



CTTS TECH TALK

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The anatomy of a cyber-ready business

Technology should make life easier, not more stressful. Yet for many business leaders, keeping up with constant change feels like a full-time job. That's why in this month's lead article, "Why Cyber Readiness Is the Key to Thriving in 2025," I'm sharing what I've learned about building confidence in a world where threats seem to move faster every day. You'll also find two more timely reads; one outlining the essential building blocks of a cyber readiness plan, and another breaking down seven fast-moving threats that can shut a company down overnight.

If you've been putting off system upgrades, here's an important reminder: support for Windows 10 officially ends on October 14th.

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TECH NOTES FROM JOSH WILMOTH

Why Cyber Readiness Is the Key to Thriving in 2025



"If it feels like the world is moving faster than ever—it's because it is."

Running a business in 2025 can feel like you're juggling growth, hiring, operations, and customer expectations... all while cybercriminals are looking for ways to trip you up.

Just this month, the FBI released new numbers showing U.S. businesses lost over \$3 billion to email scams in the last 12 months.

That's not a distant problem, it's happening right here in Texas, to organizations just like yours.

The other two articles in this newsletter dig deeper into that reality. One explains the building blocks of cyber readiness, the practical steps every business can take to prepare. The other unpacks the seven biggest threats that can shut a company down overnight, and why "business as usual" is no longer enough to stay safe.

But here's the encouraging part: cybersecurity isn't about living in fear. I've seen clients across Central Texas go from worrying about every new headline to feeling confident because they had a plan.

When your team is trained, your systems are monitored, and

your backups actually work, you can stop stressing over "what if" and focus on growth.

That's the whole reason CTTS exists. We help you build defenses that fit your business, your budget, and your industry.

And when you're ready, we'll walk you through exactly where you're strong, where you're vulnerable, and what your next steps should be.

Call us at (512) 388-5559 or visit www.CTTSONline.com to schedule your free strategy session.

Because the truth is simple: the businesses that prepare are the ones that thrive.

PS: I saw a meme this week that said: "2025 Cybersecurity Strategy":

Step 1: Don't click it.

Step 2: Seriously, don't click it.

Step 3: Why did you click it?"

Let's make sure your company never ends up as the punchline.

October Birthdays at CTTS!



Ken Partain



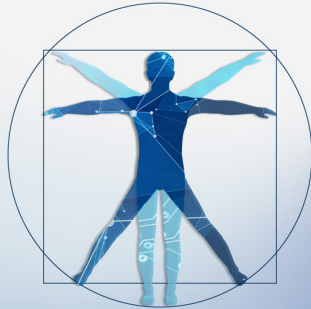
Kurt Schneider



ADVANCED TECH

How Cyber Readiness Protects Businesses from Today's Biggest Threats

Your evolution blueprint.



Cyberattacks are no longer rare. Every business, from local nonprofits to major manufacturers, faces digital risks that can disrupt operations, damage reputations, and erode customer trust. For business leaders in Austin, especially those in Healthcare, Legal, Professional Services, Construction, Manufacturing, and Nonprofits, the question is not if a cyber threat will happen, but when.

The good news is that building cyber readiness does not require a massive budget or a large in-house IT team. With the right strategy and the right partner, you can strengthen your defenses, protect your customers, and run your organization with confidence.

At CTTS, we help Central Texas businesses take intentional steps toward cyber readiness so that they can focus on growth instead of worrying about digital threats.

Why Cyber Readiness Matters

Everyday business now relies on technology, from client records to financial systems. A single attack can result in:

- Costly downtime that stalls operations
- Exposure of sensitive customer or patient information
- Compliance penalties that hurt the bottom line
- Long-term damage to your brand reputation

Cyber readiness ensures that your business has the right safeguards in place to reduce risks, limit damage, and recover quickly when the unexpected happens.

The Building Blocks of Cyber Readiness

Lasting security comes from reinforcing key pillars that work together to create a strong defense.

1. Risk Awareness

Protection begins with clarity. Map out your most critical systems, data, and processes. Identify which assets are vital to daily operations and where vulnerabilities may exist.

Regular assessments help you stay ahead of evolving risks.

2. Prevention and Protection

Cyber readiness goes beyond firewalls. Effective prevention includes:

- Keeping systems updated with security patches
- Using trusted antivirus and anti-malware tools
- Managing access so only authorized users reach sensitive data
- Layering defenses to reduce attack pathways

3. People and Culture

Technology alone cannot stop every threat. Employees play a critical role in cyber readiness. Training staff to recognize phishing attempts, encouraging them to report suspicious activity, and creating a culture of shared responsibility all add powerful layers of protection.

4. Detection and Monitoring

No system is perfect. By monitoring activity in real time, you can detect unusual behavior and respond before it escalates. Establishing baselines of what “normal” looks like helps your team spot irregularities quickly.

5. Response and Recovery

When an incident happens, preparation makes the difference. A cyber-ready business:

- Has clear response procedures documented and tested
- Keeps updated contact lists and communication plans
- Conducts practice drills to stay sharp
- Protects data with frequent, automated backups

6. Continuous Improvement

Cyberthreats evolve constantly. Cyber readiness requires ongoing attention through updated policies, refreshed training, and adjustments after each incident. Businesses that commit to continuous improvement build long-term resilience.

Why CTTS Is the Partner for Cyber Readiness

Many Austin businesses lack the time, resources, or expertise to manage cybersecurity alone. CTTS provides the guidance, tools, and ongoing support you need to stay secure. Our team specializes in working with local organizations in industries where compliance, confidentiality, and uptime matter most.

We act as your dedicated IT partner so you can focus on your business knowing your cybersecurity is in trusted hands. With CTTS, you gain not just protection, but peace of mind.

BIZTECH

7 Cybersecurity Threats That Could Wipe Out Your Business Overnight



The dinosaurs never saw their end coming.

Many businesses are just as unprepared when it comes to cybersecurity threats that can completely disrupt operations, destroy trust, and jeopardize the future of the company.

Cyber incidents are no longer rare. They've become routine. From AI-powered ransomware to deepfake impersonations, today's cybersecurity threats are smarter, more adaptive, and harder to predict. Even more concerning, they are evolving faster than traditional defenses can keep up.

The good news? With preparation and the right IT partner, you can avoid becoming another cautionary tale. Let's explore the seven cybersecurity threats every business leader must take seriously.

Cybersecurity Threat 1: AI-Powered Ransomware

Ransomware is no longer the scattershot attack it used to be. Criminals now use artificial intelligence to analyze targets, identify weaknesses, and lock down entire networks in a matter of hours.

Cybersecurity Threat 2: Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs)

APTs are silent, patient intrusions. They slip into your network, often backed by criminal syndicates or even nation-states, and quietly monitor your systems for weeks or months before striking.

Cybersecurity Threat 3: Supply Chain Attacks

Your business might have strong defenses, but what about your vendors, partners, or software providers? A single weak link in the chain can open the door to an attack that impacts everyone connected.

Cybersecurity Threat 4: Data Breaches

Data breaches don't just expose information. They create a

crisis of trust. Whether it begins with a stolen password, a phishing scam, or a misplaced device, breaches give attackers access to valuable customer and financial data.

Cybersecurity Threat 5: IoT Exploits

Printers, cameras, smart locks, and other connected devices are now part of the workplace. Unfortunately, many Internet of Things (IoT) devices are easy targets because they lack strong security settings or are rarely updated.

Cybersecurity Threat 6: Deepfakes and Social Engineering

We are entering an era where even what you see or hear can't always be trusted. Deepfakes and AI-driven scams allow attackers to impersonate leaders, employees, or partners with alarming accuracy.

Cybersecurity Threat 7: Cloud Misconfigurations

The cloud brings agility and scalability, but it also creates new risks. Simple mistakes like open permissions or misconfigured settings can expose sensitive data to the world.

Survival Belongs to the Prepared

These cybersecurity threats aren't just science fiction. They're here, now, and growing more dangerous every day. The businesses that thrive are the ones that prepare.

At CTTS, we help organizations in Austin, Round Rock, and across Central Texas strengthen their defenses against extinction-level threats. With our team on your side, you gain:

- A clear view of your vulnerabilities
- Proactive monitoring that stops threats before they escalate
- Reliable backup and recovery strategies that minimize downtime
- Strategic planning that evolves with the threat landscape

You don't have to face these challenges alone. Partner with CTTS today and take the first step toward resilience and peace of mind.



Central Texas
Technology Solutions

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