

DataGrams



Proven, Field-Tested Network Security Strategies To Help Our Clients Make Confident, Real-Time Cybersecurity Decisions.

WHAT'S NEW?

Still trending



Our major rollout was back in 2021 but it's not too late to get up to speed.

Come on up!

Contact Angela at abirchfield@datalinkmsp.com or x576

Beat The Heat! Keep The Dog Days Of Summer From Wreaking Havoc On Your Technology

The dog days of summer are here! While you do everything you can to keep your team cool and comfortable—it's also very important to keep your technology cool, too!

Server Rooms

In our 40 years in business, we've found that server rooms are frequently treated like broom closets. If your server room is small, does not have proper ventilation (a louvered door alone doesn't count), is rarely dusted or vacuumed and extra floor space is used as a pseudo-warehouse, it's time for a change.

Take a focused look at your company's server room to prolong the life of your technology and protect your data.

- Invest in a proper server rack for air flow
- If the surrounding area is secure, keep the door open at all times and run fans to circulate cooled air from the office area
- If the door must be closed to secure, have an A/C shaft installed or install fans in the ceiling
- Dust and vacuum the room regularly



Devices On A Production Floor/Dock

Many production floors and dock areas are dusty, dirty and hot—which are a computers' mortal enemy.

The average desktop computer is built to work in external temperatures of 50 to 82 degrees Fahrenheit. Laptops and tablets can handle 50 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit. *Keep PCs cool with these tips:*

- Utilize industrial fans
- Contact a commercial HVAC-R expert to assess and install proper cooling
- Dust and mop weekly, at minimum
- Invest in industrial panel PCs or enclosures that provide protection from liquids and dust

WHAT'S INSIDE:

FREE REPORT: The CEO/CFO's Guide To Co-Managed IT.....pg 1

Smart Tech: Data Blocking.....pg 2

One-Ingredient recipe.....pg 2

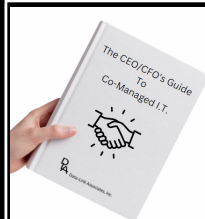
Help them run a lemonade stand that actually MAKES money..... pg 2

Featured : 5 Steps To Secure A Network in 2023.....pg 3

Get Weekly Tech Tips, Follow DLA On Socials.....pg 4

Forget what you know about charging devicespg 4

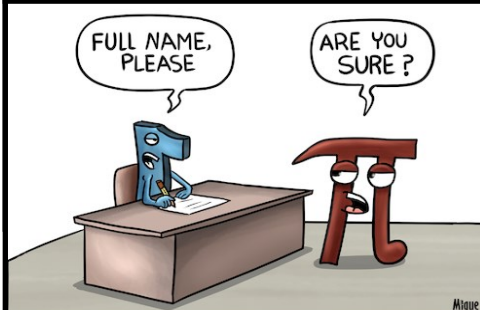
Sudoku.....pg 4



FREE REPORT: The CEO/CFO's Guide To Co-Managed I.T.

Partner your internal IT Department with Data-Link Associates

DOWNLOAD this FREE REPORT at datalinkmsp.com/partnership





This monthly publication provided courtesy of Richard Frielink, Founder & President of Data-Link Associates

Our Mission

To provide IT solutions and services that allow our clients to succeed in an ever changing and challenging business environment.

EMERGENCY

(630) 406-8969



Coming up in the next issue:

- ◆ Video Gaming As A Solution To World Problems
- ◆ The Implications Of Human Identity Chips

Are you new here?

Schedule a complimentary 10-Minute Discovery Call to tell us about your IT trouble!
Datalinkmsp.com/discoverycall

SMART TECH



PortaPow data and security charging accessories. Find on Amazon

Do your employees use company computers to charge personal phones?

A data blocker or a small disc charging station should be used in lieu of plugging directly into the PC to prevent data transfer.

The PortaPow USB-C Data Blocker (Twin pack) is \$9.99 on Amazon. PortaPow offers a USB-A to A, USB-A to C, USB-C to A, USB-C to C and a USB-A to USB-C cable version. All products have a 2-year worldwide warranty.

Governments of the US, Canada, UK and New Zealand as well as many corporations around the world use PortaPow to prevent data transfer to/from their devices.

One-ingredient
BANANA ICE CREAM

- Cut ripe bananas into coins
- Freeze in a freezer bag (Ziploc) for at least 2 hours
- Blend in food processor
- Scrape the bowl and stir occasionally while mixing.

Note: While mixing, the bananas will look like crumbs at first, just blend more.

Due to their high pectin content, the bananas will eventually turn into soft ice cream.

This article inspired by a friend of the company, Dr. Arun Mani of Total Body Health Center in St. Charles, who recommends eating one-ingredient foods as often as possible for better health.

HAHAHA

An SEO expert walks into a bar, bars, tavern, public house, Irish pub, drinks, beer, alcohol

Help Them Run A Lemonade Stand That Actually MAKES Money

- Offer CANS of regular & pink lemonade with an option for diabetics (Coke Zero or Diet Coke)
- Keep cans in coolers on ice
- Create a LARGE sign that clearly shows product choices and prices. Offer fun candy for sale, too!
- Dry each can with a clean, dry cloth before handing to a customer (don't forget the top of the can)
- Offer straws and/or cups (optional)
- Remind children not to yell at cars, intentionally distract traffic or run into the street
- Set and post regular hours, if possible. Use social media to promote the stand and don't forget to add cute pictures! Post regularly. Good luck!



5 STEPS TO SECURE A NETWORK

in
2023

Keeping up with cybersecurity has less to do with understanding a specific threat and more to do with understanding the type of threat and what software solution stops it.

New software availability that has become mainstream in 2023 includes zero-trust solutions. This year, we are also hearing of many more cyber insurance policies requiring ongoing company-wide phishing email training.

BONUS TIP: Ask your IT professional if your organization is covered by the solutions listed in these **5 Steps To A Secure Network in 2023** to ensure your organization is being protected by the latest cybersecurity technology and best-practices.

STEP 1: RMM & EDR

Deploy Remote Monitoring and Maintenance (RMM) and Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR). They are the IV and the administered medication in the world of cybersecurity. RMM is installed on every device—just as an IV is ‘installed’ in the arm in the first minutes of being admitted to a hospital emergency department. In tech, the RMM gives us an IV to a device to talk to it and administer help, fixes and updates. The EDR acts as medication. If a device is under attack, the EDR stops most malware from spreading and attempts to roll the device back to a previous healthy state.

STEP 2: ZERO-TRUST

Adopt a zero-trust environment and software solution. Cyberthreats will continue to change as they have over the past 20 years and it is impossible to catch everything in today’s cyber-climate. To best protect your network, company devices can be secured with a zero-trust software that will not allow malware to run.

When a bad link is clicked, zero-trust software does not allow the malware to talk to PowerShell, so the script is never ‘read’ and therefore CANNOT run on the device. Your IT professional will facilitate a learning-mode period for the zero-trust software to learn your company’s frequently used apps/sites to limit unwanted blocks to work-related programs.

STEP 3: FILTER DNS

DNS filtering is the best way to keep employees and guests from visiting unauthorized websites, and it works well in tandem with zero-trust. Employee groups are designated to a low, medium or high security level based on their job requirements.

STEP 4: PHISHING TRAINING

If you do NOTHING ELSE on this list, make sure you at least have a regular, automated phishing training going out to everyone in your company who has access to the internet. This is not good cybersecurity on it’s own —by a long shot— but it’s a start. Ransomware is mainly distributed through a phishing email.

The training shows how to spot a scam or phishing email, keeps staff updated on new trends and simulates a phishing attack once per quarter. Many cyber insurance policies now require on-going, company-wide phishing email training to support a claim against a cyber policy.

STEP 5: MODERATOR

Though it may be tempting to save money, no one should rely on “YouTube University” to give the proper education to run a company’s IT. Hire a professional if you don’t already use one. The software is not enough—it needs to be monitored by people who know what they’re looking for and know how to fix any problems that arise. And if they’re good, they’ll give you the proper recommendations for your industry that are specific for your organization’s unique needs as you operate throughout the year and as new threats arise, not just at renewal time or, worse yet, only when your IT people are trying to grow revenue.

Thank You For Calling!

Thank you to those who called in a referral this month, sent topic requests for the Weekly IT Tip emails, requested more information or sat for an appointment. We appreciate you!

Subscribe To Weekly IT Security Tips

Cyber criminals and hackers are constantly inventing NEW ways to infiltrate your company, steal your assets and disrupt your life. The ONLY way to STOP THEM...

You Must Constantly Educate Yourself On How To Protect What's Yours!

Simply scan the QR code for the PERFECT way to help reduce your risk and keep you safe. And, you guessed it, WE HATE SPAM, so we will never sell your information or email address or misuse it in any way.

Scan below to receive our FREE byte-sized (IT pun, sorry) quick-read tips to your email.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can stop worrying about when or for how long you charge your phone or laptop!

The charging currents in today's battery-powered personal devices are regulated to prevent damage to the battery.

So let that battery go to zero, leave your laptop plugged in all the time, and charge your device overnight—whatever suits your schedule.

	4							9
		3		1				
		7		6			2	
	7			9				4
							7	5
	8	1	7			3		
						2		3
6				4	7		5	
	2		9		5			

Sudoku

How To Play: Fill in the 9x9 grid with numbers from 1-9 with no repeated numbers in each line, horizontally or vertically.

Answers at dlainc.com/sudoku

MORE CYBER

And one more thing....

We'd love to see you on socials!

Join us to discuss breaking cybersecurity news, get security patch reminders, tech tips and more!... directly to your feed.

