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TECHNOLOGY INSIDER



*Your monthly
newsletter, written for
humans not geeks*

Collaboration tools are GREAT. But are they a security risk?

Who doesn't love the convenience of workplace collaboration tools and messaging apps like Teams, Slack and Zoom?

We can chat with colleagues, share files, hold meetings, and even discuss sensitive topics without leaving our comfy home offices. It's all sunshine and rainbows... until cyber attackers decide to rain on your parade.

You see, whilst these platforms have become a blessing for productivity, they've also opened a Pandora's box of cyber security risks.

Did you know that Slack, despite using encryption does not feature end-to-end encryption? It's believed this is so clients can maintain visibility into their company's communications.

Or, if you use WhatsApp for your business, it has been exploited in a variety of social engineering attacks?

And let's not forget Telegram, which has become a prime target for cyber attackers.

This has given birth to a new attack category –

Business Communication Compromise (BCC), a sinister cousin of the more familiar Business Email Compromise (BEC).

82% of data breaches involve the human element, according to a 2022 Data Breach Investigation Report. An innocent click on a phishing email, and your communication platforms become a playground for cyber attackers.

Here's how you can stay safe.

- Enforce strict access controls, so only people who are supposed to get into your platform, can do so. Something simple like multi-factor authentication can be a powerful deterrent
- Implement data loss prevention measures. Use a system with encryption and make sure lost or stolen devices can be remotely wiped
- And train your team how to protect sensitive information

**If we can help you stay better protected,
get in touch.**

DID YOU KNOW...

Chrome plans to highlight risky extensions

Google is planning to make extensions safer for everyone, by actively highlighting the ones that have been made unavailable in the Chrome Web Store.

There are three reasons an extension may disappear; the developer has removed it, it breaches Google Web Store policy, or it's malware. This new feature will leave you in no doubt about the potential risk of an extension that's suddenly vanished.



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TechFacts

1

The first ever webcam was deployed at Cambridge University, UK in 1991. It was designed to monitor a coffee pot, after scientists were fed up finding it empty.

2

The first computer to be marketed as a laptop was the Gavilan SC in May 1983.

It was priced at \$4,000 (£3,096), weighed 9 pounds (4 kg), and was powered by a 5 MHz Intel 8088 chip. Oh, it also ran MS-DOS. Things weren't always better in the past.

3

The biggest tech acquisition in history was not, as you might think, Elon Musk's multi-billion dollar takeover of Twitter (now called X) in 2022. Actually, the record sits with Dell's 2015 acquisition of enterprise storage company EMC for \$67 billion in cash and stock.

NEW TO MICROSOFT 365

Coming soon: **Faster backup** for Microsoft **SharePoint, OneDrive and Exchange**

Microsoft 365 Backup is said to be a powerful data recovery service, and it's coming soon. It's designed to speedily restore your OneDrive, SharePoint, and Exchange data if you've suffered a breach. It even allows you to restore data within set date ranges.

A public preview is expected later this year. If it gets a positive reaction, we'll be expecting a full rollout next year.



Unlock the Power of Mobility with OneDrive for Business!

In today's fast-paced business world, flexibility is key, and the ability to work from anywhere has become a necessity. That's where Microsoft OneDrive for Business comes into play, offering you a seamless and secure solution for syncing your files to the Cloud and empowering your team members to work effectively from wherever they are.

Why OneDrive for Business?

1. **Accessibility:** With OneDrive for Business, your files are accessible anytime, anywhere, on any device. Whether you're at the office, at home, or on the go, your important documents are just a click away.
2. **Collaboration:** Collaborative work has never been easier. OneDrive for Business enables real-time collaboration, allowing team members to co-author documents, share feedback, and make changes simultaneously. OneDrive can make your team more productive and efficient.
3. **Security:** Your data is precious, and OneDrive for Business takes security seriously. With robust encryption, automatic backups, and advanced threat protection, your files are safe from any potential risks.
4. **Seamless Integration:** OneDrive for Business seamlessly integrates with Microsoft 365 applications like Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. This means you can access and edit your files directly from these applications, saving time, and making your workflow smoother and more efficient.

Download your copy of our Microsoft 365 ['Work Anywhere'](#) instructional infographic.



Don't miss this opportunity to supercharge your team's collaboration and productivity. Embrace the freedom of working from anywhere with OneDrive for Business!

Start syncing, start collaborating, and start achieving more with OneDrive for Business today.

Stay connected, stay productive!

Contact your [Modern Networks](#) account manager to learn more about the many benefits of Microsoft 365 for your organisation.

Learn the Ropes with OneDrive Video Training

To help you make the most of OneDrive for Business, we recommend checking out the video training available on the Microsoft website. These resources provide step-by-step guidance, tips, and tricks to help you become a OneDrive for Business pro.

Visit the training portal here: [OneDrive Video Training](#).

In these video tutorials, you'll learn how to:

- Set up OneDrive for Business on various devices.
- Share files and collaborate with colleagues effortlessly.
- Sync your files to the cloud and access them from anywhere.
- Enhance your productivity with OneDrive's powerful features.



Spooky Bytes: History's IT Horror Stories That Will Haunt Your Screens!

As Halloween creeps closer, we can't help but get into the spirit of all things spooky and mysterious. And what better way to celebrate the season than by delving into some of history's biggest IT horror stories? From software glitches to cyber mishaps, these tales of tech terror will send shivers down your Ethernet cable!

1. THE CASE OF THE MISSING MARS ORBITER

Our first chilling story transports us to the year 1999 when NASA was all set to send its Mars Climate Orbiter on a mission to the Red Planet. However, due to a simple unit conversion error (metric versus imperial units), the spacecraft tragically burned up in the Martian atmosphere. Oops! Always double-check those units, folks, or you might end up with a "spaced-out" disaster!

2. THE Y2K BUG: THE END OF THE WORLD!?!

Remember the Y2K panic? As the world celebrated the turn of the millennium, many feared that computers worldwide would crash, causing chaos. Fortunately, it turned out to be more of a damp squib than doomsday. The dreaded Y2K bug was just a glitch, but it sure had everyone biting their nails in anticipation!

3. HEARTBLEED: A NIGHTMARE FOR THE WEB

In 2014, the internet witnessed a horror story that could have compromised your online secrets! The Heartbleed bug, a vulnerability in the OpenSSL encryption software, haunted the digital world by potentially exposing sensitive information. Cue the frantic password-changing frenzy! Always remember to keep your online presence secure, or you might just let some digital vampires in!

4. THE HAUNTING OF THE BRITISH AIRWAYS IT SYSTEM

In 2017, British Airways experienced a nightmarish IT glitch. A power surge at a data centre caused flight cancellations, delays, and chaos at airports worldwide. An estimated 75,000 passengers were left stranded, and it took days to restore normal operations. It was a ghostly reminder of how critical IT systems are for modern air travel.



5. THE SINISTER SIDE OF THE SAMSUNG GALAXY NOTE 7

In 2016, Samsung released the Galaxy Note 7, but it quickly became the stuff of tech nightmares. Reports of the phones catching fire and even exploding flooded the news. Samsung had to recall millions of devices, and the FAA even banned them on flights. Now that's a real "hot" tech horror story!

6. ZOMBIE COMPUTERS OF THE BOTNET APOCALYPSE

Ever heard of a botnet? These are armies of zombie computers controlled by cybercriminals. One of the largest and most terrifying botnets was the Conficker worm, which infected millions of computers worldwide. It was like a scene from a tech-themed horror movie as these digital zombies wreaked havoc across the internet!

There you have it, folks, a spine-tingling journey through some of history's biggest IT horror stories. As you sip on your pumpkin spice latte and don your scariest costume this Halloween, remember that even in the world of technology, things can go bump in the night. Stay safe, update your software, and don't forget to back up your data!

Until next time, have a ghoulishly good Halloween!



Is AI really for you, or are you jumping on the bandwagon?

Do you ever find yourself asking, "What is all this hype about AI?"

If so, you're not alone.

The buzz around artificial intelligence (AI) and its potential to revolutionise every aspect of our lives is inescapable. But how can you navigate through the noise and truly harness the power of AI to meet your business's big goals?

It's a question that keeps many business leaders awake at night.

Imagine being able to predict market trends before they happen, or to streamline your operations with almost exact precision. This isn't some far-off dream; it's the promise of generative AI.

But there's a lot of speculation around AI. Right now, it's uncertain, so... should you simply wait and see what happens?

Of course not!

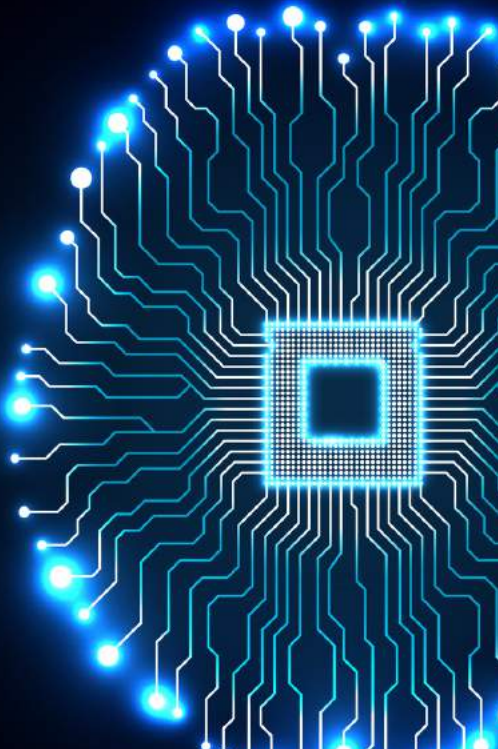
In fact, now is exactly the time to start exploring generative AI. Sitting back isn't an option when your rivals could be leveraging this technology to gain a competitive edge. Yes, there's a lot to learn and understand, but isn't that part of the thrill of doing business in the 21st century?

But one thing to keep in mind amidst the excitement, is not to lose sight of your core aims, goals, and cultures. What

good is a new AI system if it doesn't align with the way your business behaves?

Whilst the world of AI may seem like uncharted territory, some classic rules still apply. Will you implement it? Will it generate revenue? Can it reduce your costs? Will it boost productivity? If not, perhaps it's not the right move for your business right now.

So, while the hype around AI is deafening, and the path ahead is not clear at all, the potential rewards are too great to ignore.



GHOSTS IN THE MACHINE

Technology is adding a new dimension to Halloween, making it easier for people to create, enjoy, and share their spooky experiences in the digital age.

Smartphone Apps: There are numerous Halloween-themed smartphone apps that offer augmented reality (AR) experiences, allowing users to see ghosts, monsters, or other supernatural elements through their phone's camera.

Digital Pumpkin Carving: Digital pumpkin carving tools and apps allow people to design and carve virtual pumpkins on their devices, experimenting with intricate designs before attempting them on real pumpkins.

Projection Mapping: Projection mapping technology allows homeowners to transform the facades of their houses into haunted mansions, eerie forests, or other spooky scenes. This technology brings Halloween decorations to life with dynamic visuals.

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Q: How can I tell if my email has been hacked?

A: The most obvious sign is if you can't login. But it's not always that simple. If you suspect something's off, check your sent items and login activity for anything that wasn't you. We can help if you're worried.

Q: Should I allow BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) in my business?

A: If managed correctly, it can be an excellent option for some. However, it does pose a serious security risk if you don't regulate it correctly. Our advice? Seek expert help to get it set up.

Q: Does my business need cyber insurance?

A: If you store or send data, it's a good idea. Every business is vulnerable to an attack or an employee's error which puts you at financial risk, so insurance may remove some of the financial burden in such a situation.

