



by Ralph Lee Scott

Pando

Ever tried to send large attachments to your e-mail, only to be rejected by your mail service? These days large music, video and text files can often exceed allowable system transmission parameters. Pando www.pando.com is an example of a new type of service that allows you to share these large files with others. The current beta version of Pando is limited to 1GB file transfer per email. Pando users are required to download a desktop application that runs both on Windows XP and Apple OSX operating systems.

Pando is easier to use than other file sharing web sites such as Myspace and Flickr and it has the added feature of being more private. Your encrypted uploaded files are stored on the Pando's servers for fourteen days. During this period the person to whom you sent the email has the opportunity to download the desktop application and view the files just as if you had enclosed them in your emails. After the fourteen days you will need to re-send the files to have them accessed. Other file sharing systems usually require you to manually delete older uploads. The person receiving the files gets regular email with the added information about the Pando system. Emails from Pando look like this:

You'll need Pando to open this attachment. Get Pando free here.



JapaneseArt1.tif

From: Ralph Scott Total size: 7.9MB

Expires: Aug. 18, 2006 (?)

When you click on the email file attachment, Pando gives you the opportunity to download the image or music files. After the download is complete, you click on a green open button and the file opens on your desktop. The file is opened using the application that the file was written in. This will typically be an application like mp3, pdf, tiff, etc. Options with Pando enable you to specify your profile, storage location, and transfer protocols (for example a virus scanning package). When the person receiving the email does the download the actual file from your computer is transferred and encrypted end to end to the person's computer. You can also right click any file on your computer and then click on the link: "Send with Pando" and Pando will send that file. Most of the files upload quickly with a 7.9 MB file taking typically only a couple of seconds. Large 95 MB files will take a little longer, but they will make it! As mentioned earlier there is a 1 GB limit on Pando file transmission size. Pando is an easy solution to an email problem that has plagued people sharing large computer files since the dawn of the Internet.

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