Chris Gay

"Computers, Operating Systems & Devices are far too complicated for Users"

I'm a Chartered Engineer and software developer who has been working with computers for over 30 years, but despite living with technology, not enough is being done by companies such as Microsoft, to make Computers, Operating Systems, and Devices simple to use and interconnect. Complexity is easy to engineer, simplicity is very hard, but that's what we need.

Think of hundreds of Microsoft security patches to install, drivers to sort out, and .DLL files to avoid over-writing. I remember the brilliance of the first Apple Macs, where to install a driver, you just copied the file to the System Folder. It was simple, but could be improved.

All devices should carry their own drivers, so as soon as you plug the device in, you have them work automatically. I did that on industrial equipment in the 1980s. The original Macintosh II had something similar. A true Plug'n'Go.

As an example, if I'm using a digital camera, I only want to worry about aesthetics, the scene, and picture quality, nothing else. Now we have umpteen incompatible image formats, CD formats, DVD formats, cable formats, Sensor Formats, Lens Formats, and Memory Stick formats. Please bash some industry heads together.

Then there is the mess of home networking, whether by wireless or other means for info-tainment. Think of the user, not the developer.