

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 Advance Security: Move beyond outdated antivirus tools of the past.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 any of these, call us today!



3 Ways To Prevent Your Employees From Leaking Confidential Information

A lot of businesses need to come to terms with the fact that their employees are their greatest IT threat. As a business owner, you may be aware of cyberthreats to your business, but your employees might not be. They might not know about the threat of cyber-attacks or malware. They might use unsecured WiFi on company equipment. As a result, your employees may be putting your business at serious risk.

What can you do to change that?

1. IT ALL STARTS WITH EDUCATION. One of the biggest reasons why employees put their employer at risk simply comes down to a lack of education. They don't know about the threats targeting businesses or that small businesses are a major target of hackers and scammers.

You need to do everything you can to

train your employees. Give them the education and resources to be a line of defense rather than a risk. Develop a consistent training regimen. If you need to bring in IT professionals to help, do it. Don't make assumptions about critical IT security training if you aren't sure. Professionals can answer your questions and make sure you and your employees have everything you need to know to keep your business secure.

Another important thing is to *hold this training regularly*. Threats evolve, and you need to stay ahead of the curve. Keep IT security on the minds of your employees. When they forget about it, that's when the risk is highest.

2. SAY NO TO UNSECURED, PUBLIC WIFI. This is a big problem for businesses with remote employees, employees who work from home or employees who use

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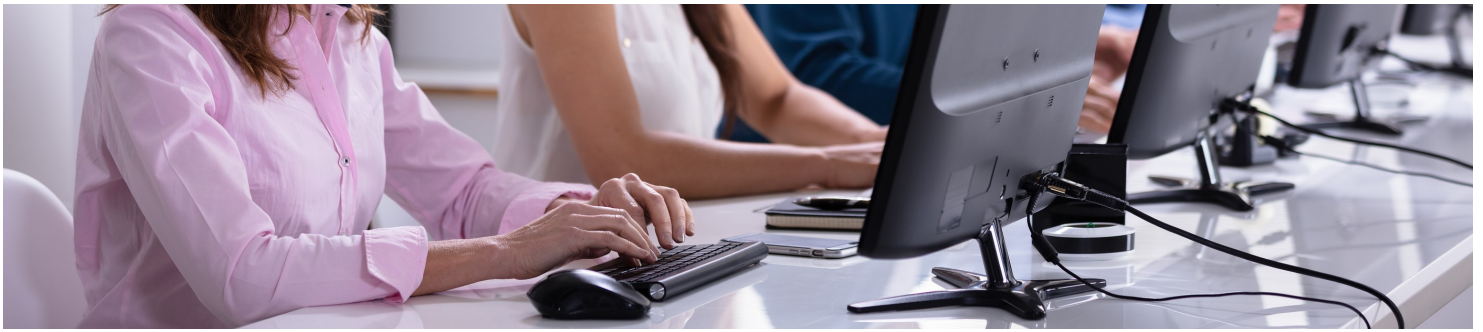
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This monthly publication provided courtesy of SHAN DHOLARIA, CTO of PCPlus Networks.

"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!"

Continued from pg.1



company technology outside of the business walls. According to a Spiceworks study, 61% of employees said they have connected to unsecured WiFi while working remotely.

This is cause for concern. Connecting to public WiFi is like leaving the front door of your home wide-open while posting on social media that you're going to be out of town for a week. You never know who is going to let themselves in and snoop around. Hackers use public hot spots to circulate malware and steal data. Sometimes they even set up fake hot spots with the same name as a legitimate hot spot to trick users into connecting to their WiFi, which makes data theft *even easier*.

Discouraging your employees from using unsecured, public WiFi is a good step to take, but don't be afraid to take it further. Don't let them connect company equipment to unsecured WiFi *at all*. And place a bigger focus on endpoint security – make sure your equipment has up-to-date software, malware

protection, local firewalls, as well as a VPN (virtual private network). The more layers of security, the better.

3. PROTECT ALL OF YOUR DATA. Your employees should never save personal or business data on portable/ external hard drives, USB drives or even as printed material – and then take that data out of the office. The theft of these types of devices is a real threat. An external hard drive is a tempting target for thieves because they *will* search the drive for sensitive data, such as financial or customer information that they can use or sell.

If you have remote employees who need to access company data, put a method in place to do just that (it should be discussed as part of your regular company IT security training). They need to know how to properly access the data, save the data or delete it, if necessary. Many businesses go with a secure cloud option, but you need to determine what makes the most sense for your business and its security.

While these three tips are great, nothing beats helping your employees develop a positive IT security mindset. It's all about understanding the threats and taking a proactive approach to security. Proactivity reduces risk. But you don't have to go it alone. Working with experienced IT security professionals is the best way to cover all your bases – and to ensure your employees have everything they need to protect your business.

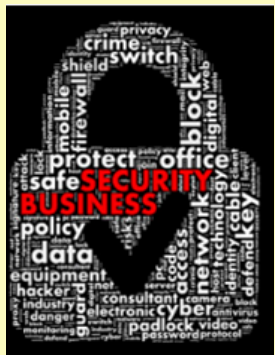
“It's all about understanding the threats and taking a proactive approach to security.”

Free Cyber Security Audit Will Reveal Where Your Computer Network Is Exposed And How To Protect Your Company Now

At no cost or obligation, our highly skilled team of IT pros will come to your office and conduct a comprehensive cyber security audit to uncover loopholes in your company's IT security.

After the audit is done, we'll prepare a customized “Report Of Findings” that will reveal specific vulnerabilities and provide a Prioritized Action Plan for getting these security problems addressed fast. This report and action plan should be a real eye-opener for you, since almost all of the businesses we've done this for discover they are completely exposed to various threats in a number of areas.

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Give us a call today at (678) 523-5599 to discuss your needs.

The Power Of Punctuality



Personally, I am not a fan of people who are always late. Sometimes, things happen that we have no control over, such as car accidents, traffic jams and unexpected family emergencies, to name a few. I am not addressing those situations.

What I am addressing is how punctuality can do wonders for your success.

Have you ever thought about what being punctual says about you? It shows you are in control, disciplined, able to keep track of things, trustworthy, reliable and respectful of another person's time. Being late demonstrates none of those things. In fact, being late shows you are unreliable, disorganized, disinterested and inconsiderate. When you look at it from that perspective, you would never want yourself described that way.

Do you want to hire someone who is unreliable? Not me. How about disorganized? A disorganized person will make mistakes — and mistakes cost money. Let's take a closer look at *disinterested*. One of the definitions of *disinterested* is having or feeling no interest in something, unconcerned, uncaring and unenthusiastic. That sounds like someone you NEVER want to have on your team. Then that leaves us with inconsiderate, defined as thoughtlessly causing hurt or inconvenience to others, unthinking, selfish, impolite and rude.

.Associates, bosses and customers have NO fondness for lateness. I heard one person express it this way: "If you are chronically late, you are chronically rude." If you are looking to be promoted to a leadership position, it will be difficult to prove yourself reliable when people are having to wait for you to show up. Punctuality is a product of discipline, proper

planning and respect for others. In simple terms, preparedness and punctuality are two of the most important qualities of a leader.

When you are late, you are saying, "My time is more valuable than yours." That is not a great way to start anything. The celebrated writer Charles Dickens once said, "I could have never done what I have done without the habits of punctuality, order and discipline." I feel that by being punctual, you are paying a courteous compliment to those you are about to see or serve; it's a respectful gesture of how you value their time.

Chronic lateness sets a tone about accountability. If you want a culture in which people are accountable to customers, associates and even to themselves, then make punctuality a priority. Start all meetings on time regardless of who is missing. The word will get out, and people will start showing up on time.

Being on time may seem a bit trivial to some people, but it's a good idea to start making accountability part of your corporate culture. Shakespeare once stated: "Better three hours too soon, than a minute late." There truly is power in being punctual.

IT Security Tip : Is this request really from the boss?

A common scam going around requires everyone to be on their toes. Here's the situation... An e-mail comes in from the boss asking you to e-mail a copy of employee pay stubs, tax information and files with confidential data such as social security numbers in them. In another example, the boss asks for a transfer or ACH payment to a vendor or a different bank account. The problem: even though it has the boss's e-mail address and name, and appears to come from the big guy...it is still a scam. To compound problems, a lot of bosses DO legitimately send these types of e-mails.



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Do You Have These 3 Things Every Business Needs To Be Successful?

You have a solid team. People are everything in business – that includes your employees. You strive to hire the best team (who match your core values and company culture and who bring top-notch skills to the table) and you train them well (they understand your systems and processes). On top of that, they're happy!

You have purpose behind what you do. We all need purpose to not only be happy but also to thrive. When your team knows what they're working toward and understand the value of their work, that gives them purpose. You've clearly laid out the objectives and everyone is on the same page. When your employees know why they do what they do, they're happier and more productive for it.

You are passionate. You don't just love what you do, you love the people you work with and you love the difference your business makes in the community or the world. When you have passion, it's infectious. It inspires people around you. When your team is inspired, they'll go the extra mile and your business will find success likes it's never found before.

Inc.com, 5/20/2019

What The Heck Is An AUP ... And Why Do You Want It?

With so many access points, from cell phones to laptops and home computers, how can anyone hope to keep their network safe from hackers, viruses and other unintentional security breaches? The answer is not "one thing" but a series of things you have to implement and constantly be vigilant about, such as installing and constantly updating your firewall, antivirus, spam-filtering software and backups. This is why clients hire us – it's a full-time job for someone with specific expertise (which we have!).

Once that basic foundation is in place, the next most important thing you can do is create an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and train your employees on how to use company devices and other security protocols, such as never accessing company e-mail, data or applications with unprotected home PCs and devices (for example). Also, how to create good passwords, how to recognize a phishing e-mail, what websites to never access, etc. NEVER assume your employees know everything they need to know about IT security. Threats are ever-evolving and attacks are getting more sophisticated and cleverer by the minute.

If you'd like our help in creating an AUP for your company, based on best practices, call us. You'll be glad you did.