The OnPar Report

"Insider Tips to Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier and More Profitably"

What's New!

We Won! A sincere thank-you to the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce. We were thrilled to learn that they awared us with the Salute to Business award. Each month they choose a business for outstanding contributions to the business community and continued support of the Chamber. It is truly our pleasure to do both of these things and we are very humbled to join the ranks of previous award winners like our customers the YWCA of Winston-Salem and Windsor Jewelers. We thank you again and are looking forward to a fantastic 2017!

You can read more about this award on page 3!

April 2017

This monthly publication provided courtesy of Jeremy McParlan, President of OnPar Technologies

Our Mission: To help our partners unleash opportunities by implementing innovative technology that is simple, lean and integrated, provide a service and support experience second to none, and build a company that employees are proud to work for and one in which customers trust and enjoy doing business with.

7 Ways To Dodge A Data Disaster!

You stride into the office early one Monday morning. You grab a cup of coffee, flip on your computer and start checking e-mails.... A note pops up that rivets your attention. *"Your files have been encrypted. Send $5,000 within five days or they will all be destoryed."*

You start sweating as your throat constricts and your chest tightens. Sure enough, every time your try to open a document the same message appears. Your phone rings. It's Bob in accounting, and he's having the same problem. All files across your network have been encrypted. You contact the local police. They suggest you call the FBI. The FBI says they can't help you. What do you do next?

a) You pay the five grand, desperately hoping you get your data back.

b) You calmly call your IT pro who says, "No problem, your backups are all current. No files were lost. Everything will be restored by noon, if not sooner..."

If your answer is "b" you breathe a sigh of relief and get back to work as your backup plan kicks in…

Ransomware attacks are more common than ever, especially at smaller companies. That's because small companies make easy marks for hackers. The average small business is much easier to hack than high-value, heavily fortified targets like banks and big corporations.

According to Time magazine, cybersecurity experts estimate that several million attacks occur in the US alone every year. And that figure is climbing.

So how can you make sure you never have to sweat a ransomware attack or other data disaster?

OnPar

One sure solution is having a solid backup plan in place. When all your data and applications can be duplicated, you have plenty of options in the event of an attack. Here then are seven ways to make sure you're in good shape, no matter what happens to your current data:

Insist on regular, remote and redundant processes. A good rule of thumb is 3-2-1. That means three copies of your data is stored in two off-site locations and backed up at least once per day.

Don't cheap out on disk drives. Less expensive arrays that save money can leave your data at risk. Get features like a redundant power supply and hot spare disks.

Guard against human error. Make sure people doing backups know exactly what to do. Take people out of the loop and automate wherever possible. And watch for situations where backups aren't a part of someone's regular duties.

Check backup software settings routinely. When new software or updates are put into service, a change in the way the settings are configured can cause incomplete backups, or backups that fail. Do the people who maintain your backups include this on their regular to-do list?

Make sure critical files aren't getting left out. As resources are added and priorities shift, documents and folders can get misplaced or accidentally left off the backup list. Insist on a quarterly or annual meeting with your backup management team to make sure all mission-critical files are included in your organization's data recovery systems.

Address network issues immediately. Any component in your network that isn't working properly can introduce another point of failure in your backup process. Every juncture in your network, from a misconfigured switch to a flaky host bus adapter, can hurt your backups.

Ask for help with your data backup and recovery system. You cannot be expected to be an expert in all things.

Yet data is the backbone of your business – its protection and recovery should not be left to chance. Leverage the knowledge, skill and experience of an expert who stays current with all the latest IT issues.

Data Recovery Review Reveals Backup System Vulnerabilities

Don't let your company become yet another statistic. Just one ransomware attack can result in a serious financial blow if you're not prepared.

Visit this link to calculate just how much an attack could cost your business: **http://www.onpartech.com/resources/recovery-time-calculator/** TODAY or call us at: **919-926-9619** for a FREE Data Recovery Review, ordinarily a $500 service.

We'll provide you with a complete assessment of your current backup system to check for and safeguard against any gaps that could prove financially lethal to your business.

Free Report! Intro To Cloud Computing: 5 Critical Facts Every Business Owner Must Know Before Moving Their Network To The Cloud!

Intro To Cloud Computing

"5 Critical Facts Every Business Owner Must Know Before Moving Their Network To The Cloud"

Discover What Most IT Consultants Don't Know Or Won't Tell You About Moving Your Company's Network To The Cloud

Read this report to find out:

1. The pros and cons you need to consider before moving to the cloud

2. Migration GOTCHAS (and how to avoid them)

3. The various types of cloud computing options you have (there are more than just one).

4. Answers to important, frequently asked questions you need to know the answers to.

5. What questions you need to ask your IT pro before letting them "sell" you on moving all or part of your network to the cloud.

Download your free report now at: www.onpartech.com/5critical/

OnPar Technologies Receives the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce's Salute to Business Award!

Winston-Salem, NC- March 20, 2017. OnPar Technologies, a North Carolina IT Support Company, has received the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce's Salute to Business Award. Honorees are selected for outstanding contributions to the business community and continued support of the Chamber.

The award is co-sponsored by the Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce and the Twin City Quarter. Also in attendance of the ceremony was the Winston-Salem Journal.

Donna Hall, Director of Business Development for OnPar Technologies stated, "Being an active member of the Winston Salem Chamber plays a vital role in the success of OnPar Technologies. The relationships we form with other members helps to fuel that success. We are very proud to accept the Salute to Business Award from the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce."

OnPar Technologies is a Managed Services and IT Solution provider dedicated to helping businesses unleash opportunities through the implementation of innovative technology that is simple and integrated to compete and profit in the digital age. OnPar is one of the top Microsoft Partners in the United States offering a service and support experience second to none.

Monthly Security Tech Tip

3 Rules To Keeping Your Data Safe In The Cloud!

If you're using any kind of cloud application (and these days, who isn't?), you are right to be concerned about data privacy and security. The company hosting your data is ultimately responsible for keeping hackers out of THEIR network, but most cloud breaches are due to USER ERROR. So it's important that you, the user, are being smart about security. Here are a few things you can easily do to improve security in the cloud:

1. Maintain a STRONG password of at least eight characters with both uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers and symbols.
2. Make sure the device you're using to access the application is secure.
3. "Reverse"-backup your data. If the data in a cloud application is important, make sure you're downloading it from the application and backing it up in another safe and secure location.

OnPars Free Telecommunications Bill Analysis

Are you paying too much for telecommunications services?

OnPar is proud to offer new and existing clients a FREE telecommunications bill analysis! This assessment will analyze and make recommendations based on your current bill that could help you save money in both the short and long term.

Sign up now at: http://www.onpartech.com/telecommunicationsbill/ or call us at: 919-926-9619

Offer expires June 30, 2017

Our Featured Case Study: Ingle Law

Ingle Law, PLLC

Ingle Law, a full-service law office founded in 2011, provides legal assistance for real estate, wills, family, criminal law and much more. Currently the law office is comprised of 5 full time employees as well as 2 abstractors. Since 2011, Ingle Law's staff has been increasing, however, the technology they were using was outdated as it didn't suit the growing number of employees.

With the help of OnPar Technologies, and the implementation of Office 365 Hosted Exchange, Ingle Law was able to experience an increase in efficiency, security, and productivity. As a result of the changes OnPar implemented, Ingle Law now has the technology to suit their rapidly growing firm and attract new talent.

Read more at: **http://www.onpartech.com/resources/case-studies/ingle-law/**