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Announcements

- Thank you to everyone who came out for our open house! We are so grateful to be a part of an amazing community and are excited for the opportunities our new location can provide.
- We are currently in the process of finding a new office in Kokomo. We would like to thank Missing Piece Billing for their generosity in letting us set up shop temporarily while we go through the steps of re-locating.

Who We Are

BSS is your IT Partner providing **Total Care** support for all your technology needs with exceptional **Customer Service** and the best IT Solutions to make **your business** more productive and profitable!

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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

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IT Security Tip #9: If you installed it, you must update it!

There are thousands of hackers who get up every morning with ONE goal in mind: to find a new vulnerability in a commonly installed software (like Adobe, Flash or QuickTime) to access your computer. That's why these companies frequently issue patches and updates for KNOWN security bugs; and once a KNOWN vulnerability is announced via a patch, hackers get to work like crazy trying to figure out how to use the vulnerability and access those users who are lazy about installing updates. That's why it's important to update installed software programs as soon as possible.

Of course, if you're a client of ours, we're monitoring your network for these updates and handling them for you; but your home computers, smartphone and other devices that may NOT be under our protection probably need a little attention.



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. 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.



Fun Facts Did You Know..?

- San Francisco gives homeless people stipends to care for stray puppies.
- In the 2nd US Presidential election, both major parties, the Federalists and Democratic-Republicans, nominated George Washington as their candidate.
- There's a team of NASA scientists who've been pretending they're on Mars for nearly a year. They live and work in a dome on the side of a Hawaiian volcano and only go out in spacesuits.
- A woman from Northern England has 4 functioning color cones (most people have 3) and because of this she can see 99 million more colors than the average person.
- Medical mistakes kill over 250,000 Americans each year. If they were a disease, they would be the 3rd leading cause of death in the US.
- There is a 1 in 1 trillion chance that a 16-word phrase in a speech would coincidentally match a phrase of the same length in another speech.

Our Clients Say It Best

"we have been very satisfied with the service BSS has provided to the company. We have on a number of occasions over the last 15+ years contacted BSS to solve several problems. We have found that the majority (99%) of the problems can be solved via remote access. Being able to access our computers remotely saves money on travel costs to and from the office. The hourly rates are reasonable when a problem occurs."

-Patti Kidwell, Robison & Bergum



"Did you try unplugging it and plugging it back in?"

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

We bet you’ve never even heard of these new technologies.

1) Perovskite solar cells promise to be cheap, easy to install and efficient enough to power entire buildings, large or small. Made with a compound called perovskite, they reach new areas of the light spectrum, thus producing far more energy than current solar technology. 2) Organs-on-chips allow scientists to test how drugs impact the body – without putting humans or animals at risk. These micro-sized chips emulate how human organs work. By injecting the chips with drugs, scientists can observe responses such as heart palpitations to predict human responses to drugs and diseases. 3) Super-smart nanosensors, tiny enough to fit inside the body could, for example, alert a doctor if a patient starts to show signs of heart failure. -Inc.com

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

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 infographic. 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

Shiny New Gadget: 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.

Client Bill of Rights

You have the right to have us attend to the details of each issue, question and request you have. We pledge to get the job done right the first time.

Contest Corner Who Wants To Win A Gift Card?

This month we are giving away a \$10 Buffalo Wild Wings gift card.

At what temperature are Fahrenheit and Celsius the same?

- a) 92
- b) 0
- c) -40
- d) 50

E-mail Jeff@bssconsulting.com
with your answers!

Last month’s question was: **One of the first computer science PhDs was earned by: The correct answer was B) Sister Mary Kenneth Keller.**

Trish Turk was drawn as the winner! Congratulations!



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We've Moved!



Thank you to everyone who came out for our open house! We are so grateful to be a part of an amazing community and are excited for the opportunities our new West Lafayette location can provide. We would like to thank the Greater Lafayette Commerce and all of their representatives for coming out and helping us celebrate this momentous occasion.

If you were unable to make our open house, we invite you to stop in at our office any time during our business hours for a tour!

We would like to congratulate Virginia Myers from MAIL Inc. on being drawn as the winner of the Amazon Echo we were giving away at our Open House. We would also like to congratulate Janet Fawley from the W.L. Parks Department on winning a \$50 Outback Gift Card.



Our journey continues as we are now in the process of finding a new location for our Kokomo office as the building it was in was affected by the tornado and heavy storms that hit the Kokomo area last month. We would like to thank our wonderful client Missing Piece Billing as they have let us set up shop as we find a new office location.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Colossians 3:23-24