HANDY CHECKLIST TO PREVENT CYBER ATTACKS

CYBER SECURITY

You can never entirely eliminate the risk that cybercrime will affect your business. What you can do, however, is try to reduce that risk wherever possible. The following 8 tips will help your staff work securely in every online environment. How many can you tick off?

□ **Use anti-virus software.** Make sure all laptops and other devices are protected by anti-virus software to prevent them from accidentally downloading malware.

□ **Perform regular updates.** Hardware and software manufacturers are constantly working on making their products more secure. Check your devices and software to make sure they are up to date and enable automatic updates.

□ **Choose safe settings.** Although default settings can be convenient, they can also make your business vulnerable to cyber threats. Critically examine all settings that are automatically 'on'.

□ **Restrict access.** Minimise the chance of accidental and intentional misuse. Define for individual employees which systems and data access is required for them to perform their work. Extended access rights should only be given to those who need them.

□ **Provide a strong online environment.** Install strong firewalls and internet gateways to protect your network from cyber attacks, unauthorised access and malicious content.

□ **Check third parties thoroughly.** Make sure all external platform providers, suppliers and other third parties you work with have digital security as a top priority.

□ **Continuously monitor the systems.** Hackers don't stop at the end of a working day, on weekends or during holidays. Ensure your systems are constantly monitored and analyse all your systems for any unusual activity that could indicate an attack.

□ **Encourage safe behaviour of employees.** Make your employees aware of online safety and organise regular information sessions about the latest cyber threats and trends. Instructing and training your employees is at least as important as the technology itself.

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