

IT Strategy Brief

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INTEGRATE SEAMLESSLY



SWK
TECHNOLOGIES

“Useful Technology Ideas for Your Business”

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Ransomware Unleashed on a Massive Scale Worldwide. Are you Prepared for the next Attack?

A Global Attack

In case you have not yet heard, there was a massive ransomware attack that took place recently called WannaCry. Criminal hackers have released a new strain of ransomware that spreads automatically across all workstations in a network and has caused a global epidemic. The attack was so serious that if you or a co-worker are not paying attention and accidentally open one of these phishing email attachments, you will infect not only your own workstation, but everyone else on your network, too.

The attack has infected hundreds of thousands of machines worldwide in a matter of 24 hours. Companies like FedEx, Renault, and Nissan as well as Russian banks, gas stations, and telecommunications firms have reported that up to 83% of their systems have been shut down from the cyberattack. In the UK, there were dozens of hospitals shut down. There have been over 150 countries affected with the number only expected to rise today with China already reporting over one million machines infected.

It's Called "WannaCry"

It locks down all the files on the infected computer and asks you to pay a ransom to regain control. It infiltrates the network using computers missing a two-month old Microsoft patch from March, 2017.

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What our clients are saying: BCA Watson Rice LLP

“When we got infected with a virus, SWK worked immediately to restore all of our networks. The response and recovery time was superb. Most of our IT issues are answered and resolved as soon as possible with very little time lost.”

Gina Bidaisee-Santo
BCA Watson Rice LLP



Get More Free Tips, Tools, and Services on Our Website: www.swktech.com

Two ways to WIN a gift card!

It only takes a minute and YOU could be our next winner!

Last Month's Contest Winner:

Linda Coyle
American Asphalt

Please complete our brief survey in order to be placed in the running to win this month's gift card prize!

1. What do you like most about our services?
2. Tell us about a specific experience with us that you were happy with.
3. What are the biggest benefits you've received or experienced since hiring us?
4. What can we improve?

Email Jon Stiles (jonathan.stiles@swktech.com) with your responses

OR

Fill out our online form:

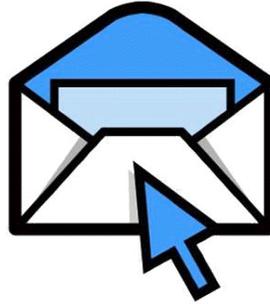
<http://bit.ly/nwsnews-survey>

before **July 10th** to get your name in the hat.

You could win a \$25 Gift Card!



Beware of DMV Phishing Scams



At the beginning of the month the New York State DMV released a warning about a phishing scam that was pretending to be the DMV and asking victims to pay a ticket within 48 hours or their license will be revoked. This is not the first time something like this has happened and won't be the last. Also just because this was in New York doesn't mean your state couldn't be next.

The payment link in the email (shown below) would infect the computer with malware that would place a tracking tool as well as try and acquire personal information.

"Dear Driver:

We are writing to inform you that the state police department has notified us that you have several outstanding traffic violations. If you do not make restitution for these infractions within 48 hours, we will be forced to revoke your driver's license.

To make payment arrangements online, [click here](#).

To refute these tickets, [click here](#).

Sincerely,

The NY DMV"

The email did have some red flags to it. One was that the link sent you to a site other than a ny.gov URL on top of the fact that the DMV said that they would never send emails urging motorists to pay tickets within 48 hours or lose your license. They did say that they do send emails with links, but they would always lead to a page on a state affiliated website.

If you should encounter this email, or any suspicious email you should delete it without clicking any links. If you ever want to check a link you can hover over the link with your mouse (without clicking) to reveal the URL. Phishing emails are on the rise lately and have become more sophisticated. They are not always generic emails sent to the masses, but can be very targeted and specific like this DMV one. You should always use caution with emails that ask for personal information.

If phishing is something that scares you SWK can help. We have a Phishing Defender service that is designed to train employees how to spot phishing emails because knowledge is the best defense against phishing attacks.

Contact us to learn more.

Shiny gadget of the month: Coolest Cooler



Summer is finally here! The weather this spring has been a bit cool so I'm sure everyone is anxious to get out and enjoy some nice summer weather. Whatever it is you might go do, if it is camping or tailgating an event to going to the beach or even just lounging outside the Coolest Cooler is sure to be a fun addition.

Just picture yourself at the next concert you take a trip to the shore, just relaxing listening to your favorite music while charging your phone, fixing cheese and crackers with a frozen margarita in hand. Think you would need to bring an army of gadgets to do all that? Wrong! The Coolest Cooler can do all that and more, by itself.

It's name "Coolest Cooler" seems pretty fitting. It has to be the coolest cooler I have ever seen. It comes packed with features: a high-performance blender, outdoor Bluetooth speaker, USB charger, LED lid light, divider and cutting board, reusable plastic plates, ceramic knife, wine opener, bottle opener, tie-down bungee cord, rechargeable battery, accessory deck, and well... of course it is also a cooler! It is pretty much all you could ask for in a portable party and you would certainly be a hit at any activity with this. If the party runs late the built in LED light is pretty handy to see what is inside the cooler even when it gets dark.

The only drawback to this feature packed cooler is that with all those extras comes some extra cost. The Coolest Cooler is listed on their website (coolest.com) for \$399.99

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How They're Doing It

The hackers are using a NSA 0-day threat that was exposed and used to create a ransomware strain that replicates itself like a worm and takes over an entire network. It is equipped to automatically start scanning for computers on the network that it can infect. This means that if you are using a public network—at a coffee shop, for example—be particularly careful because if someone else sharing that network were to be infected, it will infect you too.

How To Protect Yourself

If you have not already we recommend taking immediate action and ensuring that your systems have been patched to protect your network from WannaCry. Consumers who have up-to-date software are more likely to be protected.

This Won't Be The Last Of It

While the specific WannaCry attack may have come and gone by now more attacks like this are sure to happen. WannaCry was a huge wake up call to the world and we want to make sure your business is safe and you have the knowledge you need to better protect yourself in the future.

Gift Card Trivia!

This month's question is:

What can protect you for the WannaCry attack or similar attacks? (*Hint: The answer is in this newsletter.*)

- Keeping your software up-to-date
- Firewalls
- Nothing
- Anti-virus

Please email Jon Stiles (jonathan.stiles@swktech.com) with your answer by **July 10th**, in order to be placed in the running for this month's gift card prize!

We can help you with:

- Complete network management and support
- Troubleshooting and problem solving on all PCs and Macs
- Cloud services and virtualization
- Hardware installation and support
- Virus / spyware removal and protection
- Security solutions
- VPN (Virtual Private Networks)
- Remote access / Mobile computing
- Server installations and upgrades
- Spam filtering
- Hosted email
- Web content filtering
- System backups, on-site and off-site
- Help desk

Contact us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products.

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Visit us on the web at
www.swktech.com



SWK Named Datto's Partner of the Year

SWK Technologies, Inc. (SWK) has been named Datto, Inc.'s U.S. Partner of the Year for 2017. The news was announced at Datto's DattoCon conference on June 7th.

The Partner of the Year award goes to the top partner that has made a commitment to and supports Datto in the promotion of their products. Datto provides business continuity solutions that use imaged based backup for faster and more reliable restores, dual backup agents to have an extra failsafe to ensure a healthy backup, and a hybrid cloud system for keeping both cloud and local backups for the fastest restore possible while keeping your data safe from disaster.

According to Datto, "SWK is a true advocate for Datto and have contributed significantly to our success."

For more information on the Datto products, visit www.datto.com.

