FROM DAMIEN'S DESK:

As I am writing this column, I have just returned from a tech conference in Denver, Colorado, right when the Denver Nuggets won the NBA Western Conference. Wow, the town went crazy, it was like being there during Moomba or the AFL Grand Final. One million people lined the streets to get a glimpse of the trophy. Why was I there you may ask? It clearly wasn't to see the basketball. In fact, it was to listen to the experts in cybersecurity present and meet with vendors who are going to help us protect our customers from the never-ending tirade of hacking attempts. The cybersecurity landscape is continuing to evolve and Australia is not immune to it. ALL ORGANISATIONS NEED TO LIFT THEIR GAMES, no longer is; sticking your head in the sand, saying "I'll be right mate" or "I am too small" an appropriate response.

I do have some awesome news to share with you all. As of the 1st July we have appointed Shane Rajasinghe as DSP IT Solutions General Manager. Shane has been promoted into this position to help the business continue to deliver awesome IT support to our customers. Shane will be responsible for the day to day running of the business and keeping the trains on the track. By Shane taking on this position, it will allow me to spend time working on further developing partnerships with our vendors, designing strategies to continue to protect our customers and engaging with you all in an enhanced way. I couldn't be happier. Please help me congratulate Shane!

If you have some time and want to hang out having a coffee with me to discuss your particular situation, reach out to me at damien@dspit.com.au

Stay safe out there

Damien Pepper - Managing Director
dSP IT Solutions

DID YOU KNOW?

The first computer programmer was a woman named Ada Lovelace.

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

As always, we give back to the community each quarter and donate to a selected charity.

The Team voted to support the ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL this time.

If you would also like to support them, go to:

https://www.rchfoundation.org.au/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIy-rN5v7Q_wIVageDAx22-APNEAAYASACEgK-7WPD_BwE

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#SuperResponsive #WeMakeTheComplexSimple #BuildRelationships #NothingIsTooHard

LEARN HOW TO FIGHT BUSINESS EMAIL COMPROMISE

A significant cyber threat facing businesses today is Business Email Compromise (BEC). BEC attacks jumped 81% in 2022, and as many as 98% of employees fail to report the threat.

What is Business Email Compromise (BEC)?

BEC is a type of scam in which criminals use email fraud to target victims. These victims include both businesses and individuals. They especially target those who perform wire transfer payments.

BEC attacks are usually well-crafted and sophisticated, making it difficult to identify them. The attacker first researches the target organisation and its employees online. They gain knowledge about the company's operations, suppliers, customers, and business partners.

The scammer pretends to be a high level executive or business partner. Scammers send emails to employees, customers, or vendors.

These emails request them to make payments or transfer funds in some form.

The email will often contain a sense of urgency, compelling the recipient to act quickly. The attacker may also use social engineering tactics. Such as posing as a trusted contact or creating a fake website that mimics the company's site. These tactics make the email seem more legitimate.

According to the FBI, BEC scams cost businesses about $2.4 billion in 2021.

These scams can cause severe financial damage to businesses and individuals. They can also harm their reputations.

How to Fight Business Email Compromise

BEC scams can be challenging to prevent. But there are measures businesses and individuals can take to cut the risk of falling victim to them.

- Educate Employees
- Enable Email Authentication
- Deploy a Payment Verification Processes
- Check Financial Transactions
- Establish a Response Plan
- Use Anti-phishing Software

HOW MICROSOFT 365 COPILOT IS GOING TO TRANSFORM M365 APPS

Microsoft is one of the biggest players in the office application field. It's at the forefront of introducing transformative technology. The company is about to transform Microsoft 365 in a huge way with its new Copilot app.

Microsoft 365 Copilot is a new tool designed to help users get the most out of their Microsoft 365 apps. This revolutionary tool is an intelligent, personalised assistant.

Let's take a closer look at Microsoft 365 Copilot and the key ways it's going to improve M365 apps and your business workflows.

What is Microsoft 365 Copilot?

Microsoft 365 Copilot is an AI-powered assistant. It helps users with their day-to-day tasks in M365 apps.
It works across all M365 apps. This includes:
• Word
• Excel
• PowerPoint
• Outlook
• Teams and more

The tool is currently in testing and should be out sometime soon.

How Does Microsoft 365 Copilot Work?

Microsoft 365 Copilot uses AI and machine learning to understand users' needs. It provides personalised help. It uses data from users' interactions with M365 apps. It learns a user's usage patterns and offers recommendations based on their preferences.

Say that you're working on a presentation in PowerPoint and struggling with design. Microsoft 365 Copilot can offer design suggestions based on your company's brand guidelines.

Microsoft 365 Copilot can also help users with common tasks. Tasks such as scheduling meetings and managing emails.

Benefits of Using Microsoft 365 Copilot

• *Personalised Help* - Microsoft 365 Copilot provides personalised help based on users' usage patterns and preferences.

• *Time Saving* - Microsoft 365 Copilot can help users save time on common tasks. Such as scheduling meetings and formatting documents. It can take on many information gathering tasks, like summarising meeting notes. Knowledge workers spend an average of 2.5 hours per day searching for information.

• *Reduced Frustration* –Microsoft 365 Copilot can help reduce frustration. It provides solutions when users are stuck on a task. The tool can also help users struggling with an Excel chart or table. Instead of having to figure out how to generate it, they can simply give a command to Copilot to do it for them.

• *Improved Productivity* –Microsoft Copilot handles tasks that go beyond what business apps have historically done. For example, you can use it in PowerPoint to create a presentation for you. Use a command such as, "Create a six-slide presentation based on (this) document." You can also tell it to find appropriate Microsoft stock photos and insert them.

HOW TO USE THREAT MODELING TO REDUCE YOUR CYBERSECURITY RISK

Today's offices are digitally sophisticated. Just about every activity relies on some type of technology and data sharing.

Hackers can breach these systems from several entry points. This includes computers, smartphones, cloud applications, and network infrastructure. It's estimated that cybercriminals can penetrate 93% of company networks.

One approach that can help organisations fight these intrusions is threat modeling. Threat modeling is a process used in cybersecurity. It involves identifying potential threats and vulnerabilities to an organisation's assets and systems.

Here are the steps businesses can follow to conduct a threat model:

- Identify Assets That Need Protection
- Identify Potential Threats
- Assess Likelihood and Impact
- Prioritise Risk Management Strategies
- Continuously Review and Update the Model

SMALL BUSINESS TIPS TO GET READY FOR THE UNEXPECTED

What would you do if your business suffered a ransomware attack tomorrow?

Do you have a contingency plan in case of any disasters? The unexpected can happen anytime, and small businesses can get hit particularly hard.

Here are 10 helpful tips to get ready for anything:

1. Create a Contingency Plan
2. Maintain Adequate Insurance Coverage
3. Diversify Your Revenue Streams
4. Build Strong Relationships with Suppliers
5. Keep Cash Reserves
6. Build Strong Outsourcing Relationships
7. Check Your Financials Regularly
8. Invest in Technology
9. Train Employees for Emergencies
10. Stay Up to Date on Regulatory Requirements

NEED A LAUGH?

What should you do when your Nintendo game ends in a tie?

Ask for a Wii-match!

WE LOVE REFERRALS . .

The greatest gift anyone can give us is a referral to your business colleagues/ friends. Referrals help us keep costs down so we can pass the savings on to our clients.

Simply introduce me via email to damien@dspit.com.au or (03) 9001 0817 and I'll take it from there.

WIN A $20 BUNNINGS GIFT CARD!

The winner of last month's trivia question was Ann from Showtime Attractions. The answer was b) Halo.

You could be the winner of this month's trivia question.
Just contact us with the answer to the question below, Good Luck!

Before becoming widely recognised; the main character of Super Mario Bros., Mario was known as . . . .

a) Hammer Jump
b) Bouncing Carpenter
c) Hopguy
d) Jumpman

Call us with your answer (03) 9001 0817 or email jo@dspit.com.au