Cybersecurity for Construction Firms Best Practices

Cybersecurity News

What is CrowdStrike?

CrowdStrike is considered one of the leading cybersecurity solutions globally. The NextGen Cybersecurity platform is widely used by enterprises across the globe.

July Outage

A faulty automated software update triggered an outage of 8.5 million Windows systems globally. Over the course of the next 3 days, approximately 95% of the machines had been restored using recovery tools with human intervention.

Lessons Learned

This situation has highlighted the need for two things.

Robust testing and **contingency planning.**

Common Cyber Threats for Construction Firms

Payment Scams

The bad guys know we are holding large sums of money and that we are willing to release payment with only an email approval.

Gift Card Scams

New employees think a decision maker is asking them for an urgent need to pick up gift cards. Most people will default to following orders instead of questioning the authenticity of the request.

Phishing Scams

Use of email or messaging to trick employees into divulging sensitive information, clicking on a malicious link, and making payments.

Ransomware Attacks

Important business data is encrypted and a demand for ransom is made in exchange for the decryption key.

Data Breaches

An unauthorized user gains access to sensitive data stored by the construction firm.

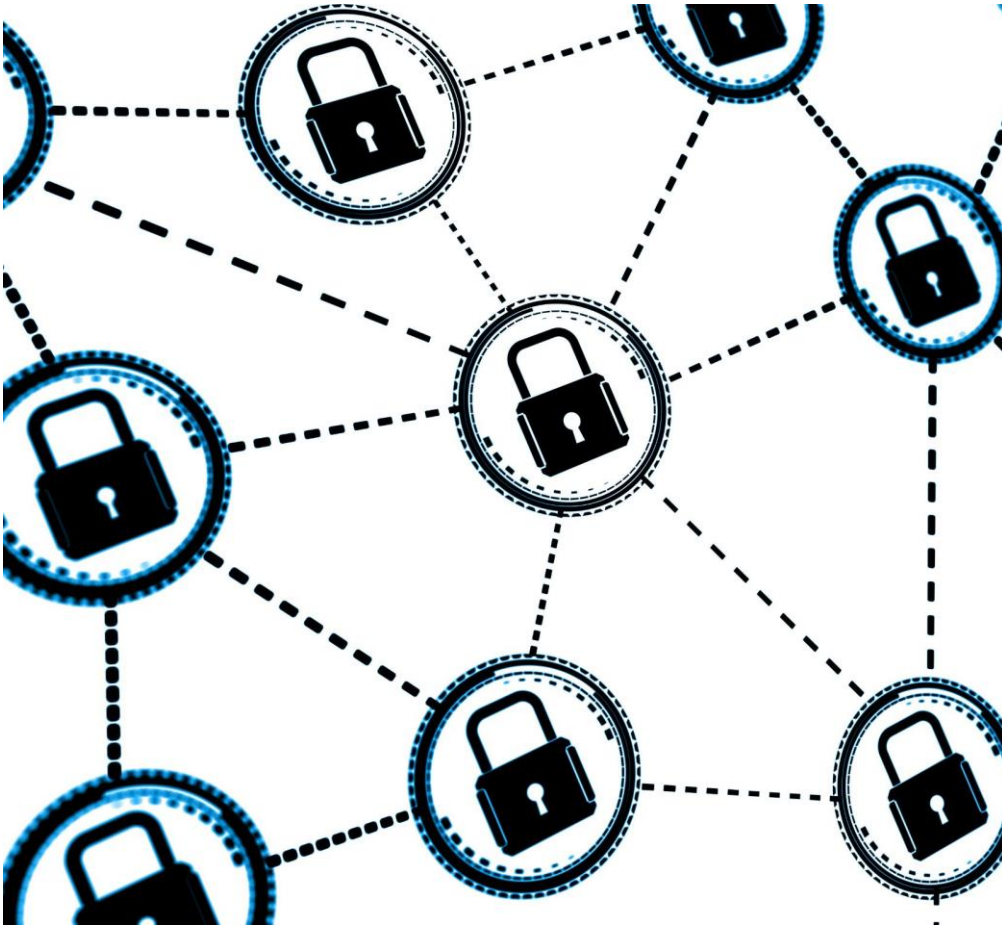**All these threats lead to reputational and financial losses.**

Email Security Best Practices

- Always verify the sender of an email before opening it, especially if the email contains an attachment or link.

- Never reply to an email with sensitive information or click on links or attachments from unknown sources.

- Encrypt sensitive information.

- Configure your email server properly. **Only 10% of those who signed up for this webinar have a properly configured email server.**

- Managed Email Security through active reporting.

Best Practices and Tips for Securing Your Business

Implement a Cyber Defense Strategy

- **Endpoint** (Server, Laptop, Desktop) to **Identity** (User Account)

- Keep Your Software Up to Date

- Backing Up Your Critical Data and **Verification of All Backups**

- Enterprise Password Manager for Strong Passwords

- Test Your Defenses

Train Employees on Cybersecurity Practices

- Two-step Payment Change Verification Process

Contingency Planning

- Build a Business Continuity Plan, *what happens when...*

- At minimum, an annual tabletop exercise

Q&A Session and Key Takeaways

- **Configure Your Email Server!**

- **Encrypt Sensitive Email**

- **Report Fraudulent Email Activity**

- **Implement and Test Your Cyber Defense Strategy**

- **Train Your Employees**

- **Contingency and Continuity Planning**

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