dsp IT SOLUTIONS

TALKING TECH
HELPING YOUR BUSINESS

FROM DAMIEN'S DESK:

Passwords! How many people are still using the same password on their bank account, Instagram account and email accounts?

Recently, we did a presentation to a group of tradies and I used that analogy. I had several come up to me after the event and say "how did you know?".

It is time to change, **right now!** Get all of your team using a password manager. That way they have to remember just one password that lets them into an encrypted vault to access all the passwords they use. This way you can also make passwords more robust as you don't have to remember them. Get onto this right now!

We can help you deploy this into your business. Just contact us and we can help you through it.

I am away overseas this month, visiting one of America's biggest software seminars to learn from industry experts. Then my wife and I are taking a well-earned break and visiting the UK for a family wedding. If you need anything, please contact our General Manager, Shane, shane@dspit.com.au and he will be able to help you with any query you may have.

Take care and stay safe out there.

Damien Pepper - Managing Director
dSP IT Solutions

DID YOU KNOW?

The speed of a computer mouse is measured in "Mickeys".

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#SuperResponsive   #WeMakeTheComplexSimple   #BuildRelationships   #NothingIsTooHard

LEARNING ESSENTIAL CYBER HYGIENE

As technology continues to advance, so does the need for heightened awareness. As well as proactive measures to safeguard sensitive information.

Cybersecurity can seem like an insurmountable task for everyday people. But it's not only a job for the IT team. Everyone can play a part in keeping their organisation's data safe. Not to mention their own data.

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month (CAM). It serves as a timely reminder that there are many ways to safeguard data. Following the basics can make a big difference in how secure your network remains.

This is CAM's 20th year. To celebrate, the theme revolves around looking at how far cybersecurity has come. As well as how far it has to go. This year, CAM focuses on four key best practices of cybersecurity:

• Enabling multi-factor authentication
• Using strong passwords and a password manager
• Updating software
• Recognising and reporting phishing

THE HIDDEN CYBERSECURITY RISKS YOUR BUSINESS MAY HAVE

There's a good chance of cybersecurity vulnerabilities lurking behind the scenes in your business and you can't fix what you can't see. It's time to shine a light on these hidden dangers, so you can take action to protect your business from potential cyber threats.

Here are some of the most common cybersecurity issues faced by small businesses:

Outdated Software:
When software vendors release updates, they often include crucial security patches. These patches fix vulnerabilities that hackers can exploit. Keep everything up to date to ensure your digital fortress is secure.

Weak Passwords:
If your passwords are weak, you might as well be handing out your office keys to cybercriminals.

Instead, create strong and unique passwords for all accounts and devices. Consider using a mix of upper and lower case letters, numbers, and special characters.

Unsecured Wi-Fi:
Ensure your Wi-Fi is password-protected. Make sure your router uses WPA2 or WPA3 encryption for an added layer of security. For critical business tasks consider a virtual private network (VPN). It can shield your data from prying eyes.

No Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA):
Adding MFA provides an extra layer of protection. It requires users to provide extra authentication factors. Such as a one-time code or passkey. This makes it much harder for cyber attackers to breach your accounts.

Lack of Employee Training:

Employee error is the cause of approximately 88% of all data breaches.

Without proper cybersecurity training, your staff might unknowingly fall victim to phishing scams. Or inadvertently expose sensitive information. Regularly educate your team about cybersecurity best practices.

Including:
· Recognising phishing emails
· Avoiding suspicious websites
· Using secure file-sharing methods

No Data Backups:

Imagine waking up to find your business's data gone, vanished into the digital abyss. Without backups, this nightmare can become a reality.

Embrace the 3-2-1 rule. Have at least three copies of your data, stored on two different media types. With one copy stored securely offsite.

Disregarding Mobile Security:

Ensure that all company-issued devices have passcodes or biometric locks enabled. Consider implementing mobile device management (MDM) solutions. These will enable you to enforce security policies.

Shadow IT:

Shadow IT refers to the use of unauthorised applications within your business. It might seem harmless when employees use convenient tools, they find online. Regularly audit your systems to uncover any shadow IT lurking under cover.

Incident Response Plan:

Develop a comprehensive incident response plan. It should outline key items such as how your team will detect, respond to, and recover from security incidents. Regularly test and update the plan to ensure its effectiveness.

REASONS TO USE AIRPLANE MODE EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT TRAVELING

Most people are familiar with their device's Airplane Mode. You've probably used it when jetting off interstate or even overseas.
But did you know that it's not just for frequent flyers?

That's right! Airplane Mode isn't only for flying; it can be a handy feature for your everyday life.

Here are some top reasons why you should consider toggling it on, even if you're not traveling:

1. Save that precious battery life

2. Boost your charging speed (by about 4x)

3. A tranquil escape from notifications

4. Focus Mode: Engaged!

5. Prevent embarrassing moments

6. Roaming woes, be gone!

7. A digital detox

8. Save data and money

6 TIPS TO OPTIMISE A DUAL MONITOR SETUP

Two monitors are often better than one when it comes to getting things done efficiently. A dual monitor setup can significantly enhance your productivity. This is true whether you're a creative professional, an office wiz who loves to multitask or a gamer.

It's common for people to feel "off kilter" when trying to work from two monitors. The cause is usually the setup.

Here are some dual-monitor setup best practices to help you improve your two screen experience and take it to the next level:

1. Match size and resolution

2. Get the right cables

3. Positioning is everything

4. Embrace the Extended Desktop

5. Focus on Taskbar Tweaks

6. Leverage Shortcuts

5 SMALL BUSINESS TECH TRENDS TO FUEL YOUR GROWTH

In today's ever-evolving digital landscape, small businesses have more opportunities than ever. Many of these call for leveraging technology to their advantage. Embracing the right tech trends can help businesses compete. It enables them to streamline operations, enhance customer experiences, and fuel growth.

Here are 5 small business tech trends that have the potential to drive success as well as propel your business forward in an increasingly competitive market:

1. Cloud Computing: Expanding Possibilities

2. Artificial Intelligence: Automating Efficiency

3. E-commerce and Mobile Commerce: Expanding Reach

4. Data Security: Safeguarding Trust

5. Automation and Workflow Integration: Streamlining Operations

NEED A LAUGH? 😀

Why don't programmers like nature?

Because it has too many bugs!

WIN A $20 BUNNINGS GIFT CARD!

The winner of last month's trivia question is Tony from Unique Building Services. The answer was a) Just over 1 billion.

You could be the winner of this month's trivia question.
Just contact us with the answer to the question below, Good Luck!
And NO GOOGLING!

In old PCs, what was the function of the "Turbo" button?

a) Made the computer run faster
b) Made the computer run slower
c) Reboot the computer to its original speed
d) The button actually did nothing

Call us with your answer
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