# NEWCAPITAL

# CYBER SAFETY

# Protect yourself and your personal information\*

Cybercrime is a growing and serious threat, making it essential that fraud prevention is part of our daily activities. Put these safeguards in place as soon as possible—if you haven't already.

# 1 CYBER SAFETY Tips

- Create separate email accounts for work, personal use, alert notifications and other interests
- Be cautious of clicking on links or attachments sent to you in emails
- 3 Use secure messaging tools when transmitting sensitive information via email or text message
- Create strong passwords and change them regularly
- 5 Do not use the same password for multiple accounts
- 6 Minimize the use of unsecured, public networks
- At work, limit web usage to core, business-related sites
- At home, set up a primary network and a separate one for guests and children
- Install anti-virus software on all your devices and keep it up-to-date
- Be prudent in what you share about yourself and your job via social media

#### **Email**

- ✓ Use separate email accounts: one each for work, personal use, user IDs, alerts notifications, other interests
- Choose a reputable email provider that offers spam filtering and multi-factor authentication
- Use secure messaging tools when replying to verified requests for financial or personal information
- ✓ Encrypt important files before emailing them
- ⊗ Do not open emails from unknown senders

#### **Passwords**

- Create complex passwords that are at least 10 characters; use a mix of numbers, upper- and lowercase letters and special characters
- √ Change passwords at least four times a year
- √ Consider utilizing a password management tool
- On not use the same password for multiple accounts
- Do not click "Remember my password" or "Remember me" on websites you visit

# Mobile

- √ Keep screen lock on; choose strong passwords and use biometric tools when available
- √ Select a device with anti-theft features
- √ Turn off Bluetooth when it's not needed
- √ Regularly update apps (e.g., security patches)
- √ Securely back up your data
- √ Review your privacy, location and password settings
- Pay attention to the information an app can access and regularly review permissions
- Enable remote automatic wipe in settings to ensure your personal information is erased automatically if you report your device as lost
- ⊗ Do not click on ads when surfing the internet

# Internet usage

- ✓ Download software only from trusted sources
- Log out of sites instead of simply closing the session window
- √ Look for https:// for secure session validation
- ✓ Enable private browsing whenever possible
- ✓ Delete cookies regularly
- Do not click on links from unknown or untrustworthy sources
- Do not allow ecommerce sites to store your credit card information
- Do not click on pop-up windows to close them; instead use the "X" in the upper right hand corner of the screen

# Public Wi-Fi/hotspots

- √ Minimize the use of unsecured, public networks
- √ Turn off auto connect to non-preferred networks
- √ Turn off file sharing
- √ When public Wi-Fi cannot be avoided, use a virtual private network (VPN) to help secure your session
- ✓ Disable ad hoc networking, which allows direct computer-to-computer transmissions
- Never use public Wi-Fi to enter personal credentials on a website; hackers can capture your keystrokes

### Home networks

- Create one network for you, another for guests and children
- Change the default password to your wireless network
- √ Turn on router's WPA2 encryption and firewall
- Enable "Do not broadcast" on your primary network's name (SSID) via the router software
- ⊗ Do not use default router names/passwords

# Virus and malware protection

- √ Install anti-virus and ad-blocking software and keep it up-to-date
- Keep software, browser and operating systems upto-date
- √ Regularly back up your data
- ⊗ Do not install or use pirated software
- ⊗ Do not install file-sharing programs
- ⊗ Do not set email to auto-open attachments

# Social engineering

- Confirm the identity of anyone requesting information or access to your data or devices via an alternate, verified method
- Limit the amount of personal information you post online
- √ Review privacy settings on social media accounts
- Do not open an attachment from someone you know if you are not expecting it; call to confirm before clicking
- Do not assume a request is genuine just because the requester knows information about you or your company
- Do not use personal information widely available on social media (pet's name, child's birthdate) to protect online accounts

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# When selecting services, software and equipment, consider the following:

# **Email providers**

Email is one of the most essential online services used today. If your email is compro-mised, your personal information (accounts, communications, phone numbers, addresses, etc.) can be stolen. The best email providers surround your information with several layers of security.

#### FEATURES TO LOOK FOR

#### AUTHENTICATION

Provides secure authentication to help prevent spam and spoofing.

#### VIRUS SCANNING

Email is scanned for malicious content by the provider.

#### SPAM FILTERING

Providers should filter spam messages from

#### PHISHING PROTECTION

Identifies potential phishing emails.

Look for a provider that offers multi-factor authentication and an intuitive interface.

# **Password managers**

Weaknesses stem from how individuals choose and manage passwords, which can make it very easy for hackers to access them and break into individual accounts.

Password management tools help users store and organize passwords, and can even provide additional features, such as form filling and password generation.

#### SYNCHRONIZATION

A password manager should allow secure access from anywhere and synchronize across devices.

#### PASSWORD GENERATOR

Can automatically generate strong, complex

#### ENCRYPTION

Passwords should be stored with at least 256-bit AES encryption.

#### MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

Offers multi-factor authentication.

Look for a password management tool that supports the types of browsers, operating systems and mobile devices you use.

# Virus and malware protection

If you use a computer or mobile device for web surfing, shopping, banking, email and instant messaging and do not have adequate protection, you are a higher risk for becoming a victim.

Running real-time anti-virus products and keeping them up-to-date is an essential step to reduce risks from malware.

#### DETECTION

Should detect existing and new variations of malicious software.

#### CLEANING

Effectively quarantines or removes malicious software from an infected device.

#### PROTECTION

Helps maintain a healthy system by proactively preventing malicious infection.

# PERFORMANCE

Does not slow down your system.

#### PARENTAL CONTROLS

Optional feature to help limit content when devices are being used by children.

#### **BACK-UPS**

**GUEST NETWORK** 

Optional back-up protection in case of system

Allows for a separate and secure network and

credentials for guests and children.

Consider the number of devices that each vendor will allow the software to be installed on per license subscription purchase.

# Wireless routers

A wireless router allows you to connect devices to the internet and communicate with other devices on your network.

Routers are like computers, with their own operating systems, software and vulnerabilities. If hackers gain access to your router, they can gain access to your files, log key strokes, access your accounts and can infect devices on your network.

#### **AUTO-UPDATE**

Choose a router that automatically updates its software, also known as firmware.

#### FIREWALL

Secures your network from intruders.

Look for a router with a range that fits the size of your home and supports the

number of devices you want to connect to it.

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