JANUARY 2024

dsp IT SOLUTIONS

TALKING TECH
HELPING YOUR BUSINESS

FROM DAMIEN'S DESK:

Happy New Year! Let's make 2024 great again (ha ha). I could get a red hat with that on it.

Seriously, I wish you an awesome year ahead.

I hope you are enjoying some time off with your family. Whether it is getting away on holiday or spending some time around home, having that time with family is important. Personally, my wife and I are headed for the sunshine and beaches of the east coast of NSW in our caravan.
Take some valuable time to reflect on the past 12 months, remembering what you have achieved. Enjoy!

Late last year, I sent out an email to our customer base offering to review their telecommunications costs. Well, I would like to extend that to all of you. It can't hurt, right? We are going to come back to you with one of these responses:

1. Here is a way you can save some money
2. Here is a way that you could work to improve your current situation
3. You already have a great deal, and I wouldn't change anything.

All we need is a copy of your Telco bill; we will do the rest to analyse it. Just send a copy of your current bill to sales@dspit.com.au – that is it, nothing more.

Stay safe & again, have a great New Year!

Damien Pepper - Director
dSP IT Solutions

DID YOU KNOW?

A "jiffy" is a real measurement, 10 milliseconds to be exact!

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#SuperResponsive   #WeMakeTheComplexSimple   #BuildRelationships   #NothingIsTooHard

DO YOU STILL BELIEVE IN THESE COMMON TECH MYTHS?

Is it okay to leave your smartphone charging overnight? Do Macs get viruses? And what about those 5G towers? What's going on with those?

Common tech myths can often lead to misunderstandings. They can even hinder your ability to fully use various tools and devices. Let's debunk some of the most common tech myths that continue to circulate and explore the truth behind them.
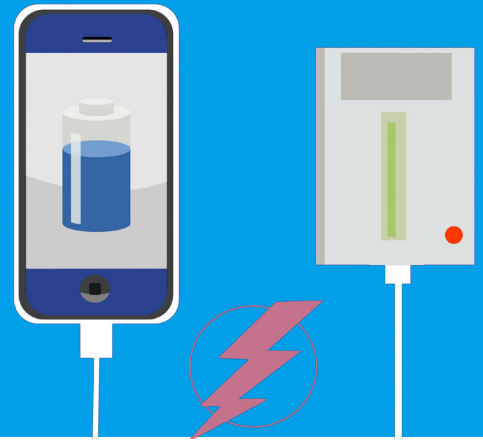
MYTH 1: LEAVING YOUR DEVICE PLUGGED IN OVERNIGHT DAMAGES THE BATTERY.

This one is the most persistent tech myths. Leaving your device plugged in overnight will harm the battery life. But this myth is largely outdated.

Modern smartphones, laptops and other devices have advanced battery management systems.

These systems prevent overcharging. Once your device reaches its maximum charge capacity, it automatically stops charging. So, feel free to charge your gadgets overnight without worrying about battery damage.

MYTH 2: INCOGNITO MODE ENSURES COMPLETE ANONYMITY.

While incognito mode does provide some privacy benefits, they're limited.

For example, it mainly prevents your device from saving the following items:

• Browsing history
• Cookies
• Temporary files

However, it does not hide your activities from your internet service provider (ISP). Nor from the websites you visit.

MYTH 3: MACS ARE IMMUNE TO VIRUSES.

Another prevalent myth is that Mac computers are impervious to viruses and malware. It is true that Macs have historically been less prone to such threats compared to Windows PCs. This does not make them immune.

It's true that in 2022, 54% of all malware infections happened in Windows systems and just 6.2% happened in macOS.

But as of January 2023, Windows had about 74% of the desktop OS share to Mac's 15%. So, it turns out the systems aren't that different when it comes to virus and malware risk. The data shows the infection rate per user on Macs is 0.075. This is slightly higher than Windows, at 0.074. So, both systems have a pretty even risk of infection.

MYTH 4: MORE MEGAPIXELS MEANS BETTER IMAGE QUALITY.

When it comes to smartphone cameras, savvy marketing sometimes leads to myths. Many people believe that more megapixels equal better image quality. This is a common misconception.

Other factors, in addition to megapixels, play a significant role.

Such as:
• The size of individual pixels
• Lens quality
• Image processing algorithms
• Low-light performance

A camera with a higher megapixel count may produce larger images. But it does not guarantee superior clarity, color accuracy, or dynamic range. When choosing a smartphone or any camera, consider the complete camera system.

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BEWARE OF THESE 2024 EMERGING TECHNOLOGY THREATS

The global cost of a data breach last year was $4.45 million (USD). This is an increase of 15% over three years. As we step into 2024, it's crucial to be aware of emerging technology threats. Ones that could potentially disrupt and harm your business.

Data Poisoning Attacks

Data poisoning involves corrupting datasets used to train AI models. Businesses should use AI-generated data cautiously. It should be heavily augmented by human intelligence and data from other sources.

5G Network Vulnerabilities

The widespread adoption of 5G technology introduces new attack surfaces. IoT devices, reliant on 5G, might become targets for cyberattacks.

Quantum Computing Vulnerabilities

Quantum computing poses a threat. Its immense processing capabilities could crack currently secure encryption methods.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Manipulation

AI, while transformative, can be manipulated. Cyber-criminals can exploit AI algorithms to spread misinformation. Vigilance is essential as AI-driven threats become more sophisticated. It demands robust detection mechanisms to discern genuine from malicious AI-generated content.

Ransomware Evolves

Ransomware attacks have evolved beyond simple data encryption. Threat actors now steal sensitive data before encrypting files.

Biometric Data Vulnerability

Biometric authentication methods, such as fingerprints or facial recognition, are becoming commonplace. But users can't change biometric data once compromised. Protect biometric data through secure encryption.

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Referrals help us keep costs down so we can pass on the savings to all our clients.

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

WAYS TO RESPONSIBLY GET RID OF E-WASTE AT YOUR OFFICE OR HOME

In our tech-driven world, electronic devices have become indispensable.

But with constant upgrades, what happens to the old gadgets? They tend to pile up and eat up storage space.

But you can't just throw them in the trash. E-waste poses a significant environmental threat if not disposed of responsibly.

E-waste can contain hazardous materials. Such as lead, mercury, cadmium, and brominated flame retardants. These can harm the environment and human health.

Here are some tips to responsibly get rid of e-waste at your home or office:

- Understand what makes up e-waste
- Reduce your e-waste
- Explore retailer recycling programs
- Use e-waste recycling centres
- Dispose of batteries separately
- Try manufacturer take-back programs
- Opt for certified e-waste recyclers
- Educate your office or household
- Repurpose or upcycle
- Encourage manufacturer responsibility
- Consider donating or selling functioning devices

HELPFUL TIPS FOR NEW YEAR DIGITAL DECLUTTERING

These days, it's easy to feel overwhelmed at the sight of an endless inbox or app library.

As the new year begins, it's the perfect time for a digital declutter. A clean and organised digital environment can help you improve your productivity. It also reduces stress.

Here are some practical tips to help you declutter your digital space:

- Start with a digital inventory
- Focus on your most-used digital spaces
- Organise your files and folders
- Clean up your email inbox
- Clean up your social media
- Review your subscriptions
- Review and delete unused apps
- Clear your desktop and downloads folder
- Secure your digital identity
- Evaluate your digital habits
- Create digital detox days
- Streamline notifications
- Invest in digital tools
- Practice regular maintenance

NEED A LAUGH?

I lost my job at the keyboard factory.

I wasn't putting in enough shifts!