

Triangle Tech Times



PALLADIUM
NETWORKS

*"Insider Tips To Make Your Business
Run Faster, Easier, And More Profitably"*

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"As a business owner, I know you don't have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That's

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

—Rob Downs, Palladium Networks

A Peek Inside!

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5 Steps To Protect Your Business From Cyber Crime

A Seattle company was recently broken into and a stash of old laptops was stolen. Just a typical everyday crime by typical everyday thieves. These laptops weren't even being used by anyone in the company. The crime turned out to be anything but ordinary when those same thieves (cyber-criminals) used data from the laptops to obtain information and siphon money out of the company via fraudulent payroll transactions. On top of stealing money, they also managed to steal employee identities.

Another small company was hacked by another "company" that shared the same high-rise office building with them. Management only became aware of the theft once they started seeing unusual financial transactions in their bank accounts. Even then, they didn't know if there was internal embezzlement or external cybertheft. It turned out to be cybertheft. The thief in this case drove a Mercedes and wore a Rolex watch... and looked like anyone else walking in and out of their building. Welcome to the age of cybercrime.

You Are Their Favorite Target

One of the biggest issues facing small businesses in the fight against cybercrime is the lack of a cyber-security plan. While 83% lack a formal plan, over 69% lack even an informal one. Half of small business owners believe that cybercrime will never affect them. In fact, small businesses are a cybercriminal's favorite target! Why? Small businesses are not prepared and they make it easier on criminals.

The result? Cyber-attacks cost SMBs an average of \$188,242 each incident and nearly two-thirds of the businesses affected are out of business within 6 months (2011 Symantec/NCSA Study). A separate study by Verizon showed that over 80% of small business cybercrime victims were due to insufficient network security (wireless and password issues ranked

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Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:



The 30-Day Lantern

It's summer time and that means more outdoor activities. This 30-Day Lantern is the perfect companion for your cookouts and camping trips. Not to mention, it's a handy gadget to keep in your vehicle or garage for those emergency situations when power is down.

This lantern provides up to 30 days of reliable light on one set of batteries. The lantern generates up to 300 lumens of bright, white light that can be seen from up to 75 1/2' away. Made from impact-resistant ABS with rubberized encasements, the lantern is shock- and water-resistant. The device has a green LED that flashes when the device is off for easy location in blackouts, and a built-in hook allows the lantern to be hung upside down. It has three light output levels and a flashing mode (provides 32 hours of light on high).

Get your lantern at
www.hammacher.com



The 3 Biggest Mistakes Triangle Business Owners Make With Their Computer Network That Cost Them Time, Money And Aggravation

Want to avoid the most common and expensive computer problems that most Triangle business owners experience? Then read on! We've compiled a list of 3 things you should be doing to save yourself a lot of time and money by avoiding a big, ugly computer disaster.

- 1. Have an automated off-site backup system in place.** I cannot stress the importance of this enough. Having an off-site backup of your data will be the equivalent of wearing a seatbelt in a major accident. You don't think much about it until you need it, and then you will thank your lucky stars you had it in place.
- 2. Centralize your data on your server.** At one time, servers only made sense for large organizations because of their high cost and complexity. But today, there are very affordable and easy-to-implement server systems designed specifically for any size small business. Depending on your business needs, your server can be in your office or hosted in the cloud. A server will not only speed up your network, but it will also make backups easier, allow secure remote access (allowing you and your employees to work from home or on the road) and make it much easier to share documents, databases and printers.
- 3. Keep your anti-virus software up to date, and perform weekly spyware scans.** Almost everyone understands the importance of anti-virus software, but many businesses still do not perform weekly spyware sweeps. Spyware can cause a host of problems, including slowing down your systems, pop-up ads and even identity theft.

Want An Easy Way To Make Sure You Aren't Making These 3 Mistakes (Or Others) In Your Business? With our Palladium 360° program, we take full responsibility for managing your computer network! This service is guaranteed to eliminate expensive, frustrating computer problems and give you the peace of mind that your data is safe and secure.

Did you have a great experience in hiring Palladium Networks for your IT solutions? We want to hear about it!

Write us a personal testimonial and we will reward your time with a **\$5 Starbucks gift card!**



Want to make \$25-\$500 in easy money?!

Refer us to a company with 5 or more people and 1 or more servers and we'll give you \$25 when we have an appointment with them!

If your referral becomes a client we will reward an additional \$50-\$500

Call us today for more information!

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Guest Article

By:

Robert Stevenson



Robert Stevenson is a highly sought after, internationally known speaker. He is the author of the best-selling books

“How to Soar Like an Eagle in a World Full of Turkeys” and

“52 Essential Habits For Success.”

Robert is a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) and is a former All-American Athlete. He started his first business at 24 and has owned several companies. Robert has international sales experience dealing in over 20 countries and his client list reads like a Who's Who in Business. He has shared the podium with such renowned names as Generals Colin Powell and Norman Schwarzkopf, Former President George H.W. Bush, Anthony Robbins and Steven Covey.

www.robertstevenson.org

There Is No Success Without Ex's

I was invited to speak at FedEx World Headquarters where I delivered two programs. I also had the wonderful opportunity to take a tour of their **Memphis Hub Operations** and see how they are able to process over 600,000 packages per night while it was actually happening. It was an amazing sight to behold. I wanted to talk to them on a personal level so they could advance their own careers while at the same time helping their company. I also wanted to create something special for those who attended my sessions that would be memorable and have a direct correlation with FedEx. Then it hit me ... the **"Ex"** in their corporate name ... stands for so much more than **"Express."** Just as FedEx has added, evolved, changed, tweaked and greatly improved on everything they do, I told my audience they too needed to do the same. I then gave them a list of **"Ex's"** to follow that would ensure not only their success in business but also in life. I told them they needed to ask themselves:

Do I **Excel** at my job
 Do I always give **Extra**
 Do I avoid making **Excuses**
 Do I **Exert** maximum effort
 Do I set the right **Examples**
 Do I **Exceed** what is required
 Do I **Exhibit** the best judgment
 Do I always strive for **Excellence**
 Do I **Exhaust** all possible solutions
 Do I always **Extend** a helping hand
 Do I **Exemplify** the best standards
 Do I strive to be **Exceptional** at my job
 Do I **Experiment** at new ways to do things
 Do I **Execute** according to proper procedures
 Do my peers consider me an **Expert** at what I do
 Do I **Examine** all mistakes to fully understand their cause

Regardless what company, association, or organization you work for, if you follow this list of **"Ex's"**, everyone will want you. You will be known as the person they can always count on because you always deliver ... **you will be Exceptional.**

To establish and maintain a position of supremacy in anything you do requires that you start incorporating the **"Ex's"** in all aspects of your life and business. It's your choice ... you can either do it or you will simply be **"Excluded"** from that list of people who succeed in life, and that is the one **"Ex"** I surely want to stay away from. **So remember... Let the Ex's mark your path on your journey towards success.**

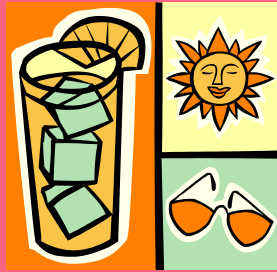
What can we help *you* with today?

• IT Strategy planning /CIO	• Spam Filtering
• Managed Services	• Document Management
• Cloud Services	• Voice over IP (VoIP)
• Back up and Disaster Recovery	• Website Hosting
• Onsite and Remote Support	• Hosted Exchange
• Managed Print Services	• Xerox Copiers and Printers
• Virus/Spyware Protection & Removal	• Vendor Management (phones,
• Network Security and Spam filtering	Internet, copiers, web hosting, etc.)

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The Lighter Side:

Useless Summer Fun Facts



- **The Eiffel Tower can grow by more than 6 inches in summer due to the expansion of the iron on hot days.**
- **July is the month where most ice cream is sold in the US. Americans eat about 5.5 gallons of ice cream per year on average.**
- **Popsicles were invented by accident in 1905 by 11 year old Frank Epperson. He mixed soda and water and left the mixture out overnight with the stirring stick still in it. Since the temperature was low, the mixture froze.**
- **Watermelon is not a fruit, but a vegetable.**
- **Many people enjoy throwing Frisbees in summer, but they were originally designed as pie plates in the 1870s. Students started throwing them in the 1940s.**

Continued from Front Page highest). With insecure networks and no formal plan to combat them, we make it easy on the criminals.

How They Attack

The #1 money-generating technique these “bad guys” use is to infect your systems with malware so that whenever you (or your employees) visit a web site and enter a password (Facebook, bank, payroll, etc.) the malware programs harvest that data and send it off to the bad guys to do their evil stuff.

They can get to you through physical office break-ins, “wardriving” (compromising defenseless wireless networks) or e-mail phishing scams and harmful web sites. Cyber-criminals are relentless in their efforts, and no one is immune to their tricks.

5 Steps To Protect Your Business

Get Educated. Find out the risks and educate your staff.

Do A Threat Assessment. Examine your firewall, anti-virus protection and anything connected to your network. What data is sensitive or subject to data-breach laws?

Create A Cyber-Security Action Plan. Your plan should include both education and a “fire drill.”

Monitor Consistently. Security is never a one-time activity. Monitoring 24/7 is critical.

Re-Assess Regularly. New threats emerge all the time and are always changing. You can only win by staying ahead!

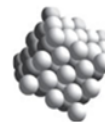
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