



IT ESSENTIALS for a Remote Workforce



The shift to a remote workplace brings both logistical and interpersonal challenges that interfere with the job to be done. In this brief, we offer a checklist of actions and lift the awareness of two critical areas of focus: Data Backup and Recovery and Security Preparedness.



Checklist of Actions



Organization

- Identify critical applications to be accessed, and ensure your plan includes employee access to each.
- Check on availability of home hardware and high-speed internet access.
- Create company asset and security guidelines.
- Confirm that you have enough bandwidth coming into your company to handle all the new remote traffic, then double it.
- Train employees on remote access and proper use of tools.
- Choose a videoconferencing platform and encourage use of video in communication. Make sure you give enough licenses.
- Explore collaboration tools that can help manage the situation.
- Create a frequent and consistent communication plan.



Security

- Implement Security Best Practices on your network for remote employees.
- Ensure that all devices that will be used remotely have the latest version of their operating software, security software and applications.
- Ensure that all remote employees have access to - and can use – a business-grade VPN, and that you have sufficient licenses for all the employees working remotely.
- Develop and implement a Security Policy that applies to all remote employees, including actions such as locking computers when they're not being used.



Your People

- Communicate frequently. Your people will experience significant stress and anxiety as they adapt to a work at home environment. Be sure to equip them to do the things that they need to get done. Find and fix any problems they are having that you are able to.
- Adopt a policy of full transparency and keep company leaders engaged in communication.



Data Security / Backup

As your company begins to deploy a distributed workforce, you must prioritize data security - because the data risks begin to proliferate quickly.

Once employees are operating outside of a central office, the security environment has immediately changed in several fundamental and critical ways:

- Remote employees must access core business applications and databases.
- Sensitive data will now travel across outside of the company's network.
- Ensuring the security of hardware becomes a challenge.

The need for a comprehensive data security plan increases dramatically when you have valuable and confidential information traveling outside of your secure digital perimeter.

UNITRENDS – DIRECT to CLOUD (D/C) offering provide a hands-off, cloud-based data backup system for your remote workstations.

UNITRENDS D/C provides a reliable, automatic and affordable way to ensure that your remote user data is being protected and stored in a secure fashion.

[Learn More about Direct to Cloud](#)



Security Preparedness



Home Computer Use

Using your home PC for teleworking provides a whole new set of challenges when it comes to security. Take these precautions:

- Make sure your device is on a current anti-virus platform.
- Make sure your device has a current operating system and is up to date from a software revision perspective.
- When not in use by the person working remotely, make sure the user's session is logged off, preventing anyone else in the home from accessing business applications.



Coronavirus themed phishing attacks & hacking campaigns are on the rise.

- Cybercriminals are now creating and putting out thousands of corona-virus related websites on a daily basis.
- Intelligence firm Risk IQ saw more than 13,500 suspicious domains on Sunday, March 15th.
- More than 35,000 domains found the following day session is logged off, preventing anyone else in the home from accessing business applications.

[Learn About our Human Firewall Program](#)

If you don't know where to start, we can help. Schedule a Remote Workforce Consultation so we may assess your best path forward from an IT perspective.

Schedule a Consultation



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