

Real World Tech Tips

making your business III' reliable & more seeme than ever

Stop Failures!

9 Ways to prevent Disaster.

- 1. Spam Emails: Secure your email Most attacks happen through Email.
- 2. Passwords: Apply Security Policies.
- 3. Computer Updates: Keep Microsoft, Adobe and JAVA products updated.
- 4. Training: Train your users Often! Teach them about data security, Email attacks, policies and procedures.
- 5. Advance Security: Move beyond outdated antivirus tools of the past.
- 6. Firewall: Turn on Intrusion Detection& Intrusion prevention features.
- 7. Encryption: Whenever possible, the goal is to encrypt files at rest and in motion.
- 8. Two factor Authentication.
- 9. The Most important is Backup: Local (BDR Appliance) & to the cloud, test your backups often.

If you need help to implement anything of these, call us today!

February 2018



This monthly publication provided courtesy of SHAN DHOLARIA, CTO of PCPlus Networks.

"As a business owner, you don't have time to waste on technical and operational issues plus security is a BIG concern too..

That's where we shine! Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!"



WARNING: Your Business Is More Likely To Be The Victim Of Cybercrime NOW Than Ever Before...Take These Steps Today So You Don't Get Hacked!

Though we're in the midst of an unprecedented rise in high-profile cybercrime incidents, it's easy to assume that our own much smaller businesses are safe. Sure, we think, hacking into the data stores of J.P. Morgan, the U.S. Government, or Virgin America can net hackers millions and millions of dollars. Why would they bother with a small business?

But unfortunately for all of us, hackers actually *do* bother with small businesses across the country — these attacks just don't make the news. By some estimates, including one reported in Media Planet, more than half of small businesses have had their data compromised. According to StaySafeOnline.org, these attacks, targeting small to midsize companies, now comprise over 70% of all data

breaches. What's worse, this digital onslaught shows no sign of slowing. In fact, ransomware attacks alone have increased 250% since 2016, accompanied by higher rates of malware, phishing, and other forms of cybercrime.

Once you see these numbers, it's easy to understand why hackers seek the little guy. These days, massive corporations like Google or Citigroup employ incredibly sophisticated digital measures. Their digital vaults, though containing ludicrously attractive sums of potential money to grab, are located at the end of a virtual labyrinth covered in traps, with a final, inches-thick steel door protecting their assets for good measure. In contrast, the digital assets of small businesses are often hidden behind nothing more than a single, often weak, password. With thousands of

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business owners going about their day-to-day, utterly oblivious to their paper-thin security, the question turns from "Why would hackers bother with my small business?" to "Why wouldn't they?"

Though cybercriminals may come away with less than they might have had they targeted a Fortune 500 company, it certainly isn't going to seem cheap to you. According to one TechRepublic analysis, an average cyber-attack on a small business can cost as much as \$256,000. Is that a sudden cost your company can weather?

Luckily, there is hope. Though small business owners often assume that effective cyber security solutions lie far outside their budget range, robust digital security is now more affordable than ever. By investing in comprehensive protection, small businesses can deflect even the most persistent hackers.

Today, a cyber-attack on your business is almost statistically inevitable. And when that attack comes, you'll definitely want to be prepared. If you haven't needed a doctor for the past two years, does that mean you're going to abandon your health insurance coverage? Of course not.

"What's worse, this digital onslaught shows no sign of slowing. In fact, ransomware attacks alone have increased 250% since 2016, accompanied by higher rates of malware, phishing, and other forms of cybercrime."



What about car insurance? Does it become unnecessary in the absence of a crash? No, because even if you're the best driver in the world, sometimes a collision is out of your control.

What's more, both your body and your car require regular upkeep and maintenance to remain in peak condition. It's no different with your network security. As technology hurtles forward at an ever-increasing speed, the ways that hackers can infiltrate your network multiply. The best digital security platforms constantly update, enabling them to anticipate these shifts and prevent them from becoming liabilities. This way, you can be proactive prior to a digital crisis, ensuring that no matter what comes, your network is protected.

Even as digital crime climbs at a staggering rate, and hundreds of small businesses are forced to close their doors for good, thousands of owners fail to notice, assuming they'll somehow be spared from an attack. Don't be one of them. Invest in regularly maintained, powerful cyber security, and ensure the future of your company.

FREE Report: The Business Owner's Guide To IT Support Services And Fees

IT BUYERS
GUIDE
What Every Business

What Every Business
Owner MUST
Know About IT
Support Services
And Fees

What You Should Expect To Pay For IT Support For Your Business And How To Get Exactly What You Need You'll learn:

- The three most common ways IT companies charge for their services and the pros and cons of each approach.
- A common billing model that puts ALL THE RISK on you, the customer, when buying IT services; you'll learn what it is and why you need to avoid agreeing to it.
- Exclusions, hidden fees and other "gotcha" clauses IT companies put in their contracts that you DON'T want to agree to.
- How to make sure you know exactly what you're getting to avoid disappointment, frustration and added costs later on that you didn't anticipate.

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Services We Offer

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The Process

Nick Saban, head football coach at the University of Alabama, has won six national championships, one while he was head coach at LSU and five at Alabama. The five championships at the University of Alabama have happened in a span of only nine years – the biggest run in college football history.

In football, you can only put 11 men on the field at one time. It's your best against their best, and while talent is critical, it's far from everything. What is Alabama's magical formula for success, and why do so many teams have trouble duplicating it?

A few years ago, Coach Saban asked me to present a program on communication to his coaching staff. In his world, recruiting star athletes is paramount to their success, and he wanted his coaches to make the best presentation possible to the athletes they wanted to play for Alabama.

I learned a lot of things about Coach Saban and Alabama football preparing for my three-hour program. There are a lot of coaches, managers, bosses, and leaders out there who never mix with the people on the front lines. Not Coach Saban; he is all about being on the ground level, getting "dirty" in the details. In fact, I don't believe I have ever met anyone as detailed as he is. Meetings and practices are planned to the minute, and everyone understands what is expected of them and how they are to accomplish it. In the football world, he's become famous for what most call "The Process." As he puts it, "The Process is much more important than the result."

The critical element of his success is a simple way of breaking everything down



into manageable parts. He owes this technique to Dr. Lionel Rosen, a Michigan State University psychiatry professor he met when he coached there in the late 90s. Dr. Rosen studied cognitive therapy used in the Alcoholics Anonymous recovery program and found the best way to succeed was to deal with the moment, not the future or past. If you handle the moment correctly, the final result will work out.

Dr. Rosen pointed out to Coach Saban that the average play in a football game lasts only about seven seconds, and that is where he needed to concentrate. The last play is done — it's the next play, the next seven seconds, that counts. Ensuring that his players know exactly what they have to do in those seven seconds, without hesitation, is all that matters.

The same is true in business. By breaking down what you do into manageable segments of time and function, you will be better able to achieve the results you desire. But remember, everyone needs to understand what is expected of them and how they are to accomplish it.

Robert Stevenson — Author of the books How To Soar Like An Eagle In A World Full Of Turkeys and 52 Essential Habits For Success

IT Security Tip: This will SHOCK you about bank fraud on business accounts!

Did you know your **COMPANY'S** bank account doesn't enjoy the same protections as a personal bank account? For example, if a hacker takes money from your business account, the bank is NOT responsible for getting your money back. (Don't believe me? Go ask your bank what their policy is on refunding you money stolen from your account!) Many people think **FDIC** protects you from fraud; it doesn't. It protects you from bank insolvency, **NOT** fraud.

Quick Tip: Set up e-mail alerts on your account so you are notified any time money is withdrawn from your account. The **FASTER** you catch fraudulent activity, the better your chances are of keeping your money. If you contact the bank **IMMEDIATELY**, you have a very high probability of foiling a hacker's attack.

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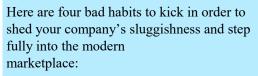
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Drop These 4 Habits For A Successful 2018

Today, the business world is more rapid, complex, and volatile than ever before in history, a trend that shows no signs of slowing down. With that in mind, it's vital that entrepreneurs tighten up their business practices now, not later.



1. Procrastinating training investment: Investing in comprehensive training resources, which expands the skills of both you and your employees, can ensure you stay competitive in the midst of constant change. 2. Amassing knowledge without applying it: With millions of well-meaning advice articles plastered across the Internet, it's



- 3. Expecting ideas to come from the top down: Today's savvy business owner doesn't solely channel those at the top of the organization chart. Instead, they welcome ideas from all levels of the company.
- 4. Busywork: Too many leaders get caught up in output metrics instead of outcomes. Get the numbers out of the way and watch your employees shine.

Inc.com 11/16/2017

How To Spot A Phishing E-mail BEFORE It Can Do Any Damage

Phishing e-mails are bogus messages carefully designed to look like a legitimate message (or attached file) from a site or person you trust. Their goal is getting you to willingly give up your login info or unknowingly click a link to install a virus. The best of these e-mails look uncannily similar to their real-world counterparts, but there are ways to discern a phishing attempt from a legitimate e-mail.

First, hover over — but don't click on — the URL in the e-mail to see the actual website you'll be directed to. If there's a mismatched or suspicious URL, delete the

e-mail immediately. Other telltale signs are poor

grammar or spelling errors. And if the email asks you to verify or validate your login

or personal information, get out of there.