

# TECHNOLOGY TIMES

*Insider Tips To Make Your Business Run Faster, Easier, And More Profitably*

By Computer Networks of Roanoke, Inc.  
Serving Roanoke and surrounding areas since 2006

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“As a business owner, you don’t have time to waste on technical and operational issues. That’s where we shine! Call us and put an end to your IT problems finally and forever!”

**Hank Wagner, Owner/Founder  
Computer Networks of Roanoke**

*IT Guru, Published Author, and Trusted  
Advisor to Medical Practice Administrators  
and Business Owners*

**TARGET**

## Hidden Facts in the 2013 Target Data Breach

Shortly after Target reported that 40 million of its customer credit card accounts had been hacked, they hired Verizon to run probes and security scans on their network “in anticipation of litigation”, presumably from the banks that lost money on the stolen credit card numbers. According to a report obtained by KrebsOnSecurity, once the hackers gained access to the Target network, there were no controls in place to prevent access to any Point of Sale register at any Target store.

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## Predictable Results Predictable Fee

We do it all...HIPAA Security Risk Analysis, Backup and Disaster Recovery (required for HIPAA Compliance), Network Administration, Help Desk, Hardware Sales/Service, Hardware Refreshes/Installs, IT Consulting. And, we do that for businesses with as few as 10 PCs.

We are looking for a select number of new clients in the medical and professional services fields.

If you are dissatisfied with the level of service you are getting from your current IT Vendor, pick up the phone, call me, Hank Wagner, at 757-333-3299 x232, or email [hank.wagner@computernetworksinc.com](mailto:hank.wagner@computernetworksinc.com) so we can chat a bit about your needs. ❖

## Mexico Traveler Warning!!

If you are traveling to Mexico and need to use the ATM machine in a foreign country, please listen:

There are organized “gangs” who are bribing the ATM repairmen to place “skimmers” inside the ATM machines where they cannot be seen by you. These skimmers suck in your card and PIN info so that they can empty your bank account or max out your credit card.

You can detect those compromised machines because the crooks are using a Bluetooth card inside so that they can just get within Bluetooth distance to upload the stolen information.

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It seems that the culprit was malware contained in an email that was downloaded and opened by a staff member at Fazio Mechanical, a small Pennsylvania Heating and Air Conditioning company. Fazio was the HVAC contractor for Target and had a VPN tunnel onto the Target network. Crooks stole the network credentials for the Target network that Fazio's techs used to connect.

**The Takeaway:**

- Insure that your IT Vendor has a UTM firewall in place that checks for malware
- that you are running antispysware and antivirus on your network
- that the antivirus software is updated hourly and scans in real time
- that the antivirus software runs a complete scan nightly on EVERY machine
- that your staff is trained not to open emails from people that they do not know

The Target data breach of 40 million records was caused by a single staff member not being vigilant. While you cannot sit next to every staff member all day, every day, watching what they do, you can install a good antivirus/anti-malware software coupled with some Data Loss Prevention (DLP) software that will monitor for exceptions to the rules you write.



**Let us help!** Call our office and receive a FREE Audit to uncover gaps in your company's network.

Our highly trained team of IT pros will come to your office and conduct this comprehensive audit. We'll then prepare a customized "Report of Findings" that reveals specific vulnerabilities and a prioritized Plan of Attack for getting any problems addressed fast. ❖

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# Disaster Recovery

We have most of our clients on an offsite Backup and Disaster Recovery program that makes hourly backups onsite and then moves that data offsite at the end of the day.

No more tapes. No more external hard drives. No more changing tapes every morning. No more having to wait for the backup to finish before going back to work.

An offsite BUDR (Backup and Disaster Recovery) program is generally considered to be the best way to protect your business from data loss. And that data loss can occur from something as simple as a Vendor deleting your entire client database (this is a real story with a happy ending thanks to our program), employee mischief, to such things as fire or theft, or even the approaching hurricane Joaquin. And, don't forget about Hurricane Sandy or Isabel or Katrina. A lot of businesses lost **all** their customer data, accounts receivable, other Intellectual Property during these events and never reopened their doors.

*If you want to be able to recover your business after something bad happens, give me a call and we can chat about ways to do that. ❖*

# Windows 10 Is Going To Be A Hit

We have spent some time in the office with Windows 10 and have come to the conclusion that Microsoft got it right this time.

The Operating System is relatively user friendly and has not caused me to want to stab myself in the eyeballs with a sharp pencil yet, so I am going to call it a success.

If you recall, Microsoft has a history of some poorly designed Operating Systems mixed in between some really good ones:

Windows NT/3.11	Good
Windows 95	Good
Windows 98	Good
Windows ME	Horrible
Windows 2000	Good
Windows XP	Great
Windows Vista	Fair
Windows 7	Great
Windows 8	Horrible
Windows 8.1	Bad
Windows 10	Great

News from [www.technewsworld.com](http://www.technewsworld.com)

## Exploding Chip Could Thwart Cyberthieves

September 22, 2015



Researchers at Xerox PARC have developed a self-destructing mechanism for microchips embedded on a hardened glass surface. The glass can self-destruct upon command and could be used to secure personal data such as health and banking records. It also can be used to destroy encryption keys stored on memory chips in standard consumer, enterprise and government electronic devices.

## Feds Award \$500M Credit-Monitoring Contract Following OPM Breach

September 23, 2015



The U.S. government spends millions of dollars on IT systems designed to prevent cybersecurity attacks, but they still occur. Government agencies are hopeful that the learning curve will improve dramatically, and breaches will be reduced. In the meantime, what happens to people affected by a breach after an attack succeeds? This year, the OPM was hit with one of the biggest hack attacks ever.

## Malware Jumps Apple's Garden Wall

September 22, 2015



Developers who unknowingly used a malicious tool to code their programs uploaded hundreds of malware-infected apps to the iTunes App Store, China-based iOS developers reportedly discovered last week. Security researchers around the world have analyzed it. Called "XcodeGhost," the malware is hidden in an unauthorized version of a program Apple distributes to create iOS apps.

## OPM's Latest Bad News: 5.6 Million Fingerprints Lifted

September 25, 2015



The Office of Personnel Management on Wednesday revealed that the hackers who penetrated its records system stole 5.6 million fingerprints of federal employees -- five times the 1.1 million originally reported. The cyberattack, which came to light this spring, compromised the Social Security numbers and other sensitive information of 21.5 million people.

To protect yourself from this particular scam:

- Stand near the ATM
- Pull out your smartphone
- Go to the Bluetooth section
- Start a Bluetooth scan
- Look for Free2move

*If you see the Free2move Bluetooth, then the ATM machine is one of the ones compromised.*

Brian Krebs ([www.krebsonsecurity.com](http://www.krebsonsecurity.com)) spent 4 days in several cities in Mexico and found these Bluetooth skimmers everywhere he went including the hotel lobby where he was a guest.

### The Takeaway:

**Steer clear of the Mexican ATM machines and only withdraw funds from a Teller at the Bank. ❖**

## A CULTURE OF SECURITY

The Internet is like the Wild West of olden days. While it has brought speed and convenience to our lives, both personal and business, the Internet comes with ever increasing threats.

Your business must develop a "culture" of security. Size of your business matters not. Your customer's identity is the Grand Prize for these folks.

Every day your computer network is being threatened from the Internet by bad people intent on finding information to steal. Your firewall may have no control over the web sites your staff may visit. Plus, criminals are sending malware "phishing" emails to your staff daily, which will infect your network if opened. Times are a-changin', folks. You have to protect yourself using modern, business grade tools.

Let me know if you want to talk about how to protect your business from the bad people.

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**The Lighter Side:**

## **THE HAIRCUT**

Blessed are those that can give without remembering, and take without forgetting.

One day a florist went to a barber for a haircut. After the cut, he asked about his bill, and the barber replied, 'I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week.' The florist was pleased and left the shop. When the barber went to open his shop the next morning, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen roses waiting for him at his door.

Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week.' The cop was happy and left the shop. The next morning when the barber went to open up, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen donuts waiting for him at his door.

Then a Congressman came in for a haircut, and when he went to pay his bill, the barber again replied, 'I can not accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week.' The Congressman was very happy and left the shop. The next morning, when the barber went to open up, there were a dozen Congressmen lined up waiting for a free haircut.

And that, my friends, illustrates the fundamental difference between the citizens of our country and the politicians who run it.

As Ronald Reagan said:

**BOTH POLITICIANS AND  
DIAPERS NEED TO BE  
CHANGED OFTEN, AND FOR  
THE SAME REASON!**

# EMV Credit Cards Required Today

## What Is An EMV Card And Why Do I Care?

Short for EuroPay, MasterCard and Visa, EMV chips create a one-time-use code needed for each purchase, which makes stolen card numbers less valuable on the black market. Consumers may see slightly longer transaction times as in-store readers run the EMV cards, assuming merchants have set up the new payment terminals in time.

Thursday, October 1, 2015 is the deadline for merchants to have installed the new card readers, although industry watchers don't expect every merchant to meet Thursday's deadline, which was set last year by MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American Express. Retailers do have an incentive to act quickly, though. Stores that don't have EMV-reading terminals will need to pay out of pocket on in-store purchases made with counterfeit cards. ATMs and gas pumps will face the same liabilities in 2017. ❖

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## Microsoft's Version of Trick or Treat

