

**DTS**

DanTech Services

Computers under control!™

Technology Times September 2016 Issue



Dan Foote
Owner/President

"As a business owner, I know you don't have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That's where we *shine!* Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!"

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Go Mobile – Without Killing Your Data

What if you could tap into the top talent in your industry, no matter where in the world they are? With the power of the mobile web, your all-star team is now – literally – at your fingertips.

Consider this: 83% of workers report that they prefer using cloud apps over those deployed on-premise. Millennials, who will make up almost 50% of the available workforce by 2020, are "digital natives." And don't forget how much money remote workers allow you to save on real estate and office equipment.

Yet there are risks. Spreading your network around the world on a variety of devices you don't control can expose your data in more ways than ever before. The key is to find the right balance between protection and productivity. Here, then, are five ways to effectively "mobilize" your workforce – without endangering your data:

Collaborate In The Cloud – A plethora of online collaboration tools have sprung up that make it easy for a geographically dispersed team to access and share the same files in real time. These tools not only make sharing easy and instantaneous, they help your team communicate quickly and effectively. Tools like Slack, HipChat, Asana, Podio and Trello – to mention just a few of the most popular options – are proving to make teams more productive. And that includes keeping critical data safe and secure.

Expand Elastically – In-house investments in IT hardware, software and staff can lock you into a rigid structure that can't easily adapt to changes in demand. A cloud-based mobile workforce is able to contract and expand more easily as needs arise, and with very little loss of capital. Bottom line: use a VPN (virtual private network) and cloud-based collaboration tools to remain agile, flexible and competitive.

Cut Costs Dramatically – Physical work areas, equipment, software and on-site security expenses can add up. Instead of spending money on office space, equipment and infrastructure, invest it in innovation and refinement. Combine the power of the cloud with a well-designed workflow to reduce the number of people needed to get things done. That will free up your key players to focus on more important tasks – the ones that boost productivity and ROI.

Deal With BYOD – Let's face it, BYOD (bring your own device) can be your greatest IT security threat. Yet, like it or not, workers will use their own devices on the job. Foisting strict controls without buy-in will just backfire. Yet doing nothing simply makes you a sitting duck for a cyber-attack. Solution? First, audit how your employees use their devices.

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Business Briefings:

Are you addicted to your work? To find out, rate yourself 1 to 5 on the following statements. Give yourself a 5 for “often” and 1 for “rarely”: a) You think of how to free up more time to work. b) You spend more time working than initially intended. c) Your work helps you reduce feelings of guilt, anxiety, helplessness and depression. d) You get stressed when you can’t work. e) You set aside hobbies, leisure pursuits and exercise in favor of work. If you averaged 4 to 5, then you may be at least mildly addicted to your work. Is that a bad thing? Not necessarily. While your well-being requires a certain amount of balance, having the drive, enthusiasm and energy to achieve impossible goals marks many of the most successful entrepreneurs. [Forbes, 06.27.16](#)

Did you know your iPhone could do this?

Respond to texts without unlocking the phone. When you get a notification, swipe left on the message and a blue “Reply” button appears. Just tap it and text away! Take a photo with the volume button. For that ultimate, one-handed selfie, open the camera app and press the “+” button for volume on the side of your phone. Have Siri read your texts out loud. This is a great tool for when your hands aren’t free or you’re on the road. Press the volume button and hold it. When the beep sounds, tell Siri, “Read my texts.” When done reading, she’ll ask you what to do with the messages. You can have her reply or read them again. [Entrepreneur, 06.15.16](#)

You are just minutes away from creating a dazzling design - free. With these 3 online tools you don't need to pay a pro or buy fancy software. 1) *Canva* templates make easy to create a business card, ebook or info-graphic. Just drag and drop objects until you like how it looks. Add images, tweak colors, swap fonts and voila - You've got a design you can be proud of. 2) Your brand's color palette helps get your message across and can even drive conversions. But getting just the right shade can be tough. Upload your photo to *Pictaculous* and get instant color recommendations and hex codes. 3) *PicMonkey* lets you easily edit, re-color, add borders and text - even insert graphics into your images. [HubSpot](#)

The Future Is Yours

By Robert Stevenson

I just did a program for a large multinational manufacturing company that has been in business for over 70 years. My client’s theme for the conference was ... *The Future Is Yours*. In preparing for the program, I decided to do some research on great quotes and statements that have to do with our future. I ran across a statement made by the esteemed economist Dr. Lowell Catlett that really surprised me. He said they did a study in 1960 and again in 2010 involving over 7,000 economists that rated their accuracy for forecasting future economic trends; their accuracy rate was 47%. He elaborated on that statement, saying, “What I just told you is, you can flip a coin and beat 7,000 economists by 3%.” He concluded his point by adding, “You can’t predict the future, but you sure can prepare for it.”

So I thought I would share with you some thoughts/quotes on “Achieving Success in Your Future.” I think these quotes will help to give you a productive perspective on addressing your success in the future.

- *“The future is unknown, but a somewhat predictable unknown. To look to the future we must first look upon the past. That is where the seeds of the future were planted.”*
– Albert Einstein
- *“Just because the past didn’t turn out like you wanted it to ... doesn’t mean your future can’t be better than you imagined.”* – Anon
- *“I look to the future because that’s where I’m going to spend the rest of my life.”* – George Burns
- *“The more you take responsibility for your past and present, the more you are able to create the future you seek.”* – Anon
- *“Your future is created by what you do today ... not tomorrow.”* – Anon
- *“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”* – Abraham Lincoln

If I had to pick my favorite quote of all of them, it would be the second one: “Just because the past didn’t turn out like you wanted it to ... doesn’t mean your future can’t be better than you imagined.” I don’t care where you are in life, how low you have gotten or how bad it has been ... tomorrow you can start fresh, creating a better future. All great achievement begins with deciding what you want and then dedicating yourself to achieving it. So, my perspective on having future success is learning from our past. If we would just pay close attention to our *past*, it would ...

Prepare us for the future.
Awaken us to wiser ways.
Strengthen us with new skills.
Teach us new lessons.

If you don’t apply the lessons you have learned from your past ... you will never improve your future. There is no rule that says your past is your destiny. You possess the power to create a great future; we all do. Remember, your future success is dependent on your present efforts ... so do something today that you will be happy you did tomorrow. *Let your regrets fuel your future ... so your future will have fewer regrets.*



Robert Stevenson is a highly sought after, internationally known speaker. He is the author of the best-selling books *How to Soar Like An Eagle in a World Full of Turkeys* and *52 Essential Habits For Success*. Robert is a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) and is a former All-American Athlete. He started his first business at 24 and has owned several companies. Robert has international sales experience dealing in over 20 countries, and his client list reads like a *Who’s Who in Business*. He has shared the podium with such re-nowned names as Generals Colin Powell and Norman Schwarzkopf, Former President George H.W. Bush, Anthony Robbins and Steven Covey.

Frequent Password Changes May Compromise Security



By now, it's a familiar story. Conventional wisdom holds that you want to use a different password on every site or service you log into and that you want to change your passwords regularly, in order to maximize security. What if conventional wisdom isn't true though? There's a growing body of evidence that it isn't.

Sometimes there can be too much of a good thing. True, you definitely want to break the habit of using the same password across multiple accounts, but where changing your password is concerned, changing it too often can actually work against you.

A growing number of surveys indicate that there's a direct correlation between password strength and the frequency with which the password must be changed. There's a lot to this, but in summary, it looks like this:

If you're requiring your employees to change their passwords on multiple systems every 30 or 60 days, those employees aren't going to invest a lot of time and effort into coming up with truly secure passwords. The reason? It's annoying, and they feel as though every time they turn around, they're having to come up with one (or more) new passwords.

The frequency leads to frustration, and the frustration leads to lax passwords that are easily guessed at or brute forced. Anything over the 60-day mark seems to have positive benefits to overall digital security, and anything under has a negative impact.

With this information in mind, now is an excellent time to review all the password protected systems you have in place at your company, and come to an understanding of how frequently the users of those systems are having to change their passwords. Simply making an adjustment to the reset frequency could see you with a net gain in overall security, with no additional investment required. That's win-win.

Note the data they access and the apps they rely on. Group them by the levels of security and compliance they need to be governed by. A CEO, for example, may need to abide by financial regulations. An HR manager must deal with employment laws. Armed with information from your audit, you can roll out new policies as well as technical and process controls. Train your team in safe practices. And be sure to contact us for help in getting all this done securely and effectively.

Go Remote Without Risk – Whether you want to cut commuting time for your team, tap into the talents of experts outside your locale or simply accommodate a worker caring for family members, mobilizing your workforce can have big benefits. The trick is defending it at all points. Make sure remote workers share files and communicate with other employees only via a secured network. Make sure they use adequate virus protection. And, if they are using WiFi, either at home or on the road, make sure they do it safely. For instance, ensure that their tablet isn't set to automatically connect to the default wireless network. That's often an easy access point for hackers.

Free Mobile Risk Assessment – Limited Time Only!

To help you manage a mobile workforce without endangering your data, **we're giving away a Free Mobile Risk Assessment, normally valued at over \$297, to the first 10 companies who request it by September 30. E-mail us at info@dantechservices.com or call directly at 907-885-0500 to set yours up today.**

It's your best bet for keeping ahead of the competition – while keeping your company's data safe and secure and Keep Your Computers Under Control!™

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Switch to Nextiva's cloud-based phone system today and stay one step ahead of your competition.

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Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:



FitBark Keeps Your Dog And You Healthy Together

Do you know how well your dog slept last night? How much nutrition – or exercise – your dog really needs? Whether your pup is being well-cared for at doggy day care? With FitBark you would know all this, and more, about your favorite canine pal.

Doggy health monitors are nothing new. But, according to hundreds of verified reviews on Amazon, Best Buy, App Store and Google Play, FitBark leads the pack.

FitBark attaches to your dog’s collar and shares data with FitBark Explore, a dog health data bank that collaborates with over 20 leading universities and research institutions in North America and Europe to gain a better understanding of dog health.

You benefit from all this data by tapping into what FitBark calls truly unprecedented insights into canine health and data. All toward keeping Fido – and you – on the path to health and happiness.

\$59.95 at Fitbark.com.



DanTech Services provides knowledgeable management, support & sales of Dell SonicWALL UTM's.

Whether you’re upgrading or replacing your current firewall, DanTech Services has the experience to size, deliver and install the best perimeter protection available.



DanTech Services Customers Testimonials:

We’re blessed to work with many great companies and people and from time to time we ask them to tell us what we can improve and make better. We send out surveys and questionnaires' and get back responses and sometimes we get these testimonials we would like to share with you - just click at picture to watch!



Jessica Spayd of Eagle River Wellness Center says—I never see him. That means he is doing his job behind the lines and I don't have to call him up. It worked out really well!



Lisa Fink tells how DanTech Services helps them keep their business going.



Ellen Cloudy of EHS— DanTech came in and absolutely rescued us one day when our server system had gone down and the current IT provider we were using was not able to respond in the emergency and...



Ann Lindsey says - with help of DTS, for the first time ever, we were able to offer computer services, backup support and a copy center at the Governor’s 2015 and 2016 Safety and Health Conferences for the State of Alaska.

DanTech Services is a member of Microsoft Community Connections. We're getting tons of great tips and information and we would like to offer some of them to you.

Here is an eBook with tips and tricks from influential SMB business owners and organizations to offer advice and insights on how to run and maintain a successful business. It was created by MCC in partnership with CNBCs Carol Roth and Business Consultant Catherine Morgan.

In this eBook, you'll find 80 tips and strategies regarding:

- Managing your business
- Accelerating growth
- Connecting with people
- Leveraging technology
- Marketing and selling your products or services

Please click here or on picture to get this book!

