



REOPENING YOUR BUSINESS:

A 51-POINT IT & CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST



OFFICES & WAREHOUSES

- Prepare visitor security procedures such as sign-in books and badges.
- Notify third-party vendors that you are reopening.
- Check your security camera systems to make sure they are monitoring and recording.
- Secure your server access room; restrict access to key personnel and log all visitors.
- Check your climate control settings in the server room.
- Check for physical damages to the office space.



EMPLOYEES

- Create strong password requirements to be used throughout the network.
- Conduct a debriefing to evaluate the tools you were using while working remotely.
- Update your user account security policies.
- Clean up your active directory to account for any personnel changes.
- Hold an employee cybersecurity awareness training class
- Develop/update BYOD, acceptable use, remote and wireless access removable media, work from home policies.
- Follow CDC Guidelines.



HARDWARE & DEVICES

- Check all power strips for signs of wear and damage
- Check for frayed or loose cables
- Use compressed air to clean your hardware.
- Do an audit to make sure all borrowed equipment has been returned.
- Plan for extended start-up times for devices.
- Clean all devices returned by employees.
- Check the current and extended warranty coverage on your servers.
- Make sure all laptops are encrypted.
- Replace consumer grade laptops with business class equipment.
- Look for red/flashing lights on hardware/server room.



HONE YOUR STRATEGIES

- Prepare to continue to offer remote services.
- Change email signatures to reflect your open status.
- Consider a permanent transition to cloud computing services.
- Consider outsourcing some IT services.
- Review/purchase cyber liability insurance.
- Engage a third party to regularly perform external vulnerability and penetration tests.
- Move to a cloud-hosted VoIP phone system.
- Consider a Cloud-Based Managed firewall.



VALIDATE & TEST BACKUPS

- Check your backup disaster and recovery platforms.
- Test backups before allowing employees to log in for the first time
- Verify whether you can spin up your servers locally or remotely via the cloud.
- Ensure your backup destination is blocked off from the rest of the network.
- Conduct daily server imaging.
- Talk with IT about RPO (Recovery Point Objective) /RTO (Recovery Time Objective).



CYBERSECURITY

- Install software patches on all devices.
- Reboot all internet devices and networks.
- Utilize SSL-VPN connection security.
- Check that your mission critical hardware is under warranty, and supported by the manufacturer.
- Make sure your firewall, antivirus and WiFi are designed to work collaboratively.
- Make sure desktop operating system are current and updated.
- Check for updated anti-malware.
- Review event logs for anything unusual.
- Identify any systems that were disabled.
- Ensure that mission critical applications are proactively monitored by IT experts.
- Make sure software is updated.
- Require two-factor authentication for sensitive applications.
- Run a dark web scan.



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