5 habits your smart remote workers should have

Remote work has become a way of life very quickly, hasn't it? Loads of businesses and their people are reaping the rewards of flexibility and convenience.

But it also brings cyber security challenges that demand your attention. Of course, this should always be a concern, but when you have employees working from home, a coffee shop, or anywhere else for that matter, you need to make sure they're making wise decisions that put the security of your data at the forefront.

These are 5 habits your remote workers should adopt straight away.

1. Choose your work location wisely
Working from a favorite coffee shop or a picturesque park may seem like a dream come true, but it can expose you to more cyber security risks. Over-the-shoulder attacks, where cyber criminals discreetly snoop on your screen in public spaces, might seem unlikely, but they have real potential to lead to data breaches. Employees should choose to work in quieter, more private settings to minimize this risk.

2. Beware of public Wi-Fi
Public Wi-Fi networks are a common breeding ground for cyber threats. If your people must work from a public place, ask them to avoid connecting to public Wi-Fi. These networks can be less secure and make you vulnerable to hacking. Instead, use your phone's hotspot for a safer internet connection. And a VPN (Virtual Private Network) encrypts data.

3. Invest in security software
This serves as a protective shield against malware and cyber attacks. It's a valuable addition to both company-provided and personal devices. Not only does it safeguard business data, but it can also shield your personal information, such as credit card details and sensitive documents.

4. Keep everything updated
Regularly updating all your devices is not just about gaining access to new features; it's also about staying secure. Software updates contain crucial security fixes that patch vulnerabilities. Remember, it's not just laptops and phones that need updating, but also routers and any IoT (Internet of Things) devices connected to your network.

5. Manage household risks
Even within the confines of their homes, computers hold sensitive business information. If your employees have housemates, children, or other family members sharing their space, ask them to consider implementing parental controls to prevent accidental data breaches.

By adopting these smart habits, as well as taking the right security measures, you can let your people enjoy the benefits of remote work – while everything stays secure and safe.

If we can help keep your remote set-ups secure, get in touch.

This is how you can get in touch with us:
CALL: 306-933-3355 | EMAIL: hello@rivercitytech.ca
WEBSITE: www.rivercitytech.ca

RIVERCITY TECHNOLOGY SERVICES LTD

Q&A

Q: I'm still using the original version of Windows 11 (21H2), should I upgrade?

A: Yes! Upgrade to 22H2 as soon as possible. Support for 21H2 ended last month (October 2023). That means there will be no further security updates and you may be at increased security risk.

Q: I've had an email to say a recording of a Teams meeting has expired and been deleted. Is there any way I can recover it?

A: Don't panic. Go to your Recycle Bin, find the recording, and hit "restore". Remember though, you only have a 90 day window to do this. Once the recording is recovered, it is no longer subject to automatic expiration dates.

Q: Will Google penalize my website if I use ChatGPT?

A: No. There's no reason to worry about Google penalties when using ChatGPT for your website content. Chatbots don't negatively affect the SEO of your website. But do get a human to review everything written by an AI, to ensure it reads well, is factually correct and makes sense.

NOVEMBER 2023

RIVERCITY TECHNOLOGY SERVICES LTD

THE MONTHLY DOWNLOAD

MFA FATIGUE ATTACKS

PHISHING BAIT

ADMIN ATTACKS

Your monthly newsletter, written for humans not geeks

Three cyber security threats your team MUST know about

Your employees are your first line of defense in cyber security, and their training is as crucial as the cutting-edge tools you've invested in. Are you overlooking this vital element?

We strongly advise you make an ongoing commitment to regular cyber security training for every single one of your team. That means keeping them up to date on the latest cyber threats, the warning signs to look out for, and of course, what to do should a situation arise.

If you're not already doing that, arrange something now (we can help).

While you wait, here are three urgent cyber threats to address right away:

Admin attack: Email addresses like "info@" or "admin@" are often less protected due to perceived low risk. But several teams may require access to these accounts, making them an easy target. Multi-factor Authentication (MFA), as simple as using a smartphone, can double your security. Don't neglect it.

MFA fatigue attacks: MFA can feel intrusive, leading employees to approve requests without scrutiny. Cyber criminals exploit this complacency with a flood of fake notifications. Encourage your team to meticulously verify all MFA requests.

Phishing bait: Phishing remains a top threat. Cyber criminals mimic trusted sources with deceptive emails. Teach your team to inspect email addresses closely. Implementing a sender policy framework can also enhance your protection.

Cyber security training doesn't have to be tedious. Try simulated attacks and think of them like an escape room challenge—fun yet enlightening. It's about identifying vulnerabilities, not fault-finding.

Don't exclude your leadership team. They need to understand the response plan in case of a breach, much like a fire drill.

Training your staff is not just smart — it's crucial. If you need help getting started, get in touch.

Exciting things for RCT this month...

- Our sister partner, Lunar Voice, is teaming up with Saskatoon Dog Rescue to assist in finding loving homes for dogs! Let us know if you would like to receive a monthly newsletter (like this one) to learn more about Lunar Voice and see our monthly puppy features!

1 The LG KE850 was the first phone to introduce a complete touchscreen to the mobile phone market, debuting in December 2006 – a whole month ahead of the Apple iPhone

2 The record of the largest data breach involved Yahoo. Back in 2013, the birth dates, phone numbers and security questions of approximately 3 billion Yahoo account holders were hacked

3 The "save" icon in most software applications, which looks like a floppy disk, is a totally outdated symbol. Many people today have never used or even seen a physical floppy

Techn●logy update

New battery-saving features coming to Windows 11

Microsoft has introduced a new Windows 11 preview build with some exciting features.

The Snipping Tool has a combined capture bar for easy screenshot and video switching, including voiceovers. And Notepad gets an auto-save feature, eliminating prompts and restoring content when you reopen it.

These updates aim to improve usability and battery life for people using Windows 11. Whilst they're in preview right now, we expect to see a general release after testing.
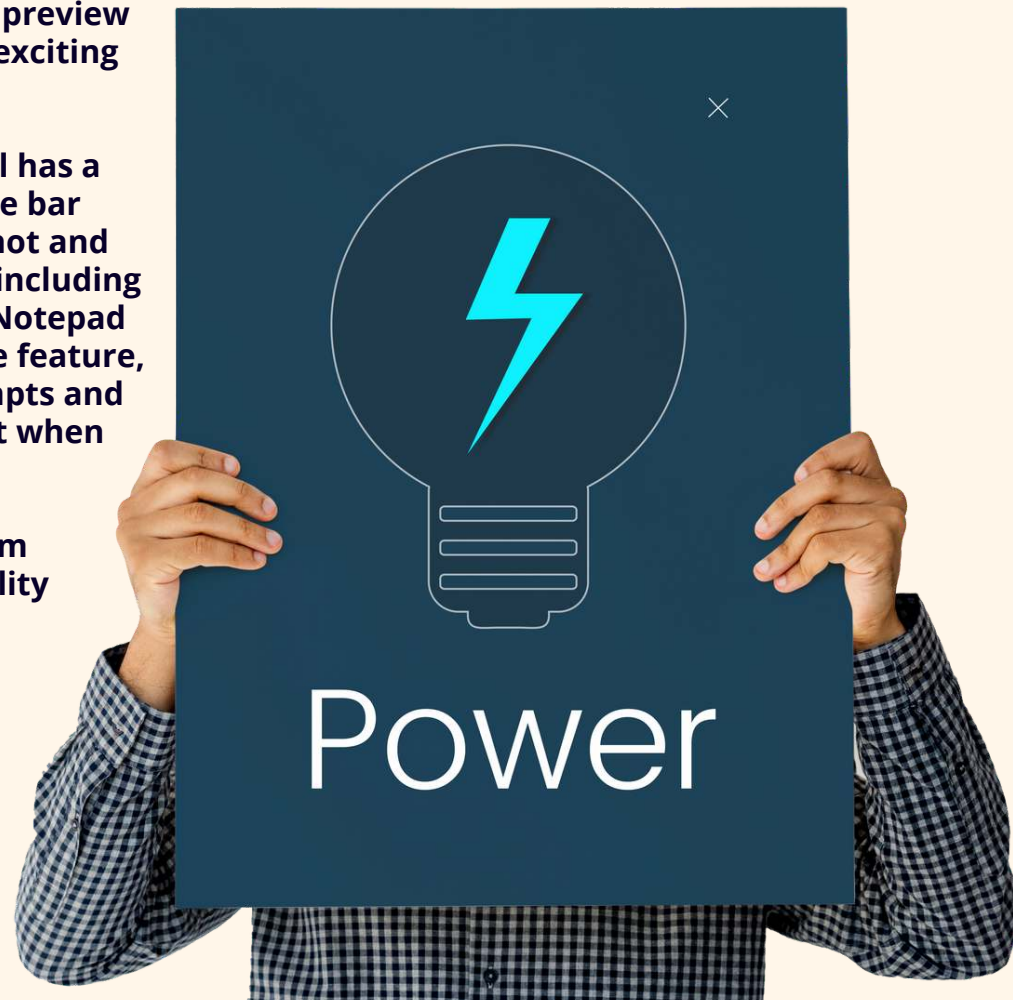
> ❝
> ### INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE OF THE MONTH
> *"You don't have to be a genius or a visionary or even a college graduate to be successful. You just need a framework and a dream."*
> **Michael Dell, founder, and CEO of Dell Technologies**
> ❞

Power

About **Rivercity Tech**

RIVERCITY TECHNOLOGY SERVICES LTD

The Rivercity Tech (RCT) team is a mixture of cybersecurity and technology experts. We take what we do very seriously, but bring an approachable and easygoing flair to our interactions. We always say we are forging a partnership, immediately becoming an extension of our client's team. We would love to show you what we are all about!

Our **Services**

🔒 **CYBER SECURITY**

📱 **BUSINESS PHONE SERVICES**

🤝 **MANAGED IT**

🖼️ **WEB DEVELOPMENT**

WHO WILL BE YOUR QUIZ CHAMP IN NOVEMBER?

1. Mozilla Firefox originally launched under what name?
2. What is Google's Android mascot officially known as?
3. A "platform upgrade" involves swapping which core PC components?
4. When was the first SMS text message sent?
5. Who coined the term "Artificial Intelligence" (AI)?

The answers are below.

1. Mozilla Phoenix. The name was changed to avoid trademark conflicts. Initially it was going to be Firebird, then was changed to Firefox
2. Bugdroid. It was apparently created in just 5 minutes, inspired by the silhouettes on airport bathroom signs
3. There are many that can be changed, but typically the SSD (the hard drive), CPU, RAM and motherboard
4. 3rd December 1992. And the contents of that first SMS, sent as a test? "Merry Christmas"
5. John McCarthy, an American computer scientist, in 1956

NEW TO **MICROSOFT** 365

New features are coming to Microsoft 365 on Android

Microsoft has updated its Android interface, adding features to promote Bing Chat, Edge, and Microsoft 365. You can now access options like 'Search in Edge', 'Bing Search', and a new 'Microsoft 365 Note' feature when selecting text in apps like Gmail.

However, this update has hidden some essential features like 'copy' and 'select', particularly on Samsung phones. You can work around this by selecting 'copy' in the extended menu.

UPDATE...