

**Computer Tips - Continued from page 9**

WINZIP, a great compression utility. Download accelerator plus, a terrific download program. System safe gold is also excellent for stabilizing your system. The trick is to try and find out as much information about a program before you put it on your system. Try and find out what other people are saying this will help you make a good decision regarding what to download and what not to.

Some things to stay away from: almost anything that says it will speed up your connection. These may help a little bit but we have to recognize the fact that there is only so much we can do with our connection in this area. Most of them are geared to trying to get you to look at advertising. Easy MTU is a good free program that will automatically optimize your internet settings without forcing you to look at junk advertising.

Anything that promises free items or free contests all come with a price. Normally this is an inbox full of spam. If you like going to these sites, then you should try and download a spam filter first. These handy inbox tools can help you get rid of all those emails from supposed foreign investment opportunities and the like, before they hit your email inbox.

These are just a few examples of the huge selection of free things on the Web. There are many more and as long as you have researched what you are downloading; some of them can be very handy. One last must have...Adobe Acrobat reader. This program is very useful if you need to look at any .pdf files. You will find a lot of documents available in this format and it is essential to have this program to read them. To download any of the programs I've talked about, either enter their names into your search engine or go to tucows and look for them. I hope you find them useful. If you have any programs that you have found useful and would like to share them with people, email us at [debugcomputers@hotmail.com](mailto:debugcomputers@hotmail.com). I'll post them in the next few articles and let you know how we found them. Next month we will cover operating system upgrades. Until then, here's hoping that we get to skate at least one lap around the Millpond before the end of February.

- Pat Larkin and Steve Hungerford.  
Debug Computers.

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**One Born Every Minute - Continued from page 7**

You guessed it, two days later one them called me and told me that the information I had given them was not quite correct and proceeded to tell me her experience with the multi plan Bell company. She also had a big cell phone and advised me that the charges that the Bell did not tell me about, aside from the \$50 to change plans, would result in a much reduced service for about \$2 a month less!

I can understand a little the attitude of people in the new technology business when I read that the President of Nokia (who supplied my free phone) was reasonably satisfied that his companies' profits dropped by nearly 70%. He probably got a bonus for that attainment.

Do we need all this? Am I just too old to deal with new technology or am I just getting stupid or are they getting more clever - you tell me.

I should have written about global warming which Valerie suggested I do. I was afraid to ask her why she though I should lest the answer involve some reference to my so-called expertise in hot air.

Never mind, we now have cell phones coming out our ying yang which we will be using sparingly if at all and no I won't give you our number since I don't think I am yet totally stupid - I know that when someone phones me on a cell phone I get charged - go figure.

- John A. Jackson