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Fred Holzager,
IT Director
Holzsager Technology Services
and
Publisher of
*The Tech Insider***

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Snapple Real Fact # 374

Thomas Edison coined the word "hello" and introduced it as a way to answer the phone.

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The Tech Insider

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

2018 Cybersecurity Essential: Virtual Private Network

Installing powerful antivirus software and setting strong passwords are no longer considered the bare minimum in cybersecurity. With hackers, government agencies, and Internet Service Providers (ISP) constantly monitoring networks and your online habits, hopping onto a Virtual Private Network (VPN) is crucial for keeping your surfing habits private.

What is VPN?

A VPN or Virtual Private Network is a method used to add security and privacy to private and public networks, like WiFi Hotspots and the Internet. All the information you access over the Internet using a VPN is encrypted for privacy. This means your online activity is hidden from your ISP and anyone else that may be monitoring you.

Why Should You Have One?

Of course, security and privacy are major reasons why you would want a VPN. For example, if you’re connected to a public WiFi network — like the ones you typically see in local cafes and airports — using a VPN encrypts the information you’re sending or accessing online. This means things like credit card details, login

credentials, private conversations, or other sensitive documents can’t be intercepted by a third party. VPNs are also useful for accessing geo-restricted websites. If you’re traveling abroad and certain US websites are blocked in that region, you can simply connect to a VPN located in the US to access the sites you need.

Which VPN Should You Choose?

Given the increasing demand for secure online privacy, VPNs are surging in popularity. The following considerations can help you find the right one.

1. Cost

While free VPNs are available, these typically come with ads and lack the commitment to privacy that a paid subscription does. Paid VPNs like *SurfEasy* and *StrongVPN* often come with more robust features and configurations that keep you secure. What’s more, they don’t keep a record of the sites you visit and hound you with pop-ups that lead to dangerous websites.

2. Location

The physical location of VPN servers is

(Continued on page 2)



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Quotations

"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."

Oprah Winfrey

"Kindness is more than deeds. It's an attitude, an expression, a look, a touch. It is anything that lifts another person."

Plato

"The only person you should try to be better than is the person you were yesterday."

Matty Mullins

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit."

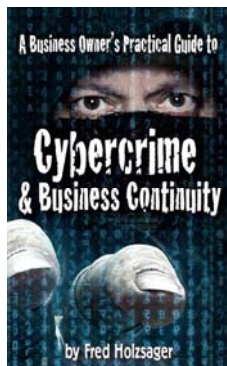
Nelson Henderson

"Life is truly a reflection of what we allow ourselves to see and be."

Trudy Symeonakis Vesotsky

"The bad news is, time flies. The good news is, you are the pilot!"

Michael Altshuler



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2018 Cybersecurity Essential: Virtual Private Network

(Continued from page 1)

important if you want to access region-blocked websites. So if you're planning on accessing a UK-based service, your VPN provider must at least have servers installed in London.

3. Capacity

Read through a VPN provider's terms of service to determine how much data you're allowed to use. If possible, find out how many servers a VPN provider has. If they have plenty of servers online, you can rest assured that they have the capacity to support your internet browsing.

4. Device Compatibility

Another important factor to consider is whether



the VPN can be used across multiple devices. Nowadays, employees work on laptops, tablets, and smartphones, so you'll want a VPN that's compatible with all these.

5. Internet Protocol (IP) Address Leaking

Finally, a great way to evaluate a VPN service is to sign up for their free trial service and visit <https://ipleak.net>, which will allow you to check whether your real IP address is actually being leaked. If it manages to track your physical location, you need to opt for a more reliable VPN service.

VPNs are a vital component of cybersecurity, and if you need help selecting the right one for your business, contact us today at (201) 797-5050 or www.tech4now.com.

Goal Setting Doesn't Work by Darren Hardy

When we were kids, we thought we could write down a list of everything we wanted and mail it to the North Pole. When we grew up, we realized there wasn't really a big roly-poly guy who delivered presents. A real person had to earn the money, march through shopping malls, wrestle the presents home, wrap them up, and place them under the tree. But I think many people still believe in Santa Claus. Why else would they write down a list of wants on New Year's Day, stick it in a drawer for the rest of the year, and wait around for their lives to change?

Sorry, but it's time to grow up. Most people know how to write down goals, but few ever achieve them. Want to stop chasing rainbows, wishing on stars, and rubbing lamps, and instead achieve real results? This article will help you start. WARNING: Achievement requires work, discipline, commitment, and maybe some heartache and a stiffened spine.

The Cause of All Your Problems—and the Solution. When I ask people what they want to improve in their lives, I hear things like, "I need to make more money," or "My marriage is unhappy," or "I need to lose weight." But these are simply symptoms or outcomes of the problem. The cause of the problem is *you* — and this is probably one of the most sobering understandings you can reach as you work toward your stated goals. Whatever it is you want to change, whether it's your marriage, financial situation, or weight, you'll never achieve lasting change until you change. Once you improve, everything else around you will improve.

In life, you don't get what you want; you get in life what you are. The success you have in life correlates with your level of self-worth. But the human tendency is to engage in the study of effects, while giving little attention to causes.

I see this travesty play out every day. People complain about their terrible marriage, so they leave it. Oddly enough, they end up with similar problems in the next relationship. Why? Because they didn't address the real problem. The same set of circumstances and patterns of behavior will create the same outcome. Some people go from diet plan to diet plan, losing weight and then gaining it all back. Why? Because the plan and the weight aren't the issues or the solutions; they are effects, and the weight will ultimately meet them back where they are.

Darren Hardy is the creator of SUCCESS magazine as well as the author of the New York Times best-selling book "The Compound Effect." His newest book is "The Entrepreneur Roller Coaster."

For more info, visit: www.darrenhardy.com.



Good luck with what you want to change in the new year!

Trivial Matters

It's that time again—when we all get a fresh start to make things better in the new year. Here's some trivia about new year's resolutions. Try not to get discouraged. As Darren Hardy says — if you really want to change, you will! **GOOD LUCK!**

- On average, about 45% of Americans consistently make a resolution for the new year.
- The most common resolution made is to exercise, followed by to eat better, quit smoking, and cut back on alcohol.
- Unfortunately, about 22% of resolutions fail after about a week, 40% after a month, 50% after 3 months, and 60% after 6 months.
- According to the University of Scranton, only 8% of those who make New Year's resolutions actually keep them.



- Of those achieving their resolutions, about 40% were successful on the first try. The rest took multiple attempts with as much as 17% taking over 6 tries.
- The number one reason for failed resolutions? Lack of a clear goal.
- Around 38% of people claim to NEVER make a resolution.
- Americans drink an estimated 360 MILLION bottles of champagne which is ironic considering that cutting back on alcohol is one of the top 5 most popular resolutions!
- What are your TOP FIVE resolutions? Stay fit and healthy; Travel to new places; Lose weight; Listen better; Learn a new skill or language; Enjoy life and laugh more; Spend less, save more; Volunteer in the community; or Spend more time with family & friends

Top Tech Accessory for 2018

The best gadgets help us navigate our lives with ease, making particular processes that much more hassle-free. With technology, it's often the little things that make all the difference in the world. Take **AUKEY's** car phone mount, for instance. At only \$7.99 on Amazon, there's no reason you should be fumbling with your iPhone while you're using Google Maps on a road trip.

The clip attaches directly to any air vent, putting your phone front and center for easy viewing. This reduces the need for dangerous fiddling or glancing away from the road. **WARNING:** While operating a motor vehicle, always obey the laws and drive attentively.



Quick Tech Productivity Pointers

Passwords may be becoming a thing of the past—instead, say hello to fingerprint, iris, and facial scans. **Microsoft's Windows Hello** feature, for example, allows you to unlock your device by simply glancing at the screen. Windows Hello is an advanced biometric identity and access control feature in Windows 10. With it, there's no need to enter a password; all it needs is your fingerprint, eye scan, or your face. For those who are worried about privacy, the feature stores your biometric data only on your device, never on Microsoft's servers. Microsoft has also made it clear that third parties cannot access your biometric data, although, as with every new technology, it's best to treat this with caution.



How to Set-Up Windows Hello

All you need to get started is a laptop or desktop with Windows 10 and a compatible webcam on your computer. First, go to *Settings > Account > Sign-in* options. Then, under the Windows Hello section, you'll see setup options for face, iris, or fingerprint scans. Select which method you want to set up

and follow the prompts to create a login profile. If your computer doesn't support Windows Hello and you don't plan on upgrading anytime soon, Intel offers a developer kit that includes an excellent RealSense camera that fully supports Windows Hello facial recognition.

This kit starts at about \$100. You can also save your biometric data or scan more than once to boost accuracy. Each time you scan, the system collects more data, so it's worth completing a few scans before enabling the login feature.

Passwords are still an option when using Windows Hello and should always be configured in case your camera isn't operational. Once one account is set up, you can start adding family members who share the same device. Each of them can set up their own biometric profile in a separate account.

There are many features in Windows that can make your life easier. Our IT experts can help you get more out of your Windows devices. Contact us today at (201) 797-5050 or www.tech4now.com.



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- 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?**
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January 2018

The Lighter Side...

For Entertainment Purposes ONLY!

5-Story Hotel

A group of girlfriends is on vacation when they see a 5-story hotel with a sign that reads: "For Women Only." Since they are without their husbands, they decide to go in. The bouncer explains to them how it works. "We have 5 floors. Go up floor by floor, and once you find what you are looking for, you can stay there. It's easy to decide since each floor has a sign telling you what's inside." So they start going up and on the first floor the sign reads: "All the men on this floor are short and plain." The friends laugh and without hesitation move on to the next floor. The sign on the second floor reads: "All the men here are short and handsome." Still, this isn't good enough, so the friends continue on up. They reach the third floor and the sign reads: "All the men here are tall and plain." They still want to do better, and so, knowing there are still two floors left, they continued on up. On the fourth floor, the sign is perfect: "All the men here are tall and handsome." The women get all excited and are going in when they realize that there is still one floor left. Wondering what they are missing, they head on up to the fifth floor. There they find a sign that reads: "There are no men here. This floor was built only to prove that there is no way to please a woman."



The Lie Detector

Father buys a lie detector that makes a loud beep whenever somebody tells a lie. The son comes home in the afternoon. Father asks him, "So, you were at school today, right?" Son: "Yeah." Detector: "Beep." Son: "OK, I was at the movies." Detector: "Beep." Son: "Alright, I went for a beer with my friends." Father: "What?! At your age, I wouldn't touch alcohol!" Detector: "Beep." **beep!** Mother laughs: "Ha ha ha! Well, he really is your son!" Detector: "Beep."

The Doctor Appointment

Secretary: "Doctor the invisible man is sitting in the waiting area. He says he has an appointment." Doctor: "Tell him I can't see him."

The Adoption

Father: "Son, you were adopted." Son: "What?! I knew it! I want to meet my biological parents!" Father: "We are your biological parents. Now pack up, the new ones will pick you up in 20 minutes."

Very Cheesy

What do you call cheese that's not yours? Nacho cheese.
Ha! Ha! That's a very gouda joke!

