Top Ten Tips for Cyber Resilience

How to secure your business against cyber risk and threats

01 **Make security personal to your business** – understand your business and how security can be built into IT.

02 **Baseline your security regularly** to understand your state of readiness, so that you can interpret the symptoms that can lead to a security incident.

03 **Get executive and board engagement** – **T**he human element of Cyber Risk is likely to be higher outside your IT department than within it. With executive leadership buy-in, you can make your security culture all-inclusive

04 **What is your resilience plan?** Security incidents happen every day. How do you identify the important incidents and ensure the business remains effective and up-and-running under all circumstances?

05 **Education** – from board to new hire, it's essential that everyone understands that they are responsible and accountable. They need to know what part they play in the bigger picture.

06 **Do the basics well** – leverage government and industry guidelines. This includes aspects such as patching and good user-level access management.

07 **Plan for today and scale for the future** – for example, BYOD is here to stay. Hence, we must stop applying quick fixes to such issues, unless they are aligned to a longer-term strategy.

08 **Start small, but think big.** Information protection is a long-term project, but we need to start where we will add the most business value and then continue to expand where there is further, long-term business value. This can include, for example, the supply chain and how we interact with our wider network of vendors and partners. The key here is to think big but have a maturity plan, which must be linked to strategic business value and growth.

09 **Be accountable** – understand what the regulatory, legislative and peer-to-peer controls are that you need to adhere to. Make sure you have a clearly defined owner for each of these and an executive sponsor.

10 **Don't wait for it to happen** – test your processes, procedures and people regularly. Make sure you have clearly defined lifecycles that reflect changes in business strategy, technology use and culture. Make sure your strategy is current and effective for the business and the risks.

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