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4 Signs You've Been Hacked



When a virus infects your computer, you may not know about it until it's too late. Like a

biological virus, the damage it does to your system can be minimized if it's caught early on. Stopping a computer virus early is possible if you know what symptoms to look for. Is your PC infected? Here are four signs you've been hacked.

Fake Antivirus Message

This is a very deceptive strategy that's fooled many PC users. This virus will manifest itself with a fake popup message pretending to be from your antivirus software. This

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About Total Networks

Building on the tradition of providing industry best solutions, the Kinseys continue to invest in tools, training, recruiting, and procedures, continuing to extend our reputation as the premier IT service provider in Arizona.

Visit us **online** at:
totalnetworks.com

Total Networks Earns Respected Technology Industry Security Credential



CompTIA Security Trustmark+™ signifies commitment to industry best practices.

Total Networks announced it has received the CompTIA Security Trustmark+™, a respected industry credential that signifies its adherence to best practices for information security.

"Earning this credential identifies Total Networks as a business that meets or exceeds the best business practices the IT industry has to offer in critical areas such as data protection, personnel security and access management," said Nancy Hammervik, senior vice president, industry relations, CompTIA.

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50 Shades of Confidentiality: The Unwitting Law-Breaking Lawyer



"That's the FBI calling... I've got to take this." – words concluding one (now defunct) law firm interview to an ABA Journal after the firm was hacked and client information was published on a website. A lawyer in Texas has confidential files found on a computer for sale in a pawn shop. Routine, smaller accidental breaches occur EVERY DAY and needless unmitigated risks are commonplace.

As stories of data breaches fill the news, clients are increasingly aware of the importance of keeping their data safe, and you may lose clients if you cannot demonstrate your ability to protect their data. Failure to protect information, or an incorrect response after the fact, also could potentially result in multi-million dollar government fines, contract or malpractice claims, or Bar discipline.

Consider attending this State Bar of Arizona CLE on February 19th to earn 3 CLE Ethics Credits. This CLE program offers an in-depth look at key considerations that lawyers and their staff should review to help meet their legal and ethical requirements. Additionally, this information may be helpful to lawyers in advising their clients in the areas of risk management, compliance, and breach notification. This program will be broadly applicable to virtually all lawyers and law firms, as it will focus on the requirements of HIPAA, state data breach laws, and ethical obligations in maintaining not only health information, but other sensitive client information – such as tax returns and W-2s, Social Security numbers, and driver's license numbers – as well. Additionally, it will discuss the HIPAA framework as a suggested model for how all law firms can help protect the security of information, regardless of the practice areas involved or nature of the data being protected

Faculty:

Dave Kinsey, President of Total Networks
Scott Bennett, Coppersmith Brockelman
Naomi Jorgensen, Coppersmith Brockelman
Mike Semel, Semel Consulting

Date: February 19, 2015
9:00 AM – 12:15 PM (Arizona)

Location: State Bar of Arizona, 4201 N. 24th Street, CLE Center



Register Here!!
<http://bit.ly/1LyNop>

Total Networks Earns Respected Technology Industry Security Credential

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The Trustmark was developed by CompTIA, the non-profit association for the information technology industry, in collaboration with industry experts and leaders, to identify technology businesses that consistently follow security best practices as validated by an independent 3rd party review of an organization's overall security posture.

"Earning the Security Trustmark is validation of our efforts to implement security practices to protect our clients' critical asset—their data," said Dave Kinsey, owner of Total Networks. "In today's world of hacking and data breaches, we have developed a Culture of Security at Total Networks that will pay off for our clients every day."

The CompTIA Security Trustmark was developed with the support of technology companies at the forefront of the IT security industry.

To earn the Trustmark Total Networks successfully passed an independent assessment of their security policies, capabilities, practices, and processes against industry best practices in areas such as security technologies; vulnerability assessment detection; data encryption; technical employee knowledge/expertise; security clearances and background checks; physical and hardware security; and permissions, passwords and other security requirements.

Visit CompTIA Security Trustmark+'s website to learn more.

Total Networks, a 28-year Phoenix IT provider, offers a wide range of technology solutions to professional businesses of all sizes. Experts in IT Security, legal software, and document management, Total Networks provides a cost-effective professional alternative for businesses that depend on technology but do not want to hire and manage an IT staff. To-

tal Networks also offers supplemental technical resources to businesses that have an IT support staff. Everything from strategic technology planning to help desk services are offered by a team of experienced certified professionals..

About CompTIA

CompTIA is the voice of the world's information technology (IT) industry. Its members are the companies at the forefront of innovation; and the professionals responsible for maximizing the benefits organizations receive from their investments in technology. CompTIA is dedicated to advancing industry growth through its educational programs, market research, networking events, professional certifications, and public policy advocacy. Visit their homepage or follow CompTIA on Facebook and Twitter.



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The Value of Doing IT Right the First Time Around



Doing a project right the first time around is the most valuable way to get it done. Businesses that best understand this concept are the ones that have

experienced the folly of choosing the cheap route to get something fixed, only to then have it break again—which ends up costing them more in the long run. Nowhere is this more true than with IT support.

When it comes to IT support, you've got different companies to choose from. Many IT companies will try to distinguish themselves by price, but for IT service, the old adage "you get what you pay for," is true. The most inexpensive IT Company will often be the cheapest for a reason: they cut corners. For working

with something as important as your company's data, you can't afford to cut corners.

At Total Networks, we offer affordable IT services, but we're not so concerned about price that we cut corners to be the cheapest. Since we're a business-to-business service, we feel like prioritizing quality over cost will resonate with business owners who don't like having to pay double for do overs.

If a business chooses not to go with us because they feel like rolling the dice in order to save a little bit of money, then we might not be the best fit for them. Instead, we feel like the organizations that would benefit the most from our IT services are the ones that want to invest a bit more in the right tools, technology, and infrastructure up front. By using a quality product and taking the time to make sure the job is done right, your time and money won't be wasted (and either will ours).

To be clear, Total Networks provides several ways for you to save money on your IT expenses. Our managed IT services can save money by turning IT repair from a capital expense into an operating expense, and by having your equipment properly maintained, you will proactively save money because your equipment will run more smoothly. Additionally, we can save you money by going over your IT budget to help equip your business with solutions that will best serve your company's technology needs.

If you're a business that sees past gimmicks and cheap practices because you understand the value of implementing a quality system and the right plan, then reach out to us at (602)412-5025.



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4 Qualities to Look For In the Next Company that Services Your Tech



As a small business owner, you want the best technology that will assist your company and allow it to grow. Not all technology

vendors can do this for you. In order to get the most out of your technology, you need to separate the champs from the chumps. That's where our vendor management service comes in.

In order to pick out the best vendors, you need to know how to spot them. To help you out, here are four qualities that you will want to look for in a potential vendor in order to make sure that they're a right fit for you.

Do They Know What Technology Will Best Serve Your Company's Goals?

You are intimately familiar with the needs and goals of your business. Therefore, the best way that your company's goals will be served by your technology is for your technology provider to be just as familiar and committed to these goals as you are. That's a tall order

to ask of a vendor that's just plucked from the front page of Google, and it's time-consuming to have to communicate the ins and outs of your company to every new vendor that you work with.

A better way is to have an IT company like Total Networks that already knows your company's goals and needs arrange for technology vendors on your behalf. This saves your business loads of time from having to explain everything all over again, and it gives you peace of mind knowing that the right people are working on your technology.

Are They Knowledgeable and Committed?

One of the most important things to look for in a technology vendor is their expertise level. Do they know what they're talking about? Are they willing to do whatever it takes to fix your problems, and can you rely on them to be there when you need them the most? Can they back up their claims of technical professionalism with proven results?

Your lack of technical knowledge may prevent you from fully knowing if you're

working with a knowledgeable technology company or one that's taking you for a ride. Therefore, it's good to have the knowledgeable experts at Total Networks find your technology vendors for you, and because you know that we're committed to you, you can be confident that we'll find a vendor that's equally committed.

How Flexible are They?

You should look for a technology vendor's ability to adapt to your business model. For instance, if you just need your copy machine fixed and the copy machine service company tries to upsell you, then they're not serving you; they're using you. If they're not flexible in distinguishing their needs from yours, then you need to look for someone else. With Total Networks's vendor management service, we're able to focus on your needs and find technology vendors that are flexible enough to serve you (not the other way around).



Read the Rest Online!
<http://bit.ly/1BXuLci>

Newsflash! Electronic Signatures Deemed Legal ...146 Years Ago!



What's so special about a physical signature created with pen and paper? If it's an autograph from your

favorite celebrity, then you've got something special. Other than that, there's no reason why an electronic signature can't get the job done in today's hi-tech business world.

It's 2015, and the outdated need for physical signatures appears to be the final barrier keeping us from enjoying a technological utopia of offices without paper and flying cars that don't need

roads. It may be the case that organizations enact policies requiring a physical signature because they think it will hold some weight over electronic signatures in legal proceedings, but this simply isn't the case. As determined by the New Hampshire Supreme Court in Eighteen A-Full-Century-Before-the-Moon-Landing-And-When-Mutton-Chops-Were-All-The-Rage Sixty Nine. From the case *Howley v. Whipple*:

It makes no difference whether [the telegraph] operator writes the offer or the acceptance in the presence of his principal and by his express direction, with a steel pen an inch long attached to an ordinary penholder, or whether his pen

be a copper wire a thousand miles long. In either case the thought is communicated to the paper by the use of the finger resting upon the pen; nor does it make any difference that in one case common record ink is used, while in the other case a more subtle fluid, known as electricity, performs the same office.

Almost 150 years later and our electronic signatures travel wirelessly, thousands upon thousands of miles from one device to another via satellite. Additionally, as recognized by forward-thinking New Hampshire and every developed-yet-lacking-flying-cars nation in

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4 Signs You've Been Hacked

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message will “alert” you to a new computer virus found on your computer and provide you with steps you can take to “eliminate” the threat—when in actuality, following the fake instructions will make things worse. One of the best ways to not fall for a threat like this is to be familiar with your legitimate antivirus software. If the alert looks even slightly off, don’t click on it—when in doubt, back out. When you spot this sign, you should immediately seek out professional assistance from Total Networks.

Redirected URLs

Every once in a while you will click on a URL and it will legitimately redirect you to a different URL. There’s no reason for concern if you’re redirected to a company’s new official website after you clicked on the URL of their old

site. However, if you’re experiencing lots of crazy and unexpected redirects that make no sense and take you to some pretty shady places, then your system has been hacked and you need to get the issue resolved as soon as possible.

Random Popups

The occasional popup ad is normal, albeit still annoying. What’s not normal is for every web page to load a popup ad, and for popup ads to spawn new popup ads; so much so that closing the popup windows feels like you’re playing a super annoying game of virtual Whack-a-Mole. This is a sure and in-your-face sign that your PC has been infected with a virus.

Finding New and Unexpected Software Installed on Your PC
Have you ever gone through

the applications installed on your computer and found a program or two that you don’t recognize or remember installing? There’s a good chance that malware on your computer is responsible for downloading these mystery apps without your consent. As you can imagine, these bogus apps weren’t designed to improve the performance of your PC.

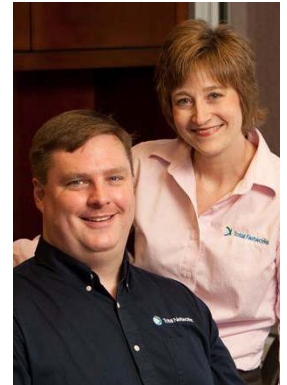
One way to find out what programs are activated upon PC startup (a characteristic of malicious apps) is to use Autoruns. When investigating your installed software, you may see a few legitimate apps that you’ve not heard of before. You only want to remove the bad apps from your system, not the good ones.



Read the Rest Online!
<http://bit.ly/1BXuSED>

We work together with our IT Managed Services clients to jointly create and maintain an up-to-date, effective written technology plan and budget.

If you would like to receive an electronic version of our newsletter please email skinsey@totalnetworks.com



Dave and Stephanie Kinsey
Owners

Newsflash! Electronic Signatures Deemed Legal ...146 Years Ago!

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our modern world, electronic signatures are totally legit.

Now, back to our opening question: “What’s so special about a physical signature?” Why in the world do some entities require you to go through the hassle of inking

your John Hancock on a piece of paper? If the written signature has a special power, then would one’s scribbles hold even more legal weight if it were recorded with a quill like the United States Constitution, or etched upon parchment like the ancient scriptures? The next time your law

office requires a physical signature of you, send them a message by faxing it upon a piece of papyrus.



Read the Rest Online!
<http://bit.ly/1BXuXYX>



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