

# SEPTEMBER 2025



## TALKING TECH

HELPING YOUR BUSINESS



### FROM DAMIEN'S DESKTOP:

As we enter September and approach the football grand final, it is important to focus on critical business matters. Although my team, St Kilda, did not advance to the finals this year, there is always next season. May I ask if your preferred team progressed to the final series?

It is essential to **take action** regarding your organisation's operating systems. Microsoft will discontinue support for Windows 10 in October, which will leave businesses without security updates or bug fixes. This lack of support can increase vulnerability to security threats.

Recently, I have discussed these concerns with various organisations. When software becomes unsupported, it exposes businesses to significant risks as cybercriminals may exploit the absence of ongoing security updates.

We recommend that you address this change **TODAY**. Please contact us to discuss how we can assist your organisation with the necessary upgrades.

Have a great month!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Damien Pepper'.

Damien Pepper - Director  
dSP IT Solutions

### WE LOVE REFERRALS

The greatest gift anyone can give us is a referral to your business friends.

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](mailto:damien@dspit.com.au) or (03) 9001 0817 and I'll take it from there.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Dropbox was the first cloud storage platform, launched in 2008. It revolutionised file storage and sharing, paving the way for modern cloud computing.

dSP IT Solutions  
182C Sladen Street  
Cranbourne VIC 3977  
(03) 9001 0817  
[sales@dspit.com.au](mailto:sales@dspit.com.au)  
[www.dspit.com.au](http://www.dspit.com.au)

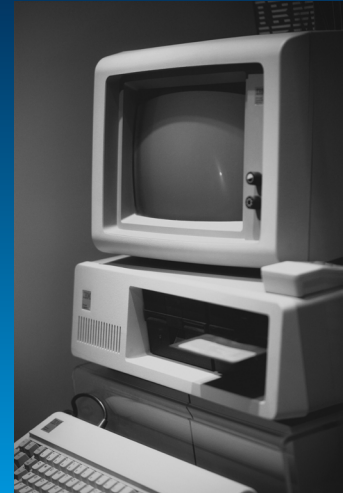
# Don't Let Outdated Tech Slow You Down: BUILD A SMART IT PLAN

Nothing throws off your day like a frozen screen or a sluggish computer. If you run a small business, you've probably dealt with outdated tech more than once. Sure, squeezing extra life out of old equipment feels economical, but it often costs more in the long run.



**Small businesses lose approximately 98 hours per year, equivalent to 12 working days, due to technology concerns such as slow PCs and outdated laptops.**

That's why having an IT refresh plan, matters. It keeps your team running smoothly, avoids unexpected breakdowns, and helps you stay secure. Regardless of whether you outsource managed IT services or handle them in-house, a solid refresh strategy can save time, stress, and money down the line.



## Why Having a Strategy in Place is Important

It's easy to ignore old hardware until something breaks. But when things start falling apart, you have no choice but to look for better parts, deal with downtime, or even explain to your team and clients why things are slow.

The risks of not planning include:

- Unexpected downtime: even one broken laptop can stop an entire day of work.
- Productivity tanks: Outdated tech runs slower, crashes more often, and just can't keep up.
- Security risks go up: Older systems miss out on key updates, leaving you exposed.
- Compliance issues: Especially if your business needs to meet certain tech standards or regulations.

A little planning now can save you from a lot of headaches later.

## 4 Simple Strategies for a Smarter Refresh Plan

- **Replace as You Go.** Instead of replacing everything all at once, swap out equipment gradually. When a machine starts acting up or hits the end of its lifecycle, replace it. Your IT support provider can help you set a realistic "expiration date" for each device. This approach spreads out the costs and keeps surprises to a minimum.
- **Schedule Regular Refresh Cycles.** If your team relies heavily on tech, or you'd rather not wait for things to go wrong, consider refreshing your hardware on a set schedule. It's a cleaner, more predictable way to keep your tech current.
- **Watch for Compatibility Issues.** Tech doesn't exist in a vacuum. Waiting until something breaks, or no longer works with your tools, puts your business in panic mode. Instead, have your IT

partner do regular checkups to make sure your equipment still plays nice with your software.

- **Don't Be Afraid of Leasing.** If big upfront costs are holding you back, leasing might be worth a look. Many IT vendors offer lease options with flexible terms. It's a way to get the latest gear without blowing your budget all at once.

## Always Have a Hardware Register

Here's a simple but powerful tip to keep track of your tech. All you need is a simple spreadsheet that includes:

- What equipment do you own
- When you bought it
- When the warranty expires
- Any issues it's had
- Who's using it

This hardware register takes the guesswork out of planning.

## What to Do Next

1. **Take inventory:** Write down what you've got and how old it is.
2. **Set your goals:** Your refresh plan should support where your business is headed.
3. **Talk to your IT services provider:** They can help you figure out the best timing, budget, and options.
4. **Create a simple schedule:** A plan is better than winging it.
5. **Review regularly:** Check in once or twice a year to stay on track.

## Stay Ahead by Refreshing Smart

A good IT refresh strategy protects productivity, improves security, and future-proofs your business. Need help building yours? Contact us today.

1. <b>PHISHING</b> 	2. <b>WEAK PASSWORDS</b> 	3. <b>RANSOMWARE</b> 	4. <b>SOCIAL ENGINEERING</b> 
5. <b>STOLEN LAPTOP</b> 	6. <b>INSIDER THREAT</b> 	7. <b>BRUTE FORCE ATTACK</b> 	8. <b>OUTDATED HARDWARE</b> 
9. <b>UNSAFE WI-FI</b> 	<div> <h1>20</h1> <p>your business could get hacked</p> </div>		10. <b>MALWARE</b> 
11. <b>PUBLIC EXPOSURE</b> 			12. <b>CREDENTIAL STUFFING</b> 
13. <b>INFECTED ATTACHMENTS</b> 			14. <b>PHYSICAL BREAK-IN</b> 
17. <b>SHADOW IT</b> 	18. <b>IGNORED UPDATES</b> 	19. <b>POOR BACKUP PRACTICE</b> 	20. <b>DATA LEAK</b> 

Let's make sure your  
business stays protected.  
**Get in touch.**

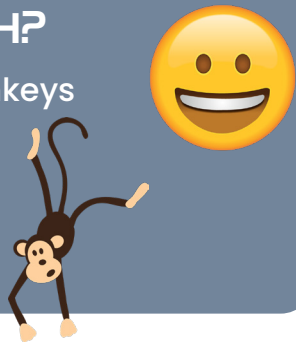




## NEED A LAUGH?

What do you call monkeys  
that have their own  
Amazon account?

Prime-mates!



## CLOUD COST OPTIMISATION STRATEGIES THAT WORK

Control cloud spending and avoid billing nightmares through these strategies:

- **Right-Size Resources:**  
*Analyse patterns and scale resources to match actual demands.*
- **Turn Off Idle Resources:**  
*Kill unused instances.*
- **Leverage Reserved and Spot Instances:**  
*Both can be cost-effective alternatives.*
- **Automate Where Possible:**  
*Use automation tools to handle scaling, shutdowns, and cost alerts.*
- **Optimise Your Storage:**  
*Use the right storage tier for your needs.*
- **Monitor and Adjust:**  
*Track usage and adjust accordingly.*
- **Create a Culture of Awareness:**  
*Make cloud spending a shared responsibility.*
- **Use Tags for Visibility:**  
*Tag all resources by team, project, or customer.*
- **Build Governance:**  
*Enforce policies to reduce sprawl and boost accountability.*
- **Align Spend with Value:**  
*Not all high costs are bad.*
- **Train Your Team:**  
*Educate all on cloud cost implications.*
- **Don't Forget Data Transfer:**  
*Be mindful of how and where you're moving data.*



## AUGUST TRIVIA QUESTION . . .

Test your knowledge!

The answer to last month's question was b) Gemini. Can you guess the answer to the trivia question below? The answer will be revealed in next month's newsletter.

What does PIN stand for?

- a) Personal Identification Number
- b) Personal International Number
- c) Personal Institution Number
- d) Personal Identifying Number