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DanTech Services

Computers under control!™

Technology Times October 2023 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.”



Dan Foote
Owner/President

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Pig Butchering — Don't become a Victim!

There’s a relatively new scam that is roaming the world—or at least Alaska. It goes something like this:

Text message that says, “hi.” This message is unsolicited, and unknown. Might come from a US area code or international.

Response: “hi.”

- “Hello! I’m Mandy Lee. What’s your name?”

- “Fred.”

This might be followed by a picture of an attractive young woman that engages you in conversation. And a further conversation. And an invite to chat via What’sApp or Telegram.

The above scenario might be the first step in a “pig butchering” scam. So named in reference to the practice of fattening a pig before slaughter, these scams often involve fraudsters contacting targets seemingly at random, then gaining trust before ultimately manipulating their targets into phony investments and disappearing with the funds.

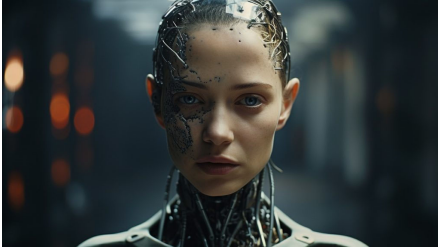
The come on is to get rich by investing spot trading in gold futures or cryptocurrency. Might even be some other speculative venture. These are very sophisticated schemes run by organized syndicates that might run under the amorphous, vague name of “The Consortium”.

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What kind of jobs will be most affected by AI?



Many worry that with the emergence of artificial intelligence, their employment may be threatened.

Findings show that, unlike other revolutions that have shaken up the world in the past, the AI revolution is likely to threaten the jobs of the knowledge worker - the white-collar - more than the manual labor work force.

Software development, information technology, mathematics, information design, legal and accounting positions are seen as some of the riskiest. As a general rule, the more suitable a job is to remote work, the higher its potential exposure to a generative AI-driven change. While there is some potential for AI to take over certain tasks in any field, it's also unlikely that technology will fully replace humans. A lot of in-person jobs rely heavily on the human touch you might get from nurses or child-care workers, or the human interaction you might get from a cab driver or sales rep.

If you're concerned about AI replacing your role in a company – first, rest assured that AI is not ready to take over the world yet (if ever). AI is designed to help us, not to replace human connection.

Above all, there are things you can do to make yourself more valuable as an employee. You can learn more about your field and grow your skills by enrolling in courses or professional training. Investigate AI and how it might be relevant in your role and career. Take the initiative to suggest to your supervisor ways that it might be used to better assist your clients, coworkers, and managers.

AI is not going away anytime soon, so it's best to embrace it and find ways to make it work for you.

Study finds increase in cybersecurity attacks fueled by generative AI

October: Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Celebrating 20 Years



CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

A new report analyzes threats and stressors caused by generative AI, with 51% of security professionals saying they are likely to leave their job over the next year.

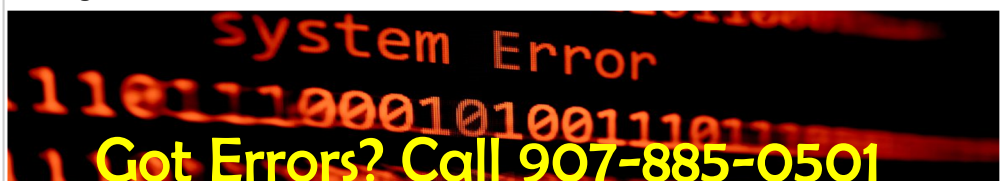
Deep Instinct's fourth edition of its Voice of SecOps Report “Generative AI and Cybersecurity: Bright Future or Business Battleground?” – conducted by Sapio Research, surveyed more than 650 senior security operations professionals in the U.S., including CISOs and CIOs.

The study highlights the impact of generative AI in the cybersecurity industry, analyzing the technology's positive and negative effect on organizations' security postures and preparedness. The report reveals **75% of security professionals witnessed an increase in attacks over the past 12 months, with 85% attributing this rise to bad actors using generative AI.**

Other key report highlights:

- 70% of security professionals say generative AI is positively impacting employee productivity and collaboration, with 63% stating the technology has also improved employee morale.
- 75% of security professionals witnessed an increase in attacks over the past 12 months, with 85% attributing this rise to bad actors using generative AI.
- 46% agree that ransomware is the greatest threat to their organization's data security and 62% admit that ransomware is the number one C-suite concern, up from 44% in 2022.
- The pressure to address the ongoing threat of ransomware is causing organizations to shift their data security approach, with 47% of respondents now possessing a policy to pay the ransom, versus 34% in 2022.

55% of security professionals say their stress levels have increased, with the top reason being staffing and resource limitations at 42%.



Shiny New Gadget Of The Month:



EMEET Meeting Capsule Pro Room Kit

360° All-in-One AI Conference Room Kit with Wireless Co-Camera.

- Dual 4K lenses, upgraded image quality
- 8+2 microphones, crystal-clear audio
- 10W Hi-Fi speaker, hear loud and clear
- AI-powered active speaker tracking
- Pre-paired wireless & portable co-camera
- For whiteboard, for host and for more
- Be Seated and Be Seen

The EMEET Meeting Capsule Pro provides a complete view of the meeting space with its 360-degree capture capabilities and dual 4K lenses that ensure high-quality visuals.

Following the Speaker...All the Time

The AI-powered speaker tracking allows up to 3 attendees to be zoomed in on while they're speaking so that remote team members can hear and see whoever's speaking clearly as if they're seated in the room.

Hear Louder and Clearer

Hear the remote side louder and clearer with the powerful 10W Hi-Fi speaker anywhere in the conference room.

Check it out [here](#).



Buying into these schemes will leave you poorer for the experience. The victim will be lead down the path of riches—shown by actual trades that show profits, maybe even starting with a small investment of a few thousand dollars.

"See? You're getting a great return! If you invest more, your returns will be better!" It may even lead to, "If you invest \$100K and I match your \$100K, we can share the account and the profits! You'll be able to travel and give to charities!" (They love charities that would benefit children.)

And then you're butchered. Financially slaughtered.

Numbers will change, names will change, and so will their methods. As I noted, these are sophisticated, smart groups that are after one thing: your money.

The worst part of all of this is that there's little that you can do to get restitution. There's no FDIC to protect you. The FBI and LEAs can't save you from yourself. The portals used may or may not be legit, yet even with that you'll likely lose everything you've "invested."

There are, though, games that you can play. Playing to their vanity can be fun and waste a lot of their time—if you have the time to play. Yet remember: it's called "pig butchering" for a reason. No hog wants to go to slaughter, yet these thieves are smart, have a book of psychological tricks, and will play on your emotions—and greed.

This is not a market where you want your little piggies going! Yet if it does happen to you, collect information and submit it to the FBI. At some point, it may tip the scales into shutting down these operations.

Stay safe out there. Be wary, skeptical, and protective. It really is too good to be true!

DanTech Services Inc

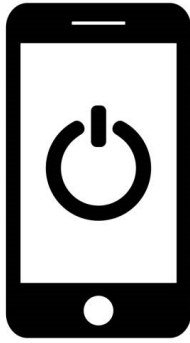
Winter in Alaska requires layers of protection. So do your computers!

Get ahead of the game!

Book your call now

907-855-0501

Computers under control!™

Proper cell phone maintenance:**Shut off your phone at least once a week**

Similar to the way turning off your computer and back on again can improve its performance, restarting your phone has benefits too.

This low-effort, quick task prevents crashes, retains memory, and prolongs your phone's battery life to ensure your device continues running smoothly.

Think of the many apps you use on a daily basis. Even when you finish using an app, it doesn't really shut down, just remains in an idle state eating up memory and battery power. A complete power down of your devices clears out the open apps and rids your phone of anything draining its power.

Moreover, every app installed or deleted, every page loaded, and every other kind of update adds or removes code in the operating system of the phone. Restarting your phone will often remove these issues, making your phone run better.

Shutting down your phone and leaving it turned off for a minute or a few minutes is recommended over a quick restart. Experts say a restart is not the same as a "cold reboot."

Taking proper care of your phone ensures that the device continues to perform well, even as it gets older, and will save you hundreds of dollars in replacing it earlier than you have to.

AI: The Game Changer – Decoding Strategies for Business Growth**AI and Its Impact**

- AI is the "Science of making machines smart."
- Moore's Law predicts the doubling of computing power every 18 months.
- AI offers enormous opportunities for growth in productivity and GDP.

AI in Office Productivity

- Tools like Duet in Google Workspace and Co-Pilot in Microsoft 365 leverage AI for semi-structured data.
- Create a data map/catalog of all your companies' data
- Combine that data in a Common Data Platform (CDP) for AI analysis.

Responsible AI

- AI activates human knowledge in ways we may not fully understand.
- Consider biases and fairness in AI's impact.
- Address privacy and security concerns.
- Strive for transparency and explainability in AI decisions.
- Human review may be necessary.
- Experiment and deploy AI cautiously.

Managing Change

- Ensure that your team embraces AI tools.
- Create an environment where AI usage is encouraged.
- Lead by example and provide clear guidelines.
- Offer training to your team.
- Consider bottom-up change.

AI In Business

- Every business will be impacted by AI, whether willingly or not.
- AI can benefit marketing through personalization.
- Personalization includes content personalization, personalized content delivery, text summarization, tone adjustment, copywriting, and image/video generation.
- Tools like Midjourney, OpenAI's, and Dall-e are useful for image generation.
- "It's not humans or AI; it's humans + AI."

AI and Data

- Use AI like Chat GPT for email communications.
- AI can help with image creation.
- Strive for drafts, not perfection.
- Human judgment is valuable.
- Human review of AI-generated work is essential.

AI & Membership / Customer Tiers

- Membership organizations can benefit from AI bots
- Bots with deep knowledge can assist members when live services are unavailable.
- You can use it in the future by sending the bot every article you have written, the books you have written, project management documents, your data catalog, etc.. so the bot now knows your business
- They do not help your customer in their journey, but they will help you

The Time is NOW

- AI is evolving rapidly; waiting is not an option.
- Learning and implementing AI can give your business a competitive advantage.
- Don't delay, as your competitors might also embrace AI.