



COMPUTER DEPOT INC.

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Tech Bits and Bytes to Help You with Your Business

Computer Depot Inc. Business Solutions Newsletter

October 2021



Thomas Hill, President & Founder

"Listening is the best defense against bad or flat out wrong assumptions."



Want To Make Sure Your Business Is Protected From A Data Disaster?

Did you know that 93% of all businesses – that don't have a disaster recovery plan in place when they experience a data disaster – go out of business within a year of that disaster? And yet, 68% of businesses don't have a disaster recovery plan in place.

Losing access to your business's data in this day and age could very well mean losing everything. That means that as data becomes an increasingly important commodity to businesses of all types and sizes, so does having a plan for if or when your business experiences a data disaster.

The thought of protecting your business against a data disaster might be daunting, but don't worry. By following the steps listed below in this article, you can make sure that your business is ready to take on the challenge.

However, before we actually get into those steps, there is one distinction you should understand: the difference between a

business continuity plan and a disaster recovery plan. A business continuity plan is primarily proactive, in that it is a strategy by which a business can continue to operate no matter what kind of disaster or setback befalls it. A disaster recovery plan is primarily reactive and has to do with how a business acts immediately following a disaster of some sort – in this case, a data disaster.

So, now that we're clear on what a disaster recovery plan is, here are the steps your business can take to create one that works for you and your employees.

Step 1: Rally The Troops And Assess Your Equipment

In the fight against data disasters, everyone has to be on board. Otherwise, there will always be holes in your defense plan. That's why executive buy-in – getting everyone in the company, from the CEO to the entry-level employees – is crucial. You need



TRIVIA

Congratulations

Leslie Pawelczyk

from

Ministry International Institute

who knew that when disaster threatens there is a run on STRAWBERRY POP TARTS!

Of. All. The. Things.

TURN TO PAGE 2 FOR THIS MONTHS TRIVIA



everyone to collaborate cross-functionally in order to fully protect your business.

From there, you need to thoroughly analyze each of your business's systems, applications and data sets, as well as how they're physically accessed, in order to suss out any potential vulnerabilities. Then you should determine which systems are absolutely critical to the operation of your business and for getting products and services to your customers. These are the functions that will need to stay up and running, even after a data disaster.

Step 2: Create Your Disaster Recovery Strategy

Once you have everyone on board and an understanding of your equipment and assets (as well as their vulnerabilities), it's time to actually formulate your disaster recovery plan. To do this, you should take a look at your budget, resources, tools and partners in this endeavor. When you understand how long it takes your business to get back online and the cost for doing so, you'll have a good idea of how to move forward.

• **"68% of businesses don't have a disaster recovery plan in place."**

Step 3: Test Your Strategy

No great plan is complete without first testing it to see if it will work. Put your disaster recovery plan through a trial run to



see how quickly your team responds to solve the problem and see if there are any improvements that need to be made to the process. Then, by the time an actual data disaster occurs, your business will know how to shut it down and keep running with no problem at all.

While the steps themselves aren't difficult to understand, preparing your business to combat data disasters takes a lot of work. In the end, though, the work is worth it if it means protecting your data. As a recap, here are the four main action steps that you need to take in formulating a disaster recovery plan:

1. Get executive buy-in for creating a disaster recovery plan.
2. Analyze and evaluate your business's systems, applications and data to understand how they could be impacted.
3. Find out which systems you need to keep running and prioritize them during the fallout of the data disaster.
4. Test your plan before you actually need to put it in action.

Follow these steps, and your business's data will be safe from any threat that comes your way.

"They will take care of you."

Linda Allison

Goddard Industrial, Inc.



"It's a conflict between your hardware and your software. Your cauldron won't support Eye Of Newt 3.0."

This Month's

TRIVIA

Here is your next chance to WIN Lunch on us!

Double, double, toil and trouble; Fire burn, and cauldron bubble. Who said it first?

Email your answer to RHill@ComputerDepotOnline.com

"I DIDN'T KNOW"

Unfortunately, That Excuse Doesn't Replenish Your Bank Account, Resolve A Data Breach Or Erase Any Fines And Lawsuits.

It's coming ...

- That day a hacker steals critical data, rendering your office useless ...
- That day when your bank account or credit card is compromised ...
- Or that day when your customers' private lives are uprooted ...

Cybercriminals and hackers are constantly inventing NEW ways to infiltrate your company, steal your assets and disrupt your life. The ONLY way to STOP THEM is by CONSTANTLY EDUCATING yourself on how to PROTECT what's yours!

Now, for a limited time, we have the perfect way to help reduce your risk and keep you safe! Simply sign up to receive our FREE "Cyber Security Tip of the Week." We'll send these byte-sized quick-read tips to your e-mail in-box. Every tip is packed with a unique and up-to-date real-world solution that keeps you one step ahead of the bad guys. And because so few people know about these security secrets, every week you'll learn something new!

Get your FREE "Cyber Security Tip of the Week" at www.ComputerDepotBusiness.com/drip-tips/



HIPAA FACTS

Protect Your Practice from HIPAA Violations

Top 3 Causes of Data Breach



Employee Action

Third-Party Error



Lost or Stolen Devices

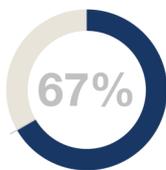
The average cost

per lost record:

\$401

HIPAA Fines Can Range From

\$100-\$50,000



of healthcare organizations plan to spend money on HIPAA audit services.

Want to avoid a data breach and validate your compliance?

The Real And Growing Shipping and Supply Chain Crisis

On a recent trip to Charleston, the Hill family toured Fort Sumter. Every time a cargo ship would go by, Thomas would look at it and say, "Gosh I hope there's some video cards on there."

Certainly the supply chain and shipping crisis is no laughing matter. It is a chaotic, complex, big hot global mess. And it only seems to be getting worse. All the "stuff" we want is competing for resource amidst the pandemic which has left a shortage of employees, delays in ports, increased regulations and fines, skyrocketing cost, security risks... Not to mention a ship gets weirdly wedged sideways in the Suez Canal. The challenges are many the solutions hard to see. Once you get to the US, there is a whole new set of problems, starting with the lack of truck drivers. This is not a new problem. In fact, it has been studied for some time because there haven't been enough big rig drivers for a long time. According to the American Trucking Association (ATA), in 2019, the trucking industry was short 61,000 drivers and the association estimates a shortage of 160,000 drivers by 2028. So what to do? Start by being proactive. Order early. Track those expected shipments and be prepared to take ownership of issues by following up yourself. And if you are dealing with product for customers, communicate, communicate, communicate!



Q: Know why skeletons are so calm?

A: Because nothing gets under their skin.

Q: Know why skeletons will NOT cross the road?

A: Because they don't have the guts.



Are You The Next Cybersecurity Hero?

Cybersecurity training is an important tool to combating cyber criminals. Here at Computer Depot Business, we began recommending an advanced cybersecurity education and training plan a few years ago to help business staff stay secure. When we saw what a difference it made for those taking advantage of this offering, we knew it was something *everyone* needed. This year we implemented our new initiative to provide an essential level of basic cybersecurity training to EVERY staff member of the businesses that we support. To put it bluntly, we do NOT want to be your IT firefighter, we want to be your IT partner. Our program is comprehensive and includes weekly tech tip emails, cybersecurity webinars, and other tools that focus on the human element of security.

As a part of this initiative, we want to recognize those staff members who are really taking cybersecurity seriously. Do you want to be a Cybersecurity Hero? You can get started by reading the weekly cybersecurity tips. If you are currently not getting them, you may email Melissa at MCollins@computerdepotonline.com to be added and secure your chance for the next quarterly recognition. Now let's meet our Q3 winner.



Congratulations and Thank You Stephen, Disaster and Telehealth Manager with Remote Area Medical for demonstrating good cybersecurity behavior, especially with email!





October 2021



Look What's Inside...

- **Make Sure Your Business Is Protected From A Data Disaster**
- **The Shipping and Supply Chain Crisis That's Driving Us Nuts Right Now**
- **Hurry-You could WIN this month's Trivia and this** 
- **Meet this quarter's Cybersecurity Hero**
- **Fall into safe Halloween fun with your fur baby!**



COMPUTER DEPOT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS - AFFORDABLE IT HELPDESK AND CYBER SECURITY SUPPORT IN 20 MINUTES OR LESS

Take Care With Dog Costumes!

Maybe your golden retriever would look just like a lion if you put a mane on him for Halloween.

Or maybe he would look like a dog being tortured.

Dressing up your dog for Halloween is a fun idea, and there are lots of costumes available. Just make sure your dog can tolerate it.

Dogs with thin coats that are used to wearing sweaters are probably the best candidates for costumes. Avoid covering their ears and head, if you can help it.

Covering a dog's natural coat can trigger anxiety. So if your pooch has to go to a Halloween party, rehearse first. Put the costume several times (on different days) before the event. Praise the dog and play with him while he is wearing the costume. Then remove it quickly. During the event itself, plan to make an entrance and then remove the costume after a short time.

If your dog responds to the costume by licking,

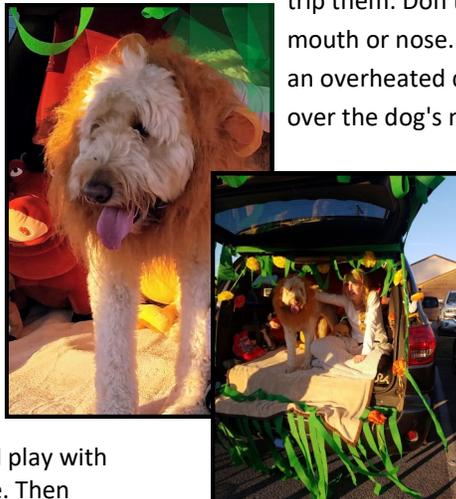
pawing, or frantic running, do the fella a favor and don't make him wear a costume.

For dogs that tolerate costumes, make sure the fabric doesn't interfere with walking and doesn't

trip them. Don't cover their ears, eyes, mouth or nose. Be on the lookout for an overheated dog. That costume over the dog's natural coat can quickly become hot.

Whatever you decide, be sure to take pictures, lots of them. You will want to enter them in our upcoming "Pet Of The Month Contest." Stay tuned for more information about

this in our upcoming newsletters! In the meantime, have a fun a safe Halloween with you fur babies.



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