

## **DTS** DanTech Services

Computers under control!™

## Technology Times December 2020 Issue

"With over 20 years of experience providing remote support to clients that rely on technology, I know what it takes to deliver business continuity. Add to that another 20 years of support in the service industry you'll not find another company that



takes customer service to heart as I do. Find out for your business what a difference it makes. "

### What's Inside:

Page 2

Data Backup and Recovery

Protect Your Home Against Malware & Hackers

Page 3

Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:
Blaux Portable Heater - Instantly
Turns Any Room From Cold and
Frigid To Warm and Cozy

"5 Proactive Measures Against
Malware Attacks.."
- Continued from Page 1

Page 4

2021 DTS Calendar is Here!

**An Exceptional Year** 

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### 5 Proactive Measures Companies Can Take Against Malware Attacks

by Pratik Dholakiya In Technology Trends

Malware — shorthand for malicious software — is a code or program designed and deployed by cybercriminals to infect your computer systems in order to damage, disable, or exploit your company.

Hackers create malware to attack your business and try to:

- Steal, encrypt, or delete sensitive information, such as passwords or customer data
- Hijack and modify core system functions
- Monitor your activity without permission
- Blackmail or extort money in the form of ransom
- Inject spam or forced advertising

Of all the data breaches, 28% involve malware according to Verizon.

What's more, <u>stats suggest</u> that 58% of malware attack victims are categorized as small businesses, the average cost of a malware attack on a company is \$2.4 million, and 34% of businesses hit with malware took a week or more to regain access to their data.

And with the number of new malware detections <u>increasing every day</u>, it goes without saying that your company must be proactive about preventing malware infections in order to:

- Safeguard sensitive company information and workflows
- Maintain the trust and data of customers
- Avert huge monetary and reputation losses

Before taking a look at what you can do to protect your company against malware attacks, let's look at the...

- Continued on page 3

Got IT Problem? - Click Here!



### **Data Backup and Recovery**

Does your business have data backup & disaster recovery services? Why not step up to a more effective, quicker to implement, solution.

Can you restore a failed server or workstation within 20 minutes of downtime?

Step up to DTS BCS, our Business Continuity Service. With DTS BCS, we can keep your business running whether the failure is caused by human or mechanical error, natural disaster, or some other catastrophe. And let's not forget the devastation that can be caused by ransomware. The cost of downtime is an overlooked business fundamental.

Can you withstand even a few hours of downtime without it damaging your reputation, integrity, and your bottom line?

From cloud services to data backup, DanTech Services, an official reseller of Datto, a leader in data protection with Inverse Chain Technology and Backup Insights, to deliver the Best of Class solution.

With our image-based system, we can recover your protected server within 20 minutes of the start of recovery, whether local or from our protected data centers in cloud. With Datto's Backupify, we can also protect your Office 365 or Google Drive, Salesforce, social media and other business data.

Disaster Recovery is a subset of Business Continuity, please visit our Data Backup and Recovery page for more information. Looking for a complete solution that protects both your Network AND your Data?

Call or Text 907-885-0500





# HOW CAN I PROTECT MY HOME AGAINST MALWARE & HACKERS?

907-885-0500

Update to the Latest Security Software

Keep Your Wi-Fi Secured

Get Remote Support for Your Home Computers

Keep Your Personal Data and Precious Memories backed up and safe

Better yet, bring the expertise of DanTech Services to your home anywhere, anytime!

info@dantechservices.com

WWW.AT-HOME.PROTECTTHECLICK.COM



Given the accelerated increase in COVID-19 cases in the State of Alaska, any and all onsite visits by any member of the DanTech Services team requires prior approval. This notice is to let you know that while we wish to be as responsive as possible—whether onsite or remote—we also recognize the impact that this statement and our policy can have for onsite support.

Fortunately, most of our work can be done through remote means. Yet should we need to send a technician onsite, our expectation is that proper PPE & distancing will be used by all concerned.

We appreciate your patience and trust in us for managing your IT systems. As always, I can be contacted directly with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Dan

### **Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:**



Blaux Portable Heater - Instantly Turns Any
Room From Cold and Frigid To Warm and
Cozy

**Problem:** Heating your home during the winter can cost a fortune, take forever to warm up, and be very inefficient, especially if you're only staying in one room.

Blaux Heater makes your space warm and toasty in seconds. With convection ceramic heating technology, it uses less power, making it more energy-efficient than other heating solutions. With this cost-saving heater, you can quickly turn your desk or bed from cold and frigid to warm and cozy. Traditional central heating systems can take up to 1 hour to heat an entire home.

With <u>Blaux Heater</u>, you can feel the warm air instantly blowing in your direction. The heater also filters dust, unwanted bacteria, and prevents the growth of mold, leaving you with fresh, clean air.

# Hard Drive Problems? Contact DanTech Services!

How devastated would you be if all your family photos were gone, your personal files lost, or all of your music erased? Did your heart skip a beat just thinking about this?

Remember, it can happen in the blink of an eye.



### **Types of Malware**

Malware is just an umbrella term for a wide variety of cyberattacks. Here are some of the most common types of malware you need to watch out for:

- Ransomware: One of the most common types of malware, ransomware
  restricts users from accessing a system or its data, and often threatens to
  publish or delete data, until a ransom is paid.
- Virus: The oldest type of malware, a virus attacks a device when a user clicks on an infected executable file. It can then spread to all files and programs, corrupting them.
- Worm: Another common and dangerous type of malware, worms are viruses that can replicate themselves without being attached to a program or run by a user.
- Adware: This malware delivers forced unwanted advertisements and monitors your online behavior to generate revenue for its developer.
- **Spyware:** This malware is created to collect information about your company. Once installed, it can record keystrokes and extract sensitive information.
- **Backdoor:** Also known as a trapdoor, this enables hackers to bypass normal security measures and gain high-level user access to your system or network.
- Rogueware: This malware misleads you into believing that your device is infected so you'll click on the fake warning, which then installs the actual malware.
- **Trojan horse:** Similar to rogueware, a trojan horse mimics legitimate software to deceive you into installing malware.

#### Signs of a Malware Infection

Malware is typically distributed via email attachments, deceptive internet ads, or infected applications. If your device displays the following symptoms, you may have been successfully breached with a malware attack:

- Slow system functionality
- Excessive pop-ups that look spammy
- Frequent system crashes
- Unknown icons or files on the desktop
- Unprompted redirects to unknown websites
- Disabled programs

To prevent these from ever occurring in the first place, your best bet is to understand the...

### Proactive Measures You Can Take to Protect Against Malware Attacks

Instead of crossing your fingers and hoping to never be targeted by cybercriminals, you can take proactive measures to protect yourself from malware attacks. Here are five key steps to take right away.

- Install Anti-Virus and Anti-Malware Software
- Keep Everything Up-To-Date
- Secure Your Authentication
- Use Admin Access Only When Necessary
- Educate Your Team

### Over to You

A successful malware attack can cause serious financial and reputation damage to your company. It may even drive you out of business. Take the proactive measures outlined above to protect your business from malware attacks and ensure all sensitive information remains secure.

Still have a question? — call or text us at 907-885-0500

#### 2021 DTS Calendar is Here!



Much of what DanTech Services does for clients is done remotely. It allows us to quickly and efficiently protect our client's data, network and users without always having to go to a customer's location—which is a good thing. It saves us time so that in those instances where we do need to go to a customer site, our technicians have the time to properly address the onsite issues.

So how do we stay in touch with so many clients across Alaska and in the Lower 48 who we do not always have the pleasure of seeing face to face? While our monthly newsletters, weekly IT security tips and special announcements are great tools... our wall calendar is special to us. On our beautiful calendar we highlight some good IT habits like having a reminder every 90 days to change your passwords, IT safety tips, some helpful free tools as well as the usual holidays.

The photographer this year is Michelle Day and she has provided us with some wonderful photographs of the birds of Alaska. From waterfowl taking off with wingtips splashing on the water to parents feeding their young, the action and details captured by Michelle are a treat! We are proud to share her hard work, skill and artistry of her photographs with you.

To all our DanTech clients and fans who enjoy the many tips, new product information, latest hacker trends and more that we work so very hard to keep you informed about – thank you for being a part of our success. As you turn the page of each new month in 2021 to see what wonderful Alaska bird photograph and helpful IT tip awaits you, we wish you the very best.

Thank you for being a DanTech fan!

### **An Exceptional Year**

2020 has been just that, and in more ways than ten. To one degree or another, we've all experienced this year and the challenges it has delivered. It took barely a month for us to realize that what we would like to consider as normal had changed—drastically. That any thoughts of planning & scheduling our lives through this year were as useless as the 2020 Day Planner you may have purchased a year ago.

COVID-19 has affected our lives. My hope is that you & yours have simply been inconvenienced by the consequences unleashed by the effects of a pandemic unlike anything we've seen in a century. Yet without exception, our lives have been touched.

The mission of DanTech Services continues to be to provide our clients with the IT services necessary to continue business. To keep Computers Under Control—regardless of where employees are working. In that respect, our business design has proved beneficial. Our decentralized model of no "brick-n-mortar" shop means that we didn't have to shift staff or make drastic changes to our operations. It also helps us to protect our staff from communicated illnesses of any kind. Working remotely allows us to focus on delivering services to our clients—you!

We couldn't be more delighted by the team we have built. With all of the disruptions, we've continued to maintain our staff at our 2019 levels. Mike & Michael continue to meet the IT support demands that occur daily. They've coalesced into an awesome support team for you!

While our growth goals can be found in that discarded day planner, we have added clients, and our business losses have been minimal. We've been extremely fortunate—and we greatly appreciate our clients for their trust in working with us. Our Business Development Rep, Janet, has had the most drastic shift of job duties. It's a problem when your outside rep has to shift almost entirely to inside customer support, yet she's done that with grace.

Our marketing and communications continue to be maintained by Peter. Whether web content of our many sites, or our newsletters, tech tips, and other mailings, Peter keeps you informed with a smattering of the items we find are important to send your way.

All of this has allowed Mary and me to focus more on the management of DanTech Services. All of this with the goal of delivering the services you require to fulfill your business purpose.

Above all, please stay safe as we move ever closer to 2021. Have the best holiday season possible. And hold the hope of a happy year to come.

Dan