



# The Krypton Edge

December 2006

Volume 1, Number 2



## Welcome!

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Call us before the New Year and get part of your install price tax-refunded!

Krypton can help you meet E-DISCOVERY RULES for your active and stored files

Don't forget to download your free Password Tips whitepaper. Happy Holidays from us to you!

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### IMPORTANT DATES:

**Dec. 7** - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
**Dec 16-23** - Happy Hanukkah!  
**Dec. 25** - Merry Christmas!  
**Dec. 31** - Capital Investment Deadline

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**The vision must be followed by the venture. It is not enough to stare up the steps - we must step up the stairs.**

- Vance Havne

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## News

**It's almost year-end!** Remember, purchases for your business made before December 31st will net you some tax-money for your capital investment. By upgrading your business' efficiency in paper and electronic information handling, storage and sharing, plus improving security and regulatory compliance, Krypton is an investment that will pay off no matter what...but why not take advantage now and get that payoff sooner? ([Read more about capital expenditures here.](#))

**Major New E-Discovery Rules Take Effect** this month, putting efficient data storage and retrieval at the forefront of today's business concerns. The rules mandate tracking files, including email and instant messages, having anything to do with matters which may one day come up in litigation. Accidentally losing or destroying information can mean huge fines and court sanctions! Many companies are working to help businesses conform to the new rules, as reported [here by the Associated Press](#). Among those companies, Krypton stands out for its cost-effectiveness, ease of use, and affordability. [You can read more about how Krypton meets E-Discovery requirements here.](#)

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## Security Tip of the

# Month

**Q: What's the single most important thing you can do to make your electronic information secure?**

**A: Have a good password!**

Specifically, have a good password and keep it well. That means that not only does your password have to be well-formulated, but it has to be correctly stored, changed at reasonable intervals, and protected from theft or discovery.

There are many rules, tips and tricks for creating and keeping a good password -- far too many to list here! However, as a public service, Krypton Document Solutions has written a whitepaper on Creating & Keeping A Secure Password. It contains everything from the absolutely-necessary rules to the little things that make *always* having good passwords easy.

We're offering it to our readers as a Christmas present. [Click here to download the .pdf format document](#), and Happy Holidays from Krypton!

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## Government Says: Stop Using SSNs!

As we often stress in our seminars and publications, the biggest risk of Identity Theft comes from an individual's Social Security Number (SSN). Why? Because with a name and SSN, a criminal can get just about every other piece of information and paperwork there is, including birth certificates, drivers' licenses, and access to bank and credit accounts. Also, a SSN can't be changed -- it's assigned at birth or shortly thereafter, and while you can change your name, you can't, at the present, change your SSN, even if you *know* it's been stolen.

With a Social Security Number being so sensitive, you'd think that it would be a rare occasion for someone to ask for it, but that hasn't been the case -- In spite of specific wording in the Federal Social Security Act (the law that created SSNs) stating that they're never supposed to be

used as identification except by employers and the government, many companies have seized on the convenience of the number and used them for identification in many ways, including printing them on ID cards, bills and statements, and making callers give their SSN over the telephone!

Identity Theft has been a favorite topic of legislation for the government lately, probably because it's obviously needed and universally supported, and finally it seems the trend has turned its sights to the problem of Social Security Numbers. Some smaller issues, such as printing SSNs on ID cards, were handled by FACTA (see our last issue for a breakdown of FACTA requirements), but the frequent practice of using SSNs to identify citizens for everything from telephone repair calls to magazine subscriptions hasn't really been addressed...but it may be soon, if the President's office has anything to say about it.

The President's Identity Theft Task Force released its Interim Recommendations just a few months ago, and they are overwhelmingly concerned with the problems associated with SSNs. Among the recommendations are injunctions to limit the use of SSNs in the Public Sector wherever possible, to develop alternate methods of proving, and later authenticating, someone's identity (so that the SSN is no longer the be-all and end-all), and to create a "universal" police report, to make reporting ID Theft incidents easier. [You can read the entire Interim Recommendations document here.](#)



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