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October 2020

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**Fred Holzager,
IT Director**

**Holzager Technology Services
and
Publisher of
*The Tech Insider***

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Snapple Real Fact #1472

“Sphenopalatine
ganglioneuralgia” is
the technical name
for brain freeze.

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OCTOBER IS CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH!



The Tech Insider

“Insightful Tips To Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier and Be More Profitable”



Employees Are Letting Hackers Into Your Network ... What You Can Do To Stop It

Cyberthreats are everywhere these days. Hackers, scammers and cybercriminals are working overtime to break into your network – and the network of just about every business out there. They have a huge arsenal of tools at their disposal, from automated bots to malicious advertising networks, to make it possible.

But there is one “tool” that you may be putting directly into their hands: your employees. **Specifically, your employees’ lack of IT security training.**

While most of us expect hackers to attack from the outside using malware or brute-force attacks (hacking, in a more traditional sense), the truth is that most hackers love it when they can get others to do their work for them.

In other words, if they can fool your employees into clicking on a link in an e-mail or downloading

unapproved software onto a company device, all the hackers have to do is sit back while your employees wreak havoc. The worst part is that your employees may not even realize that their actions are compromising your network. And that’s a problem.

Even if you have other forms of network security in place – malware protection, firewalls, secure cloud backup, etc. – it won’t be enough if your employees lack good IT security training. In fact, a lack of training is the single biggest threat to your network!

It’s time to do something about it. Comprehensive network security training accomplishes several things, including:

1. Identifying Phishing E-Mails

Phishing e-mails are constantly evolving. *(Continued on page 2)*



“We Love Referrals” 2020 Offer

**Keeping with the spirit of helping others,
if you refer a business to us and they become our customer,
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At Holzager Technology Services, we believe that referrals are the greatest form of flattery. By recommending your partners, associates, or professional contacts, you can help them enjoy worry-free IT and support a worthy cause of your choice!

For more information, please see our website at www.tech4now.com/we-love-referrals, contact us by phone at 201-797-5050 or email us at info@tech4now.com.



Quotations

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

—Socrates

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything."

—George Bernard Shaw

"Change before you have to."

—Jack Welch

"Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."

—Benjamin Franklin

"Failure is not the opposite of success; it's part of success."

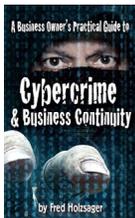
—Arianna Huffington

"Success in no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing."

—Pelé

(Edson Arantes do Nascimento)

Read Fred's Book!



If you would like to have us speak to your organization and give away some free copies to attendees, give us a call. For more details on the contents and how to get your own copy, please visit our special web page at www.tech4now.com/cybercrime

"We make all of your computer problems go away without the cost of a full-time I.T. staff"

Ask us about our fixed price services HTS Insight Hassle-Free Agreements— Computer Support at a flat monthly fee you can budget for just like rent!

(Continued from page 1)

be that the average phishing e-mail included a message littered with bad grammar and misspelled words. Plus, it was generally from someone you'd never heard of.

These days, phishing e-mails are a lot more clever. Hackers can spoof legitimate e-mail addresses and websites and make their e-mails look like they're coming from a sender you actually know. They can disguise these e-mails as messages from your bank or other employees within your business.

You can still identify these fake e-mails by paying attention to little details that give them away, such as inconsistencies in URLs in the body of the e-mail. Inconsistencies can include odd strings of numbers in the web address or links to *Your-Bank.net* instead of *YourBank.com*. Good training can help your employees recognize these types of red flags.

2. Avoiding Malware Or Ransomware Attacks

One reason why malware attacks work is because an employee clicks a link or downloads a program they shouldn't. They might think they're about to download a useful new program to their company computer, but the reality is very different.

Malware comes from many different sources. It can come from phishing e-mails, but it also comes from malicious ads on the Internet or by connecting an infected device to your network. For example, an employee might be using their USB thumb drive from home to transfer files (don't let this happen!), and that thumb drive happens to be carrying a virus. The next thing you know, it's on your network and spreading.

This is why endpoint protection across the board is

"Every device on your network should be firewalled and have updated malware and ransomware protection in place."

4 Tips To Get Projects Done On Time

1. Give Them The Tools And Resources They Need

We all need tools to get things done – project management software, content creation tools, messaging apps, virtual private network access and more. Have a conversation about what each team member needs to maximize productivity and work closely with them to meet that need.

2. Set Aside Time For Proper Research

Don't jump headfirst into a project without jumping into research first. Information is a powerful tool to get things done efficiently and effectively.

3. Assign Accordingly

Before the team goes to work, make sure

so important. Every device on your network should be firewalled and have updated malware and ransomware protection in place. If you have remote employees, they should only use verified and protected devices to connect to your network. (They should also be using a VPN, or virtual private network, for even more security.) But more importantly, your employees should be trained on this security. They should understand why it's in place and why they should only connect to your network using secured devices.

3. Updating Poor Or Outdated Passwords

If you want to make a hacker's job easier than ever, all you have to do is never change your password. Or use a weak password, like "QWERTY" or "PASSWORD." Even in enterprise, people still use bad passwords that never get changed. Don't let this be you!

A good IT security training program stresses the importance of updating passwords regularly. Even better, it shows employees the best practices in updating the passwords and in choosing secure passwords that will offer an extra layer of protection between your business and the outside world.

If you or your employees haven't updated their passwords recently, a good rule of thumb is to consider all current passwords compromised. When hackers attack your network, two of the big things they look for are usernames and passwords. It doesn't matter what they're for – hackers just want this information. Why? Because most people do not change their passwords regularly, and because many people are in the habit of reusing passwords for multiple applications, hackers will try to use these passwords in other places, including bank accounts.

Don't let your employees become your biggest liability. These are just a few examples of how comprehensive IT and network security training can give your employees the knowledge and resources they need to help protect themselves and your business. **Just remember, you do not have to do this by yourself! Good IT training programs are hard to find, and we are here to help. If your office needs help, call us at [(201) 797-5050].**



assignments or responsibilities are delegated properly and check in with everyone on a regular basis to make sure things are going smoothly (or to see if they need help).

smoothly (or to see if they need help).

4. Plan And Plan Again

Plan out the project before you set to work. Give yourself and your team a map to follow as you work through the project. As with any project, expect obstacles along the way and be willing to update your map accordingly.

—*Small Business Trends, July 4, 2020*

Word Play

- ☺ I've been to the dentist many times, so I already know the drill.
- ☺ A boiled egg every morning is hard to beat!
- ☺ When a woman returns new clothing, that's post-traumatic dress syndrome.
- ☺ The best way to communicate with a fish is to drop them a line.
- ☺ A horse is a very stable animal.
- ☺ A cat ate some cheese and waited for a mouse with baited breath.
- ☺ Scientists have created a flea from scratch.
- ☺ When a new hive is done, bees have a house swarming party.
- ☺ An angry bird landed on a door knob. Then it flew off the handle.
- ☺ Male deer have buck teeth.
- ☺ What did the leg say to the foot? "It's going tibia k!"
- ☺ Corduroy pillows are making headlines.

- ☺ What did the artery say to the muscle? "You're being a little vein."
- ☺ Did you hear about the optometrist who fell into a lens grinder and made a spectacle of himself?
- ☺ How did the picture end up in jail? It was framed!
- ☺ My ex-wife still misses me. But her aim is starting to improve!
- ☺ Sure, I drink brake fluid. But I can stop anytime!
- ☺ What do you call an overweight psychic? A four-chin teller!
- ☺ Three conspiracy theorists walk into a bar... You can't tell me that's just a coincidence!
- ☺ My girlfriend thought I'd never be able to make a car out of spaghetti... You should've seen her face when I drove pasta!
- ☺ I saw an ad for burial plots, and I thought... "That's the last thing I need!"

Quick Tech Productivity Pointers

Effective January 2021, Adobe Flash Player will be disabled by default in Internet Explorer 11 and Microsoft Edge.

This announcement was initially made in July 2017 in conjunction with other browsers and web interfaces from Apple, Facebook, Google and Mozilla.

Flash was the lead app within the gaming world and for media experience in the past, but over time, the Flash plug-in had become known for its susceptibility to various security issues, thus making it a prime target for cyberattacks.

Nowadays, Flash can be replaced by more secure browser technology with HTML5 and WebGL. These are not only more secure, but offer better performance, thus making them significantly more attractive to developers and end users alike.

Microsoft, now viewing the presence of Flash as a vulnerability, had already pushed out KB4561600 in June 2020 to automatically disable the use of Flash Player in their current browser products (IE11 and MS Edge) as of January 1, 2021.



Although Flash will be disabled, there are still some enterprise applications which are dependent upon the software, for those that elect to use Flash, their implementations will be exempt from Microsoft's Security Support offered with Edge and IE11; however, through 2020, Flash security updates will still be provided. For all those that still need to license Flash beyond 2020, to run their internal business systems, Adobe has announced that Samsung-owned Harman will be Adobe's official distribution licensing partner.

"The new Chromium-based Microsoft Edge will continue to support Flash Player to some degree via Internet Explorer mode, a new feature that allows users to host IE11 apps. IE mode will allow Flash Player to load as a plug-in within Edge, Microsoft explained." – [TechRepublic, 9/7/2020](#)

In early 2021, Microsoft will push out an update via its Update Catalog, Windows Updates and WSUS entitled "Update for Removal of Adobe Flash Player" to permanently remove it from the Windows operating system. *Again, please remember to update regularly.*



Find Out
with a Complimentary
Dark Web Scan

Did you know...?

- Cyber-attacks have continued to grow in cost, size, and impact—causing 60% of SMBs to go out of business within 6 months of a cyber incident.
- Over 80% of data breaches leverage stolen passwords as the principal attack vector—often acquired on the *Dark Web*.
- Far too often, companies that have had their credentials compromised and sold on the *Dark Web* don't know it until they have been informed by law enforcement—but then, it's too late.
- To help keep your critical business assets safe from the compromises that lead to breach and theft, we are offering a complimentary, one-time scan with **Dark Web ID™ Credential Monitoring**.

If you are interested in learning more about the risks involved in ignoring your password security, give us a call at (201) 797-5050 or visit our website at

<https://www.tech4now.com/dwid>
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- ✓ Voice over IP phone systems

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—Anne B. Horst, Kando Service Agency, Inc.

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The Lighter Side...

For Entertainment Purposes ONLY!

The Investment Counselor

An investment counselor decided to go out on her own. She was shrewd and diligent, so business kept coming in, and pretty soon she realized that she needed an in-house counsel. The investment banker began to interview young lawyers.

"As I'm sure you can understand," she started off with one of the first applicants, "in a business like this, our personal integrity must be beyond question." She leaned forward. "Mr. Mayberry, are you an honest lawyer?"

"Honest?" replied the job prospect. "Let me tell you something about honest. Why, I'm so honest that my father lent me \$15,000 for my education, and I paid back every penny the minute I tried my very first case."

"Impressive. And what sort of case was that?" asked the investment counselor. The lawyer squirmed in his seat and admitted, "He sued me for the money."

Eat The Watermelons

A farmer in the country has a watermelon patch and upon inspection he discovers that some of the local kids have been helping themselves to a feast.

The farmer thinks of ways to discourage this profit-eating situation. So he puts up a sign that reads:

"WARNING! ONE OF THESE WATERMELONS CONTAINS CYANIDE!"

He smiled smugly as he watched the kids run off the next night without eating any of his melons.

The farmer returns to the watermelon patch a week later to discover that none of the watermelons have been eaten, but finds another sign that reads:

"NOW THERE ARE TWO!"

Ploughing The Land

A husband and wife were driving down a country lane on their way to visit some friends. They came to a muddy patch in the road and the car became bogged. After a few minutes of trying to get the car out by themselves, they saw a young farmer coming down the lane, driving some oxen before him.

The farmer stopped when he saw the couple in trouble and offered to pull the car out of the mud for \$50. The husband accepted and minutes later the car was free. The farmer turned to the husband and said, "You know, you're the tenth car I've helped out of the mud today."

The husband looks around at the fields incredulously and asks the farmer, "When do you have time to plough your land? At night?" "No," the young farmer replied seriously, "Night is when I put the water in the hole."