September 2017

WHAT'S NEW?

Our very own Mike Rodis celebrated his birthday this past August! Mike has been working for CSU since 1997 and was one of CSU's first employees. We are very lucky to have you, Mike, and we hope you had a wonderful birthday!



Our Mission
is to deliver
outstanding
IT support to small
businesses in order
to improve uptime,
productivity, and
profitability.
You take care of
running your
business. We'll take
care of your
technology.



This monthly publication provided courtesy of Michelle Sherman, President of Computer Services Unlimited.

Connection

"Insider Tips To Making Your Business Run Faster, Easier And More Profitably"



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What Will You Do When This Disaster Hits Your Business?

WE PRACTICALLY GUARANTEE IT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU

In today's world of rampant cybercrime, every savvy business owner knows the necessity of locking down their data. However, we find that the cyber security technologies used by the vast majority of businesses are woefully out of date. Sure, your current solution may have worked great, but digital threats to the safety of your company are constantly evolving. Criminals will eventually attempt to breach your data — and your barriers are not as secure as you might think.

Before World War II, the Germans developed a technology that would prove to be a key player in the conflict: its family of infamous Enigma machines. These devices, about the size of a small microwave, were composed primarily of a typewriter and a series of three or four rotors. By using a set of rules contained in a corresponding codebook, German soldiers would use the machine to encode vital messages to be sent covertly over the airwaves. The number of potential permutations — and thus solutions — for the code was in the tens of millions. The Germans were confident that the code could never be broken and used it for a vast array of topsecret communications.

The code's impenetrability didn't last. Via photographs of stolen Enigma operating manuals. Cipher the Polish Bureau reconstructed one of the stubborn Enigma machines, internal wiring and all, enabling them to decrypt the Wehrmacht's messages from 1933 to 1938. Facing an impending German invasion. Poland decided to share these secrets with the British. But, at the outbreak of the war, the Germans increased the security of the Enigma initiative by changing the cipher system daily. In response, a British code-breaking team, led by genius English computer scientist Alan Turing, constructed primitive computers, known as "bombes," that allowed them to decrypt the incredibly complicated ciphers faster than ever before. But it wasn't until the capture of the U-110 warship and the seizure of its Enigma machine and codebooks that the British were able to decrypt the most complicated cipher of the war, Kriegsmarine Enigma.

The information gleaned from these decrypts are believed to have shortened the war by more than two years, saving over 14 million lives.

continued on pg 2

CSU IT Security Tip Of The

Keep Sensitive Data Off Employee **Equipment**

If a laptop is stolen, even a strong password will likely get cracked. Once the thief succeeds, any private data that is unencrypted is free for the taking. One solution: keep sensitive data on a secure private cloud service, so it's never on your employee's hard drive in the first place. By storing this information in the cloud, you can immediately revoke access when a device goes missing.

If you have an internal file server in your office, make sure it's secured properly - you need to talk to your IT provider and discuss options for shared folders for things like HR that only certain people need. You may have a q:\ drive for documents, and s:\ for accounting, and a p:\ for workflows and processes. Everyone can use q:\ and p:\ but only people who do accounting can use s:\. It's simple stuff - but think of the possible damages of data on a lost laptop at the airport. If you are in the medical field. this could also engage the Office of Civil Rights as a HIPAA violation. If your laptop hard drive has the option to encrypt, use it!

To request to be placed on our IT security tip of the month emails, please go to: www.csuinc.com/itsecuritytips

Just like you, the Germans believed the systems they had put in place to defend their secrets were impenetrable. And it's

true: the system had few cryptographic

weaknesses. However, there were flaws in German procedure. mistakes made Enigma operators, and failures to introduce changes into the Enigma formula — along with your potentially outdated cyber the Allied capture of key equipment and

intelligence — that ultimately allowed the Allies to crack the code once and for all.

Take this as a cautionary tale: the most advanced, complex cryptography system in the world became obsolete within 10 years. The same goes for your potentially outdated cyber security measures.

Though they may not be led by Alan Turing and his crack team, you can bet criminals are constantly chipping away at the defenses of even the most powerful firewalls. The arms race between cyber security companies and cybercriminals

rages on behind the scenes, and you can bet that they've already cracked your business's "Enigma." Just look at the massive European

cyber attack this past June. which infected computers from over 27 companies the continent. across including those of the largest oil company in Russia, with ransomware. The unimaginable cost of that attack is something you certainly don't want your business to shoulder.

As technology evolves, so does crime. New threats arise each and every day. While solutions are available (and needed), they are notably absent in older software developed at a time before these constantly morphing attacks even existed.

Once the enemy has found a way to pick vour lock, vou need a new lock. Don't be like the Germans. Constantly look at options to upgrade to more robust, better cyber security to defend yourself from the bleeding-edge hackers, and sleep safe knowing your business is secure.

CS "U" Should Know!

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Your Best Employee WILL Quit ... Are You Prepared? Employee churn is a fact of business. It's important to take steps to ensure that regardless of an employee's importance, their loss won't be catastrophic. Consider everyone on your team. If they left, what would it do to your business? Make sure to docuindispensable ment knowledge. In the end, you should keep your team as happy as possible, but be supportive if they make the decision to leave. Groovehq.com 12/10/15

Fight Traffic Tickets WITH-**OUT Leaving the Comforts**

of Home. "Off the Record" is a new app that allows you to contest those pesky speeding tickets without ever leaving your house. All you have to do is take a picture of your ticket, answer a couple questions. and pay a fee (ranging from \$53 to \$599, depending on your area). The app will then assign the case to a local lawyer to contest the charge. It may sound too good to be true, until vou consider its 97% success rate. Best of all, if the ticket is not dismissed, deferred, or reduced to a nonmoving violation, you'll get a full refund! lifehacker.com

Your Copier Is Spying On You

It may sound paranoid, but it's true: the machines you use every day around the office could be spying on your data. Copiers and multifunction printers, particularly, are some of the leading causes of business data breaches. When you consider it, it makes sense. They're among the only devices on the network that rarely have their default password changed. But these advanced copiers and printers often house images of all the they've pages ever scanned on an internal hard drive, making them the perfect target for thieves. Make sure to change the password from the default on every network-connected device in your office. This one simple step can save you a costly headache down the road. intellisystems.com 01/31/2017



Adequacy Is Unacceptable

Facebook, Twitter, Yelp, Google, and thousands of other digital tools have completely changed the way companies must do business if they plan on surviving. With two taps on their smartphone, anybody can go online and check out your company. In 10 seconds they can see everything that's being said about you and your team. In an instant, potential prospects can type your company's name into the search bar and sift through your dirty laundry. If people are complaining about your service, your demeanor, or your product, you can say goodbye to this potential customer, because they're moving on. Sometimes, all it takes is a single colorful review to stop us from ever doing business with that company.

The truth is, people don't go online and write comments about adequate experiences they have with companies. When a customer decides to take time out of their busy day to write a review, you can bet they're going to either rave and rant about their fantastic experience, or go far out of their way to drag your company's name through the mud after the horrible time they had. The smartest companies realize this and bend over backwards to elicit descriptors like "superior," "awesome," "amazing" and "excellent." If your business is doing a middling job, or even a "good" one, it might as well be invisible.

"Adequacy is unacceptable" is a perfect ideal not

only for the hugely successful business I worked with recently, but for *all* companies. "Adequate" is just another word for average — are you looking to hire average people or do business with average companies? Of course you're not. The consequence of being merely adequate is always disappointment. An adequate experience captivates no one, does nothing exceptional, and has no distinctive qualities. There is no way to differentiate yourself from the competition while doing an adequate job.

Instead, consider what your company can do to impress, astound and excite those for whom you are working. The company that consistently not only exceeds expectations, but blows them totally out of the water, will always be in high demand. Do more, be more, give more, and you're sure to achieve more. This isn't third-grade soccer; nobody's going to give you a trophy for an adequate performance.



Robert Stevenson, along with being a bestselling author, is among the most successful public speakers in the world. His years of service-minded experience owning and running numerous companies have given him the real-world knowledge to help fellow business owners thrive.



Who Else Wants To Win A \$20 Gift Card?

Here's this month's trivia question. The winner will receive a \$20 gift card to **Giant**!

> What year was our company, Computer Services Unlimited, founded?

- a) 2005
- b) 1991
- c) 1997
- d) 2011

Call us right now with your answer! 703-968-2600

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CSU's REFERRAL PROGRAM?

This is how we roll.



At CSU, we believe that referrals are the greatest form of flattery. If you know someone who is worried about any aspect of their business technology, do them a favor and put them in touch with us. You will help them enjoy worry-free IT and at the same time reap some great rewards for yourself.

Refer a Friend or Business Connection – Receive \$50.00!
Easy Money! Become a CSU Referral Partner. Refer new clients to CSU and earn \$50.00 cash for each qualified referral and up to \$1,000 total if your referral turns into a client!

What is a Qualified Referral?

Minimum requirements are a single server and 10 workstations. They need to be a business located in the Washington DC metropolitan area and be interested in a free network assessment and proposal for IT services. You don't have to figure out what they need, just send us the contact information and we'll do the rest.

How Do You Get Paid?

If we are able to connect with your referral and submit a proposal, you get \$50 within 15 days. It doesn't matter whether they turn into a client or not. And you can submit as many referrals as you'd like.

But that's just the beginning. When we close the deal and your referral becomes a client, we'll send you a BONUS. We'll pay you a percentage of the first month's contract, up to \$1,000*.

Don't wait another day. Start earning extra cash today! This will be the easiest cash you've ever earned. FILL OUT THE FORM AT:

www.csuinc.com/about-us/referral-program

Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:



Building A Smarter Shower

The cutting-edge U by Moen Smart Shower is looking to revolutionize your shower experience. With digital valves and a corresponding controller, the U by Moen can make any shower a lot smarter.

After users install the digital valves and controller — a task that takes a few tools and a little bit of handiwork — the U by Moen allows them to sync their showers with their smartphone. The system then makes it easy to customize the showering experience, choosing the perfect temperature and saving preferences for future use. Start the shower remotely, and it will let you know when it's ready, automatically shutting off until you step in. Available for showers with either two or four outlets, the U by Moen is the perfect addition for those looking to digitize every aspect of their home.

COMPUTER SERVICES UNLIMITED

Experts in computer IT services and support.

Because we believe that experienced, proactive, business savvy, reputable and fast responding IT support should be the standard.

> Let us show you what that looks like.

CSU SERVICES:

Data Backup & Recovery Managed Services IT Consulting **Network Security Cloud Computing** Remote IT Services **VoIP Services** ...and more!

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Pictured: (Left to right)

Heather Marie Fernandez

Nashville. Michelle's

daughter, Alyssa, was

at their quarterly

even able to join!

Alvssa Sherman Michelle Sherman



Simplifying Your Technology and Your Business

September 2017

Say "Hello" To The Newest **Members of the CSU Team!**

Computer Services Unlimited is very excited to welcome not one, but TWO new technicians to our team.

Please help us welcome **Manuel and Rafek!**

In order to continue providing the very best IT support and services to all of our incredible clients, we've hired not one, but **two** new, hard-working technicians! Manuel and Rafek are both already doing a fantastic job of working with our clients to resolve computer IT issues quickly and efficiently. We are very excited for them to get the chance to work with the rest of our clients!

> Know of any dedicated, hard-working and friendly IT people that are looking to work for a close-knit, fast-growing business? We are always accepting and reviewing resumes. Feel free to send them our way! Give us a call at (703) 968-2600 for more information.



Rafek

