

Stay Informed | Stay Secure | Stay Ahead

# TECHNOLOGY TIMES

## Summer Proof Your Business Technology: Are You Ready?

Summer brings vacations, storms, and a slower pace, but your technology still needs to stay protected. This month, we're sharing practical guidance on the security risks that spike during vacation season, what to check now so your backup is ready for summer storms, and what your team should watch for when cybercriminals take advantage of the season.

## 5 Security Risks That Spike During Vacation Season (And How to Prepare)



Summer vacations help your team recharge, but cybercriminals don't take time off. While employees are away and coverage is light, attackers look for openings. Here are five risks to prepare for:

### 1. Out-of-Office Emails That Reveal Too Much

Automatic replies tell attackers who's away and when they'll return. Keep messages brief and avoid sharing internal contact details.

### 2. Unattended Devices

Idle workstations with saved passwords or unlocked screens create easy access. Require screen locks and use multi-factor authentication for remote access.

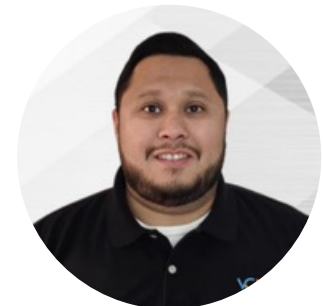
## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Employee of the Month:  
Stana Steen



Stana has demonstrated relentless dedication, exceeding expectations in both revenue generation and opportunity development. Her ability to build strong client relationships, identify growth opportunities, and close high-value deals has had a meaningful impact on our overall success.

Tech Genius of the Month:  
Sergio Gomez



Sergio has put a strong focus on improving how we work. He's spent time refining SOPs and making sure they're clear, usable, and actually help the team be more efficient. Beyond projects, he's contributed to internal process improvements that will continue to benefit the organization.

# Gadget of the Month

## Desktop Battery Backup

Summer storms can strike without warning, and a single power surge can damage hardware or corrupt files.

A desktop battery backup (UPS) keeps your computer, monitor, and modem running during brief outages while protecting against voltage spikes and giving you time to save work and shut down properly.

Make sure your UPS has enough capacity for your equipment and replace the unit every 3-5 years as batteries degrade over time.



**Backups stored in one place** – If drives sit next to the server, they're vulnerable to the same damage.

**Slow recovery times** – You need solutions that restore quickly, not eventually.

**No clear plan** – Does your team know who handles recovery when disaster strikes?

What a Strong Strategy Includes:

- Frequent, automated backups
- Offsite or cloud-based copies
- Regular testing
- Fast recovery options
- Clear documentation
- Monitoring and alerts

At Vector Choice, we monitor, test, and build backups for business continuity, not just data storage.

## 3. Notify IT Team Before Travel

If you have upcoming travel plans, please email [support@vectorchoice.com](mailto:support@vectorchoice.com) in advance with your travel dates and destination so our SOC team can pre-approve exceptions and prevent your account from being inadvertently blocked.

## 4. Public Wi-Fi During Travel

Employees checking work email over public networks risk exposing credentials. Require VPN use for any remote access.

## 5. Over-Sharing on Social Media

Posting vacation plans in real time signals when you're unavailable. Encourage employees to share photos after they return.

You don't have to cancel summer to stay secure, just prepare your team and tighten access controls. At Vector Choice, we provide 24/7 monitoring and proactive support, so your IT doesn't take a vacation when your team does.

## Is Your Backup Ready for Summer Storm Season?

A sudden storm can take your systems offline in seconds. If your backup isn't tested and ready, you could face hours or days of lost productivity.

### Common Backup Gaps:

**Backups that haven't been tested** – If you've never restored from backup, you don't know if it works.

**Backups that are too old** – Three-day-old backups mean three days of lost work.



## Why Cybercriminals Love Summer (And What Your Team Should Know)

Cybercriminals count on summer. Reduced staffing, delayed responses, and distracted employees create perfect conditions for attacks.

What Makes Summer Attractive to Attackers:

- Reduced coverage – Response times slow when key people are out
- Out-of-office replies – They reveal who to impersonate and when
- Vacation-themed phishing – Fake travel emails target distracted employees
- Personal devices over public Wi-Fi – Security protections get bypassed
- Relaxed pace – Lower vigilance means threats slip through

## Tech Tips You Can Use Right Now: June Recap

### 1 Social Media Oversharing

What you post can give hackers information to craft phishing attacks, guess passwords, or impersonate you to coworkers.

### 2 Unused App Cleanup

Outdated apps create security vulnerabilities, uninstall what you don't use to reduce risk and improve device performance.

### 3 Mobile Security Checklist

Use biometric locks, avoid public charging, keep your OS updated, enable device tracking, and turn on encryption.

### 4 Your Phone is a Security Risk

Between email, banking, customer data, and company files, your phone holds the keys to your business, protect it accordingly.

Want the July tech tips before next month's recap?

Sign up for our weekly tech tip emails now by scanning the QR code below:





#### What Your Team Should Watch For:

- Emails creating urgency ("Your account will be locked")
- Messages from coworkers who are on vacation
- Unexpected attachments or links
- Requests that bypass normal processes

#### Keep Your Defenses Strong:

- Send a security refresher before vacation season
- Use multi-factor authentication everywhere
- Monitor systems even when coverage is light
- Notify your IT team in advance

At Vector Choice, we provide 24/7 monitoring and proactive threat detection that doesn't take a vacation.

## New HIPAA Security Rules: Get Ready With A Compliance Audit

The HIPAA Security Rule has been updated, and organizations that handle protected health information need to review their compliance posture.

Vector Choice is now offering HIPAA Compliance Readiness Audits to help you identify gaps, strengthen controls, and prepare for audits. We'll review your security measures, documentation, and processes, then give you a clear path forward. Schedule your HIPAA Compliance Readiness Audit now! <https://vectorchoice.com/hipaa-compliance-audit>

## FREE Report: IT Buyers Guide



Small businesses need reliable technology, strong cybersecurity, and fast support, but hiring a full in-house IT team can be expensive.

With the right partner, your business can spend less time reacting to IT problems and more time focusing on growth.

Want to know what to look for in an IT partner? Download our free IT Buyer's Guide.

<https://vectorchoice.com/it-buyers-guide>