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July 2017

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 FIFTEEN YEARS
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**Fred Holzager,
 IT Director**

**Holzager Technology Services
 and
 Publisher of
 The Tech Insider**

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Snapple Real Fact # 195
 Eleven of the 50 U.S. states are named after an actual person.

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The Tech Insider

“Insightful Tips To Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier and Be More Profitable”

How Good is Your Web Browser’s Security?

Recently, an unprecedented strain of ransomware known as “WannaCry” infected hundreds of thousands of computers across the globe. This horrible campaign has forced small businesses to revisit the security of their IT infrastructure. It’s a complicated endeavor, but reevaluating your web browser is a quick and easy place to start.

Microsoft Internet Explorer (IE)/Edge

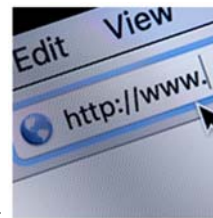
Despite their nearly identical logos, Edge and Internet Explorer (IE) are actually different browsers with vastly different security strategies. Microsoft’s legacy browser, IE, isn’t even fully supported anymore. The most recent version still gets occasional updates, but experts don’t expect that to last for long. If any website or service claims to require IE to run, consider that a possible red flag.

Windows 10’s default browser, Edge, is a different story. This browser uses a technology called virtualization to create safe spaces to open and test links before granting a website’s programming code full access to a computer and user. Edge is based on the same software

as IE, and the majority of its security improvements come from limiting the browser’s customizability. If you’re okay with a less flexible browsing experience, Edge is a good option.

Apple Safari

Safari is to Macintosh computers what IE is to Windows machines. Safari comes pre-installed on OS X and it has a long history of battling malware. Its security programming has been beaten a number of times, but usually in research settings. The commonly held belief is that Safari just doesn’t have enough users to make it a profitable target. Apple has a history of responding quickly to malware, but we don’t recommend leaving anything to chance.



Mozilla Firefox

One of the earlier third-party web browsers to gain popularity was Firefox. Unfortunately, it just can’t keep up with the competition. In just one example, all the data from browser plugins is stored in the same location, which means a compromised add-on could easily gain access to the data stored in a password manager.

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“We Love Referrals” 2017 Offer

**Keeping with the spirit of helping others,
 if you refer a business to us and they become our customer,
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At Holzager Technology Services, we believe that referrals are the greatest form of flattery. By recommending your partners, associates, or professional contacts, you can help them enjoy worry-free IT and support a worthy cause of your choice!

**For more information, please see our website at
www.tech4now.com/we-love-referrals, contact us by phone at 201-797-5050
 or email us at info@tech4now.com.**

Quotations

"Three things in human life are important. The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. The third is to be kind."

Henry James

"A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out."

Walter Winchell

"Work hard, be kind, and amazing things will happen."

Conan O'Brien

"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal."

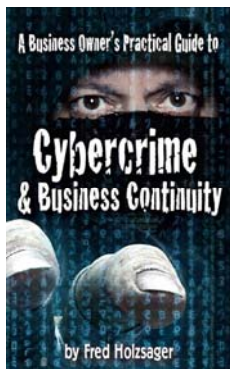
Henry Ford

"Nothing is work unless you'd rather be doing something else."

George Halas

"While we are postponing, life speeds by."

Lucius Annaeus Seneca



My New Book was just featured in the UAlbany Magazine under Alumni Authors & Editors!

For more details on the contents and how to get your copy, please visit our special web page at www.tech4now.com/cybercrime

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Ask us about our fixed price services HTS Insight Hassle-Free Agreements—Computer Support at a flat monthly fee you can budget for just like rent!

How Good is Your Web Browser's Security?

(Continued from page 1)

One of the reasons that Firefox continues to exist is its commitment to privacy. All the other browsers on this list profit from analyzing (and sometimes selling) your browsing habits, while Firefox has cornered the market on privacy. Security and privacy should never be confused, but if the latter is more important to you and you aren't installing third-party plugins, Mozilla is an OK option.

Google Chrome

Chrome is used by almost two-thirds of all internet users, and for good reason. Like Edge, Chrome also uses virtualization to create a quarantined space between the Internet and your computer. Additionally, Google issues routine security updates to its browser more frequently than any of the others on this list.

There is near unanimous consensus among experts that Chrome is the safest of all web browsers.

Privacy however, is a whole other ball game. Pretty much every action you take using the Chrome browser is tracked, stored and analyzed. That's not to say that your email isn't encrypted or your saved passwords aren't safe, it just means you have much less control over your Internet identity.

Being aware of how your web browser stacks up against its competitors is only a fraction of the battle. "WannaCry" spread to uninfected systems through a gap in the Windows security framework, and most other ransomware infections prey on human error. Your business may need a comprehensive security audit. For more information, contact us today at (201) 797 – 5050 or info@tech4now.com.

Why You Need to Update Microsoft Word

Software developers and hackers are in a constant game of cat and mouse. When cybercriminals find new security bugs to exploit, tech companies have to quickly release a solution that secures those vulnerabilities. In April, Microsoft released a patch to eliminate a Word exploit designed to steal user information. If you're an avid Microsoft Word user, here's what you need to know about the bug and what you need to do to avoid it.

The Attack

On April 10, cybersecurity firm Proofpoint discovered scammers running email campaigns to trick people into clicking malware-ridden Word attachments. The fraudulent emails, simply titled "Scan Data," included attached documents that were named "Scan," followed by randomized digits.

Although the emails seem harmless, clicking on the documents triggers a download for Dridex malware, a Trojan virus designed to give hackers direct access to your banking information. From there, they can simply log in to your online account and make unauthorized transactions under your name.

In 2015, the distribution of Dridex allowed cybercriminals to steal approximately \$25 million from European accounts. And if your business fell victim to this malware, there's a possibility your company might not be able to recover from the loss.

The Solution

Fortunately, two days after the discovery of

the bug, Microsoft released a security update to disable the dangerous documents, urging users to install the patch as soon as possible. But even though Dridex was inoculated relatively quickly, employees continue to be the biggest problem.

Like most malware attacks, Dridex was distributed via phishing campaigns that preyed on a victim's trust and curiosity. Hackers added barely any text to the email, yet people were still fooled into clicking on dangerous links.

To make sure Dridex never reaches your company, you must provide comprehensive security awareness training. In your sessions, encourage employees to

practice safe computing habits, which include being cautious of online links, setting strong passwords, and avoiding downloads from untrusted and unknown sources.

Much like updating your software, keeping your staff's security knowledge up-to-date on the latest threats is also imperative. Ultimately, your goal is to have employees with a security-focused mindset when browsing the web.

Of course, if security training and cybersecurity solutions are not your company's specialties, you can always rely on a trusted managed services provider like us to protect your business. We can update and secure your systems regularly, and make sure your staff are actively doing their part to reduce security risks.

Contact us today at (201) 797—5050 or www.tech4now.com—we offer training!



Trivial Matters

As everyone knows, Independence Day marks the birthday of America. But here are some fun facts that you may not know about this patriotic day!

- ☞ Only two Founding Fathers signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The majority of signers penned their signatures on August 2, 1776.
- ☞ The holiday does not celebrate the *signing* of the Declaration; it celebrates the *adoption* of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress.
- ☞ Independence Day became a federal holiday in 1870.
- ☞ Our country now boasts around 320 million citizens, but on the first Fourth of July there only 2.5 million



- ☞ The Declaration of Independence was signed by 56 men from 13 colonies.
- ☞ 1 out of 8 signers were educated at Harvard (7 total).
- ☞ Only two signers later served as President of the United States: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson.
- ☞ Coincidentally, both Adams and Jefferson died on the same day within hours of each other in 1826. Another President, James Monroe, also died on July 4th.
- ☞ 87.5% of imported U.S. flags and 97% of imported fireworks are from China.
- ☞ An estimated 150 million hot dogs will be consumed on July 4th.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!



Quick Tech Productivity Pointers

Window's 10 Keyboard Shortcuts

Since its release in 2015, Windows 10 continues to see updates and new features. Here are our top picks for keyboard shortcuts that can be extremely helpful to increase productivity.

Windows Snapping

Window-snapping, which was first introduced in Windows 7, is a pretty convenient feature for quickly maximizing your screen's real estate. The feature lets you "snap" a window to one side of your screen without having to move it around and resize it manually. You can even snap windows to a 2x2 grid for better multi-tasking.

Simply use these keyboard shortcuts:

- Windows Key (⊞) + Left arrow will snap current window to the left side of the screen.
- Windows Key (⊞) + Right arrow will snap current window to the right side of the screen.
- Windows Key (⊞) + Up arrow will snap current window to the top of the screen.
- Windows Key (⊞) + Down arrow will snap current window to the bottom of the screen.
- You can also combine these shortcuts to snap your current window into a corner like top left, top right and more.



Task Views

This window management feature allows you to see all your opened windows so you can quickly return to a specific program or document. This is particularly useful if you have multiple windows opened at once. In addition to clicking the "Task View"



button on the taskbar to open it, these keyboard shortcuts will do the trick:

Windows Key (⊞) + Tab will open a new Task View interface with windows from your current virtual desktop appearing in the Task View list. To switch between virtual desktops, simply use the virtual desktop switcher at the bottom of the screen. Alt + Tab is not a new keyboard shortcut but it now allows you to switch between open windows on all virtual desktops.

Virtual Desktop

A great way to stay organized, this nifty feature lets you use unlimited number of virtual desktops so you can dedicate each of them for certain functions. For instance, one could be used solely for work with all your business software and the other for entertainment. Some keyboard shortcuts to help you quickly manage your virtual desktops include:

- Windows Key (⊞) + Ctrl + D allows you to create a new virtual desktop and switch to it.
- Windows Key (⊞) + Ctrl + F4 allows you to close current virtual desktop.
- Windows Key (⊞) + Ctrl + Left /Right arrow allows you to switch to the virtual desktop on the left or right.

If you're looking for ways to boost productivity, or have any questions about how Microsoft Windows can help streamline your operations, contact us at (201) 797-5050 or www.tech4now.com.



Are You Protected From A Data Breach?



Think cybercriminals only target the big companies?

More than 75% of data breaches target small and medium sized businesses.

We can help you with the following:

- 1. TRAIN YOUR EMPLOYEES**
Train your employees to help protect your sensitive data.
- 2. PROTECT YOUR NETWORK**
Protect your network with VPN's, firewalls, vulnerability scans, penetration testing, etc.
- 3. SECURE YOUR DEVICES**
Identify, track, and secure (encrypt) your employee's devices—smartphones, USB drives, tablets and laptops.
- 4. SECURE PHYSICAL SPACE**
Track and log visitors, limit access with locked doors.
- 5. CREATE CLEAR POLICIES**
Create clear and concise written policies on the use and disposal of sensitive data.
- 6. WHERE'S YOUR DATA?**
Locate, understand, and limit where all of your sensitive data resides.
- 7. PROPER DISPOSAL PROCEDURES**
Ensure that you have the proper procedures and documents in place to dispose of any devices, equipment, and paper records.

LET US HELP YOU PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS AND DATA.

CONDUCT A SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT TO UNDERSTAND YOUR RISKS.

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"Dad doesn't need summer off. He plays at work all day with something called mutual furs!"

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Feedback & Suggestions...

Is there a topic or feature you would like to include in a future issue? Opinions and feedback are welcome and encouraged. Please send us an e-mail or call our direct line.

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It is my pleasure to recommend you to my colleagues and friends knowing how you stand behind your work and provide fast service. Your reputation and integrity are top notch, not to mention your speed to resolution." —Irwin Dolgoff, President, Academic Achievement, Inc.

July 2017

The Lighter Side...

For Entertainment Purposes ONLY!

The Young Monk

A young monk arrives at the monastery. He is assigned to helping the other monks in copying the old canons and laws of the church, by hand. He notices, however, that all of the monks are copying from copies, not from the original manuscript.

So, the new monk goes to the Old Abbot to question this, pointing out that if someone made even a small error in the first copy, it would never be picked up! In fact, that error would be continued in all of the subsequent copies. The head monk, says, "We have been copying from the copies for centuries, but you make a good point, my son."

He goes down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscripts are held as archives, in a locked vault that hasn't been opened for hundreds of years. Hours go by and nobody sees the Old Abbot. So, the young monk gets worried and goes down to look for him. He sees him banging his head against the wall and wailing.

"We missed the R! We missed the R! We missed the bloody R!" His forehead is all bloody and bruised and he is crying

uncontrollably.

The young monk asks the old Abbot, "What's wrong, father?" With a choking voice, the old Abbot replies, "The word was **CELEBRATE!**"



Pet Names

There once was a man who was so proud of the fact that he had six kids that he insisted on calling his wife "mother of six."

His wife hated this name and asked him repeatedly not to call her that, but he was a stubborn man and was very proud that he had six kids.

One evening they were at a dinner party for his company and it was getting close to the time that they should be leaving. The husband yelled from across the room over to his wife, "mother of six, are you ready to go?"

Annoyed with his question, she responded, "In a minute, father of four."