Katzscan Newsletter
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Educating employees about cybersecurity would be enlightening.

No matter how many layers of anti-virus and malware protection software companies use, the chink in the armor will always be people. When I was a university instructor I would give my students a little lecture on the finer points on how really easy it is to perpetrate a phishing scheme, and they were amazed at just how simple this scam was to execute. Not that I was teaching them to be cyber-criminals - no! - but I was showing them the connection between data thefts and the ease with which fake emails could be made to look genuine and thus fool some of the people most of the time. It is just a numbers racket after all.

The October/November 2016 issue of Government Technology magazine was mostly dedicated to cybersecurity in the public sector. Included in the issue were some statistics from research done by Arlington Research in 2016 on behalf of OneLogin (a company that offers cloud-based identity and access management) and published by InformationWeek.

> 13% of employees let their co-workers use a device that can access their employer’s network
> 9% of employees let their partners use a device that can access their employer’s network
> 20% of employees share their email passwords
> 12% of employees share their passwords to other applications
> 20% of employees have no security software on mobile work devices beyond what came with the standard operating system
> Nearly one-half of all employees have no idea of any company policy regarding password sharing

Phishing email scams and tainted USB drives (e.g. those picked up at trade shows) will continue to be used as attempts to penetrate security firewalls and install either viruses and malware or get employees to openly reveal security user identification and password information, whether personal or professional in nature.

Companies need to ensure their own cybersecurity approach is multi-layered, combining aspects of anti-virus, Internet security, email protection (inbound and outbound), and anti-malware just to name a few components. Ensure your software is always up-to-date, and keep updated as to new products on the market and where your software ranks when annual surveys are done by leading publications.

Security awareness training needs to be a continual process, not a one-off event, in order to be effective. Cybersecurity software needs to be running continually and updated constantly to be at a ready state to protect.

Surf safely. The cyber waters are treacherous these days.

Norman Katz, CFE, CFS, CCS
Katzscan Inc.
954-942-4141
http://www.katzscan.com

0 95494 24141 1

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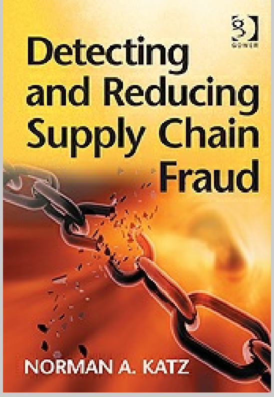

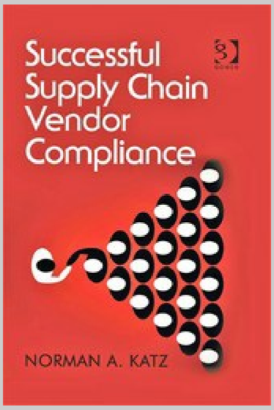

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