

Referral



Iowa Solutions is looking to add a couple new clients and we'd like to ask you for a referral or some guidance on who we should talk to. Who do you know that could benefit from the services we offer at Iowa Solutions? Do you know of an organization looking for a good technology company? Send a quick email to Support@IowaSolutions.com and we'll contact them right away!

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Server & Desktop Support
Technology Planning
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www.IowaSolutions.com

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www.SpamBlockerServices.com

In the News

We are often asked "Which security steps does my small business need to take?" In the nine years we've been assisting small businesses with technology, there are five placeholders that affect every businesses.

This quote says it all "*These are the absolute bare minimum, basic, no-brainer, and got-to-have things!*" Jeremy Smith, Tech-Republic, Jan 4th, 2008.

Technology Spotlight

Antivirus Software

Most companies realize the importance of this software, that is; they purchase it. But, do they verify the auto-updating feature is working correctly, has it been upgraded to the current release; as to not become outdated, and is it configured correctly for network scanning?

Firewalls

"The typical small business will have DSL or cable for Internet access. With almost all of these connections you will be provided with a small firewall like a D-Link or Linksys brand appliance. These firewalls are given to you for a reason. They are better than nothing, I will grant you that, but they are not the most robust firewalls in the world, and in many cases they won't provide the small business with adequate protection." Jeremy Smith, Tech-Republic, Jan 4th, 2008.

OS Patching

Microsoft releases security patches on a monthly basis to close security vulnerabilities (second Tuesday of each month). We feel Microsoft says it best on their website: **If you manage your own computer, install updates as soon as they become available. If your computer is part of a managed network, contact your system administrator before making changes.**

Backups

Probably the most important item listed, but for this conversation requires the least amount of discussion. Simply put; you **MUST** have this, it **MUST** be tested, and **Get More** of them! **Protect your DATA; it is your business.**

Maintenance

The majority of small businesses do **NOT** need the latest and greatest in technology, but all small businesses need to be kept up to date. Utilizing outdated software and hardware is a ticking time bomb! **Protect your technology investment and the security of your business; this final security step is critical and often overlooked.**

Tips & Tricks

Also overlooked as they have been included in the Office Suite for so long is Microsoft Online Templates. Simply open up (WORD, EXCEL, or PowerPoint) click on **F**ile, **N**ew, and choose Microsoft Office Online. You will see hundreds of templates in multiple categories for work, home, and even play; plus they're **FREE!** I think you'll agree; they're worth a second look...