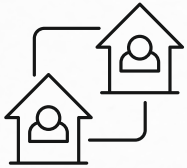


4 Key Steps for Immediate Ransomware Preparedness:



1 Cyber Insurance Carrier

Having a Cyber-Response Company in Retainer Will Help. But your cyber insurance carrier may have a preferred vendor. Communicate with your cyber insurance company and have them validate your response company. The time needed to have legal and insurance approval to proceed may be crucial.



2 Utilize A Strategic & Guidance Team

Unexpected Events Require Intelligent Consideration and Response. Designate a subset of your team to help make major decisions or engage with technical consultant firms that specialize in strategy, guidance and long-term technology posture. Taking time to reflect and consistently looking at the “big picture” will help you succeed in addressing the ransomware event more effectively.



3 Managed Service Provider (MSP) Considerations

Companies Will Rely Heavily on Their MSPs During a Ransomware Event.

Unfortunately, most MSPs tend to have contracts terminated and/or replaced after a ransomware event. An MSP may not be as cooperative during an event if there is no clear definition of roles and responsibilities. If you are using an MSP, make sure you have defined the responsibility of the MSP during a ransomware event either in the Master Service Agreement (MSA) or the Statement of Work (SOW). If you are an MSP, make sure your client has proper Cyber Insurance in your MSA and, when possible, request for a Waiver of Subrogation.



4 Have An Incident Response Process In Place

If Your Company Does Not Have a Documented Incident and Response Process or Playbook, Create One Asap.

Free frameworks are available by many industry leading organization such as the Center of Internet Security (CIS) Incident Response policy template (supplement of CIS Controls v8) and the National Institute of Technology (NIST) Incident Handling Guide (NIST Special Publication 800-61 Rev2).

Overall tip: Keep A Positive Attitude.

Free frameworks are available by many industry leading organization such as leading a company through a ransomware event requires more than the mentioned tips. Some obstacles may be quite overwhelming. Having the mind-set that you will prevail will help your team feel the same way. Remember: A smile and an attitude are contagious.