Laptop Repair: Industry Trends by Dustin Pedro

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With the huge boom in technical innovations that's happening in the computer industry, it is only logical that related service industries also keep pace with them. Smarter, sleeker and cheaper models are flooding the markets and though all of them are not necessarily as durable and sturdy as the earlier ones, this is also right now, good news for the repair-service industry.

Trend-watchers in this sector have been making predictions ever since the bulky, ponderous desktops were replaced by portable laptops. Now with the advent of notebooks, hand-helds, palm-tops, smart-phones and other devices, technicians have to constantly re-invent themselves and their businesses.

One big prediction is that with the sliding cost of equipment, the laptop repair industry could take a beating. Users today neither have time nor patience to wait till their laptops get fixed, and would rather junk them and buy new equipment loaded with the latest software/hardware. Technicians will now have to become more specialized as new peripherals/configurations emerge.

Data recovery was (still is) a huge part of laptop repair service. However, with the prospect of cloud computing, saving data will not be as much of an issue as it used to be. Retrieving lost data will be simpler and can be done without the help of professionals. The cloud also means more privacy, reliability and ease of use by non-tech-savvy people.

Redundancy/obsolescence of laptop hardware/software looms large with integrated devices appearing in the market. Smart-phones, tablets, iPads and the common cell-phone now come with features that replicate almost everything your laptop does. Certain sectors like gaming may still require the conventional docked-screens and conventional formats but today the phone is the emerging device. Technicians need to keep themselves updated in such fields.

More and more people are getting confident about DIY, and though the services of a qualified professional can never be substituted, gifted amateurs could take over large sectors in repair-services causing decline in rates for such services.

Industry-watchers also predict the phasing out of lower-skilled technicians as industry-norms evolve. Current financial market issues mean that older workers will be squeezed out and their role played by experts with more creative profiles, recruited via social networking sites. There is a subtle trend of age-discrimination in areas like cloud and mobile-apps and 40+ is considered â€œold.â€•

With increasing automation, low-level assembly jobs, once the backbone of the build-cum-service industry, are gradually getting phased-out. This is similar to what happened in the auto industry, where industrial robots now do much of the routine chores.

Based on these facts, it is safe to predict that the laptop repair-services industry, as we currently know it, is set for big changes in the future.

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