CYBER-CRIME

Follow-Up Edition

How To Prevent Cyber Crime - 7 simple steps

Cybercrime prevention can be straight-forward - when armed with a little technical advice and common sense, many attacks can be avoided. In general, online criminals are trying to make their money as quickly and easily as possible. The more difficult you make their job, the more likely they are to leave you alone and move on to an easier target. The bullet points below provide basic information on how you can prevent online fraud;

- Keep your computer current with the latest patches and updates.
- Make sure your computer is configured securely.
- Choose strong passwords and keep them safe.
- Protect your computer with security software.
- Protect your personal information.
- Online offers that look too good to be true usually are.
- Review bank and credit card statements regularly.

"The cyber threat does not become a managed organisational risk until it is understood. Good situational awareness is key to managing this risk."

Cyber-security Information Sharing Partnership (CiSP)

CiSP is a joint industry and government scheme based in the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) designed to deliver situational awareness to its members and encourage the sharing of information on cyber risk to enable others to adopt appropriate mitigation. CiSP is a secure social networking platform that enables its members to receive enriched cyber threat and vulnerability information and exchange information on threats and vulnerabilities as they occur in real time.

Who is CiSP for?

CiSP is funded by the UK Government through the National Cyber Security Programme and is offered as a free service and is primarily aimed at organisations who manage IT networks in the UK.

CiSP PRODUCTS

CiSP produces a wide range of products to cater for organisations at all levels of cyber maturity. These include, but are not limited to:
> Alerts and Advisories, including from national and international partners
> Best practice and guidance documents on common themes
> Quarterly Reports on threat trends
> Malware and phishing email analysis

CiSP BENEFITS

> Engagement with industry and government counterparts in a secure environment
> Early warning of cyber threats
> Ability to learn from experiences, mistakes and successes of others and seek advice
> An improved ability to protect your organisation's network
> Access to subject or sector specific content - including vulnerabilities, latest incidents and exercising
> Access to free network reporting tools to help protect organisational security.
> Improved cyber situational awareness at no costs to your organisation.

FURTHER INFORMATION
For further information on CiSP and how to join visit https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cisp or alternatively contact Graham Bye, Scottish CiSP Co-ordinator graham.bye@sbrcentre.co.uk

Cyber Essentials

The Cyber Essentials Scheme is a Government backed baseline standard in cyber security enabling businesses to demonstrate that they both understand and address the cyber risks.

Cyber criminals are after your money, your data, your customers data and your intellectual property. With the EU General Data Privacy Regulation due to take effect in April 2018 holding Cyber Essentials Scheme Certification will go some way to demonstrating that your organisation has taken appropriate steps to prevent data breaches. If you haven't taken steps to protect yourself, take action now. It's easy to get good, basic protection in place with Cyber Essentials.

Cyber-attacks cost organisations like yours thousands of pounds and cause lengthy periods of disruption. Do you have a plan for what you would do if your customer database was stolen, your website was forced offline, or you couldn't access your email or business critical data? Cyber criminals don't just attack banks and large companies - they target any organisation which isn't properly protected, even small businesses.

The majority of cyber-attacks exploit basic weaknesses in your IT systems and software. Cyber Essentials shows you how to address those basics and prevent the most common attacks. The scheme is designed by Government to make it easy for you to protect yourself.

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THERE ARE TWO LEVELS OF BADGES THAT YOUR ORGANISATION CAN APPLY FOR:

CYBER ESSENTIALS

Requires the organisation to complete a self-assessment questionnaire, with responses independently reviewed by an external certifying body.

CYBER ESSENTIALS PLUS

This covers the same requirements as Cyber Essentials but tests of the systems are carried out by an external certifying body, using a range of tools and techniques.

The Cyber Essentials documents are FREE to download and any organisation can use them to put essential security controls in place. However, applying for a Cyber Essentials certificate will provide independent assurance that you have the protections correctly in place. You will also be able to display the Cyber Essentials badge to demonstrate to customers, partners and clients that you take cyber security seriously – boosting reputations and providing a competitive selling point.

www.cyberaware.gov.uk/cyberessentials/

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