

FEBRUARY 2025



TALKING TECH

HELPING YOUR BUSINESS



FROM DAMIEN'S DESK:

Welcome to February. I am sure you are in full swing of business as usual by now. This month's newsletter includes a great article on Password Managers.

Deploying a password manager allows users to create a secure vault of their passwords. They no longer need to keep using the same password repeatedly. It also replaces the good old little notebook containing your organisation's important passwords. A password manager can also help create strong passwords and house your two factor authentication codes.

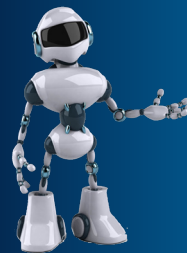
Do you use Microsoft 365? It is a good time to audit your licences and check when your next renewal date is due. Microsoft has recently announced that all licences that are on annual commitment but paid monthly will get a 5% price increase upon the next renewal. We can help you audit your licences to understand the impact and verify that you use the most appropriate licence. Get in touch.

Stay safe and enjoy the sun.



Damien Pepper - Director
dsp IT Solutions

DID YOU KNOW?



A robot named Sophia was granted citizenship in Saudi Arabia in 2017.



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WHAT IS BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Blockchain technology is changing the world. It is a system designed to keep records safe and secure. But how does it work? Let's find out more about this amazing technology.

What is Blockchain?

Blockchain is some kind of digital ledger. In it, information is stored in a manner that makes it hard to change. This ledger is shared among many computers, each one having a copy of the same ledger.

Information is kept within blocks. Each block maintains a list of transactions. As the block gets filled, it connects to the previous block, forming a linked chain of blocks or a blockchain.

How Does Blockchain Work?

Blockchain works by mining. Miners are computers that solve complex math problems. Once they solve these problems, they add new blocks to the chain.

Each block has a unique code called a hash. This hash helps keep the information secure. If anyone tries to change the information, the hash also changes. That way, it's easy to spot any tampering.

Why is Blockchain Secure?

The blockchain is secure because it is made using cryptography.

Cryptography is like a secret code used to protect information. Only the ones who have the right key will be able to read it.

Besides, blockchain is decentralised. That means no one controls it. Several computers are working together to keep it safe.

What Are the Uses of Blockchain?

Many other uses of blockchain exist beyond money. It can track goods in a supply chain, store medical records safely, and even help with voting in elections.

In finance, blockchain powers cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin. These are digital currencies that people can use online.



How Does Blockchain Impact Our Lives?

Blockchain makes transactions faster and cheaper. It removes the need for middlemen like banks. This saves time and money.

It also introduces transparency. Users can view all the transactions made on the blockchain. These actions help to establish trust among users.

What Are the Challenges of Blockchain?

There are challenges regarding the use of blockchain. Much of the mining is power consuming. This might not be suitable for the environment. Besides these issues, there are even more regulatory ones. Governments and agencies don't yet know how to deal with blockchain technology.

What's Ahead for Blockchain?

The future of blockchain is very bright. More industries are exploring its potential every day. In healthcare, it can secure patient data and streamline records. In entertainment, it can protect intellectual property and ensure fair compensation for creators.

Financial services are also benefiting from blockchain, with faster and more secure transactions. Developers are working on making blockchain more efficient and eco-friendlier, addressing environmental concerns. Blockchain is set to revolutionise various industries.

Want to Learn More About Blockchain?

Blockchain technology is fascinating and holds immense potential. It can transform various aspects of our lives for the better. For example, it enhances security by safely storing and sharing data, which is crucial in healthcare. Its transparency fosters trust, making it ideal for supply chain management. Its decentralised nature makes systems more resilient, while smart contracts automate transactions, increasing efficiency.

This is why your business needs Microsoft 365 Business Premium

What's the difference between Microsoft 365 Business Standard and Premium?

Business Standard gives you:

- ✓ A suite of Office apps
- ✓ Teams for collaboration
- ✓ OneDrive's cloud storage



As your business grows, so does the impact of a cyber attack.

Almost **6 in 10** businesses fell victim to ransomware last year.



There are around
6 BILLION
malware attacks per year worldwide.

An attack can cost you:



Time



Money



Trust

Business Premium gives you everything you get with Business Standard, plus:

- ✓ Microsoft Defender
- ✓ Microsoft Intune
- ✓ Purview Information Protection
- ✓ Conditional Access

The cost is higher, but you benefit from:



Better security protection



More control over devices



Safer data

Ready to see what Microsoft 365 Business Premium can do for your business?



Get in touch.

dsp IT
SOLUTIONS

CAN PASSWORD MANAGERS BE HACKED?

Password managers keep our online accounts safe. They store all our passwords in one place. But are they hackable?

What Are Password Managers?

Password managers are like digital vaults: they save all your passwords inside themselves. You need only remember one master password, of course. This makes keeping a lot of accounts much easier to handle.

Can Password Managers be Hacked?

Cyber Criminals always hunt for ways to steal your information. However, breaking into a password manager is not easy.

How Can You Protect Your Password Manager?

- Choose a Strong Master Password. Use a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols.
- Enable Two-Factor Authentication. 2FA adds a layer of security.
- Keep Software Up-to-Date. Updates fix security issues and keep your data safe.

What Happens If a Password Manager Gets Hacked?

- Change your master password immediately.
- Decide which accounts could be affected and change their passwords as well.

- Consider shifting to another password manager.
- Keep up to date with any security news about your manager.

Is the Use of Password Managers Worth the Risk?



- The benefits of using a password manager usually outweigh the risks. They help you create strong, unique passwords for each account.
- Choosing a reputable password manager with good reviews and security features is key. Do some research before deciding which one to use.

Take Control of Your Online Security Today!

Using a password manager will go a long way in enhancing your online security. If you need help in selecting which one, please reach out.

NEED A LAUGH?

Why did the computer break up with the internet?



There was no connection!

FEBRUARY TRIVIA QUESTION . . .

Test your knowledge!

The answer to last month's question was a) Deep Blue. Can you guess the answer to February's trivia question below? The answer will be revealed in next month's newsletter.

What year was the QR code invented?

- a) 1981
- b) 1990
- c) 1987
- d) 1994

