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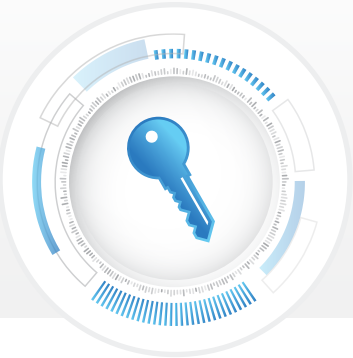
THE IT PROFESSIONAL'S CYBER READINESS GUIDE

ESSENTIAL ACTIONS
FOR BUILDING A CULTURE OF CYBER READINESS

Business Leader

Your Employees

Your Systems



Your Access

Your Data

Your Actions
Under Stress

BUSINESS LEADER

- Invest in cybersecurity.
- Review who is dependent on IT.
- Build a network of trusted relationships with sector partners and government agencies for access to timely cyber threat information.
- Acknowledge cybercrime as a business risk and be proactive.
- Develop cybersecurity policies.

YOUR EMPLOYEES

- Leverage basic cybersecurity training to understand cybersecurity concepts and implement best practices.
- Develop a culture of awareness to encourage employees to make good choices online.
- Learn about risks such as phishing and business email compromise.
- Identify available training resources through professional associations, academic institutions, and private sector and government sources.
- Be aware of current events related to cybersecurity, using lessons learned and reported events to remain updated on the current threat environment.

YOUR SYSTEMS

- Learn what's on your network and maintain an inventory of hardware and software assets to know what is at risk from an attack.
- Leverage automatic updates for all operating systems and third-party software.
- Implement secure configurations for all hardware and software assets.
- Remove unauthorized hardware and software from systems.
- Leverage email and web browser security settings to protect against spoofed or modified emails and unsecured web pages.
- Create application integrity and whitelisting policies so only approved software is allowed on your systems.

YOUR ACCESS

- Learn who is on your network and maintain inventories of network connections (user accounts, vendors, business partners, etc.).
- Implement multifactor authentication for all users.
- Grant access and admin permissions based on a need-to-know basis and least privilege.
- Use unique passwords for all user accounts.
- Develop IT policies and procedures addressing changes in user status (transfers, termination, etc.).

YOUR DATA

- Know what information resides on your network. Maintain inventories of critical or sensitive information.
- Establish regular automated backups.
- Install malware protection capabilities.
- Manage network and perimeter components, host and device components, data at rest and in transit, and user behavior activities.

YOUR ACTIONS UNDER STRESS

- Develop an incident response and disaster recovery plan outlining roles and responsibilities. Test it often.
- Create a business impact assessment to prioritize resources and identify which systems must be recovered first.
- Create a call list of whom to call for help (outside partners, vendors, government/industry responders, technical advisors and law enforcement).
- Develop an internal reporting structure to detect, communicate and contain attacks.