

Online security – Are your actions putting your company at risk?

Even though hackers and the methods they use are becoming more advanced every day, in reality, the greatest risk to the security of your system is something else entirely - it's you. The way you manage your network, how you and your employees behave when using the Internet, and how you handle passwords or the company's wireless system puts your company in greater danger than any outside force.

Are you certain that your current security controls will block attacks that could potentially compromise your business? Hiring an outside expert to test and audit your security management system is the best way to determine if your company and its assets are at risk.

Below are just a few of the things that could be compromising your online security:

Not having an inventory of all the software and hardware that has been loaded on your system.

Not doing regular maintenance or performing vulnerability scans to check for weaknesses such as detecting and eradicating viruses, malware and Trojan horses that may have crept into your system.

Not using encryption for your wireless access points.

Not having laptops and mobile devices encrypted so if one is lost or stolen, data won't be compromised.

Not having online security policies, e.g. password protection, sharing of information or social media guidelines.

A cursory security review can usually be completed in six to eight weeks, and a comprehensive evaluation can be completed within three to six months. Security audits will not disrupt your business operation. After completion of the audit you will know what your risks are, how critical they are, and you will be provided with the methods to fix them.

The security of your organization should be an on-going process taking into consideration the human factors as well as technological choices. Often, employees are unaware that their actions could be compromising company data and security.

Having an objective, external resource review your security management system is a great preventative step, which provides peace of mind and is required in many industries.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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