

May 25th 2018
GDPR arrived in the UK

You may have noticed that we have been shouting about the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) since September 2017. More and more news articles and Panorama style TV shows have highlighted the importance of data security in the past 3 months and these are set to continue into the future. Some of you have been very proactive and have filed all of your new policies and procedures. For those of you yet to start you can still visit our website for more information on GDPR.

DELL EMC
PARTNER
GOLD

Practical Networks have partnered with DELL (now DELL EMC) since our company started in 2001 and the partnership has grown from strength to strength over the years. We are recognised as one of the leading DELL EMC partners in the northern UK region and our contribution and expertise with DELL products and services was further acknowledged in 2015 when we were awarded "DELL Windows Datacenter Partner Of The Year". Since then we have maintained our level of expertise with DELL products and solutions, so much so we have been awarded "DELL EMC GOLD PARTNER" status for 2018/2019



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Feedback

Practical Networks Ltd constantly strive to deliver excellent customer service to all our clients. Your feedback is a vital part of this and we value your views and opinions. We welcome all suggestions and constructive feedback. Please go to:

www.practicalnetworks/feedback

IT Solutions for Business We Make IT Work



CYBER SMART

Cyber Essentials is becoming the prerequisite for SME's and larger companies who tender for government and public sector supplier contracts. It demonstrates to your customers that you are serious when it comes to data protection and information assurance.

Cyber Essentials was developed by GCHQ, IASME and ISF as a baseline cyber security initiative and has the highest rate of adoption of any other security standard since April 2014. Lancaster University have said that 99.3% of cyber-attacks were mitigated by SME's use of Cyber Essentials.

Cybersmart

CE Smart (Cyber Essentials Smart) is an automated compliance platform for Cyber Essentials. It provides you with ongoing protection via continuous security checks whilst safeguarding your organisation, employees and data. The entire process to achieve compliance to Cyber Essentials has been streamlined and can generally be completed in just 2 days.

Cybersmart uses the latest smart software to check you have anti-virus that is up to date and running correctly. It also secures user access control, application and operating system updates, boundary firewalls and internet gateways, and secures machine configuration with malware and patch management.

So what does it involve?

A cloud based dashboard is used to manage the compliance process and presents you with a fully interactive questionnaire with step-by-step guides, whilst desktop apps are deployed to all endpoints on the network to check the compliance status of the devices. By default, the app regularly checks and reports the status of the individual devices whilst giving you instant visibility over the compliance status of the devices in your network. Upon request the app can be modified by admin to remotely fix issues, or even allow the app to automatically maintain the compliance status across all devices.

Automatic searches for weaknesses in your system are identified and flagged up for remediation.

Cybersmart has seamless integration with G Suite and Office 365

Security is our foundation and is embedded in our continual improvement process. The platform has been securely designed from the start, including daily development testing and regular third party audits and penetration testing.

Practical Networks are Cyber Essentials Practitioners and well on the way to being ISO 27001:2013 certified. All team members have all references verified and enhanced DBS background checks conducted. We believe in creating a CyberAware culture, which includes regular training and continuous improvement.

Here are some tools to help with GDPR Compliance in 2018



Mobile Device Management

Do you have numerous staff with Apple or Android mobile devices? What about iPads? You can now configure all of your security-related settings from a single point without the need for an App to be installed on each and every device. You can set up security profiles on them that will allow you to adjust their security settings, including Anti-Theft, settings for Exchange, Wi-Fi, and VPN accounts, Passcode, iCloud and others. Admin can also white and black-list Apps and enforce web filtering to block all prohibited content. The Anti-Theft system protects the physical devices, which means that you can remotely lock/unlock devices or wipe all the data they hold in case they are lost or stolen. It scans all applications, files and memory cards for malware. Users can be spared from unwanted calls and SMS messages, and administrators can push security policies to all devices to ensure compliance with company policies. It also protects from attempts by fake websites to acquire passwords, banking data and other sensitive information.



Mix and match your license seats exactly as you need. Migrate seats from one device to another, regardless of the OS. For example, you can move the license seat from ESET Endpoint Security for Android to ESET Mobile Device Management for Apple iOS and vice versa.



Endpoint Encryption

Data is a critical part of your organization. This most valuable asset often poses a huge risk when it travels within your organisation or is transmitted beyond your corporate network. ESET Endpoint Encryption is a simple-to-use encryption solution that helps you achieve your data security compliance obligations. We initially fully encrypt your hard drive which ensures that, should it be lost or stolen, nobody can access any of your data. We will then issue you with a unique user-name and password to access all your files. If you share sensitive data across complex work-groups and team boundaries, we can set security policies with enforced password protection at all endpoints. You then decide which files and folders you want to encrypt and all of these files are moved to your encrypted folder.

Email encryption is available for Outlook through a dedicated plug-in. Your emails can only be decrypted by recipients who share the same key as you the sender, although an email viewing portal is available for non ESET end users.

Company laptops can be fully encrypted to protect against unexpected data loss. Any company USB drive, CD or DVD media is protected with policy driven encryption called "Go" portable encryption, ensuring that lost or stolen data is fully encrypted.

ESET Endpoint Encryption is fully compatible with Microsoft Windows 10, 8 and no extra space is reserved for encrypted content.



Password Security

Most of us nowadays pick passwords which contain a variation of numerical characters, upper and lower-case letters and special characters to make a personal and complex 8 digit password. This doesn't lead to stronger passwords, and the practice should be replaced by more dynamic support for password selection. The practice of regularly changing your password usually aligns itself with the human trait to select a password sequence or pattern to ease the workload of remembering passwords. So what a user tends to do is add a number or other incremental character at the end of their current password and increment it each time that they are forced to change their password. Selecting better passwords and checking them against known leaked breach data and known weak passwords will improve your overall security. The availability of tools such as:

howsecureismypassword.net

Password testing tools coupled with the use of online password managers it is now more widely accepted.



A free to use and highly recommended service for creating and storing multiple safe and secure passwords with one single login for use on multiple devices. Dashlane is reported as having one of the strongest encryptions available.



HELP DESK

One-click data deletion

One of the continued complaints about using Windows 10 is Microsoft's use of telemetry, i.e. collecting all sorts of information about you as you use Windows. In addition to the privacy controls already built into Windows, there's now an actual Delete button (Settings > Privacy > Diagnostics & Feedback) which removes all of the diagnostic data that Microsoft has collected on your device.

PRO TIP

Run your internet services in a virtual machine. A virtual machine is a separate, software-based computer that's contained within your physical computer. It will run an operating system and apps within your real computer. Using a virtual machine to run your browsers and email client will isolate you from all the cyber threats out there.



Here is a quick tip for when you need to leave your desk for a break. Press the windows key and L at the same time and you will be logged off immediately. Return back from your lunch and log in as usual.

SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER

In our second instalment of meet the team we introduce Mr Robert Franklin, Sales Account Manager.



Rob grew up in the Scarborough area and then travelled the world and returned two years ago having spent the last 5 years building his own brewery. He lives with bubbly Paula and has 2 lovely daughters and a son. Rob started working with us back in September 2017.

Favourite Possession
"My 30ft wooden fishing cobbler"

Favourite Live Gig
"Underworld @ Ali Pali 2017"

Favourite Cuisine
"Keto with lots of bacon"

Greatest achievement
"A solo hike Coast to Coast over 220 miles in 10 days with a tent and stove for Alzheimers Society"

What was your first vinyl purchase
"Bad Manners - Special Brew"

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