-T error
<b>16</b>	PEBKAC (Problem Exists Between Keyboard And Chair)
<b>17</b>	Domain controller not responding
<b>18</b>	We're out of slots on the server
<b>19</b>	It's not plugged in
<b>20</b>	Some one needed the powerstrip, so they pulled the switch plug
<b>21</b>	Chewing gum on /dev/sd3c
<b>22</b>	Operators killed when huge stack of backup tapes fell over
<b>23</b>	Sticktion
<b>24</b>	Mailer-daemon is busy burning your message
<b>25</b>	Electromagnetic radiation from satellite debris
<b>26</b>	Plate voltage too low on demodulator tube
<b>27</b>	It's stuck in the Web
<b>28</b>	The hardware bus needs a new token
<b>29</b>	The butane lighter causes the pincushioning
<b>30</b>	Broadcast packets on wrong frequency

## DECEMBER

<b>1</b>	We're upgrading /dev/null
<b>2</b>	The CPU has shifted, and become decentralized
<b>3</b>	Appears to be a Slow/Narrow SCSI-0 Interface problem
<b>4</b>	Root nameservers are out of sync
<b>5</b>	Fatal error right in front of screen
<b>6</b>	Electrons on a bender
<b>7</b>	Someone's tie is caught in the printer
<b>8</b>	UPS interrupted the server's power
<b>9</b>	The data on your hard drive is out of balance
<b>10</b>	CPU radiator broken
<b>11</b>	It has Intel Inside
<b>12</b>	Ether leak
<b>13</b>	Divide-by-zero error
<b>14</b>	We've performed a software upgrade
<b>15</b>	Static from plastic slide rules
<b>16</b>	Network down, IP packets delivered via UPS
<b>17</b>	Bank holiday - system operating credits not recharged
<b>18</b>	IRQ dropout
<b>19</b>	Knot in cables caused data stream to become twisted and kinked
<b>20</b>	The kernel license has expired
<b>21</b>	Route flapping at the NAP
<b>22</b>	Global warming
<b>23</b>	Clock speed
<b>24</b>	Firewall needs cooling
<b>25</b>	The Internet is full
<b>26</b>	Operators on strike due to broken coffee machine
<b>27</b>	You're out of memory
<b>28</b>	The AA battery in the wallclock sends magnetic interference
<b>29</b>	Arcserve crashed the server again
<b>30</b>	Virus attack, luser responsible
<b>31</b>	Party-bug in the Aloha protocol

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