



Technology has become the driving force throughout organizations of every size and every industry. Companies that don't embrace technology to fuel their business will be left behind by companies automating, creating efficiencies, achieving scale, and providing a super customer experience all with the help of technology. Operational benefits are endless, but perhaps even more concerning is the liability that companies assume when they don't embrace a solid footing with technology, and this time we are talking about security.

**THE ISSUE** Cyber security is in the news nightly, from data breaches to unauthorized access, it's clear that even the world's largest companies are failing at securing their networks and software applications. If Target, Home Depot, and Anthem can't defend themselves, what hope does the average SMB company have?

You might think you don't have the quantity or quality of data as these Fortune 500 Companies, so you may not be a likely target of attack, but that could not be further from the truth. The internet we know and love today is one of great peril. Every endpoint (PC, Phone, Server, TV, and soon light bulbs, refrigerators, and thermostat) is a target. The endpoint themselves may be useless, or they may be a gateway to the

rest of the home, business, or corporate network. Sadly, after an endpoint has been hijacked, it can be used to perpetuate further attacks on new endpoint, and on and on. There are entire organizations, nation states, and even individual players attacking every device, every day, looking for access to endpoints, and they don't care where they come from. We are all targets.

SMB clients will never have the resources, the expertise, or the ambition to put up the defenses required to maintain a safe operating environment. It takes awareness, research, training, education, and above all, qualified engineers to implement, secure, and harden systems in a way that is cost-effective and flexible enough for small budgets.



**DEFINING THE ACTUAL RISK** Many organizations realize they are at risk for these types of exposures, but it may be difficult to assess what the actual ramifications are. Depending on your organization, you may have legal and compliance needs to adhere to, where the implications of ignoring security are specific. Nearly every organization should assess the impact of such events on loss of customer trust and damage to the company's reputation. There can be tremendous impact due to unavailable resources and complete network downtime, which can degrade business operations for days, weeks, and longer. In addition, some of latest variants of attacks can incapacitate a business by holding files for ransom, or even directly attacking company and personal bank accounts.

**HOW TO WIN** With exposure in all areas of IT, GadellNet can help bring a world of enterprise and corporate security knowledge to the table. We work all day, every day with businesses in every industry and we follow leading sources of technology information. Our operational teams implement solutions recommended and vetted by our Technology and Security Offices to ensure they meet all functional requirements and take security seriously. Our dedicated industry Business Technology Architects have their hand on the pulse of specified industries, watching technology trends for new products, as well as threats and other current events in that particular industry.

**Throughout the organization, we bring enterprise policy and perspective to the table:**

- » Asset Management
- » Policy Development
- » Hardware and Software Standards
- » Standard Security Policies

**We implement and support reliable and secure technologies throughout the IT stack:**

- » Managed Antivirus and Antispam Protection
- » Enterprise Firewall Products with VP & Remote Connectivity
- » On-Premise and Cloud Image-based Backup
- » Physical, Virtual, and Hybrid Cloud Server Implementations
- » Enterprise File-Sharing

**WHERE TO START** The first step of protection begins with an assessment by a qualified third-party. Engage a resource who understands your industry and will provide results that specify the business impact of the findings.

**GadellNet offers services to assess and clarify IT risk including:**

- » IT Technology Environment Assessment
- » External Security Assessment
- » Compliance Readiness Assessments
- » Disaster Recovery Planning
- » Strategic CIO-Level Consulting Services

**SUMMARY** We work to ensure integrity of all data, confidentiality of sensitive information on all platforms we select and use. We recognize few solutions make a perfect option for every client, and we spend lots of time making sure the investments we make with client's budgets are sound. We recognize the threat landscape for small business is immense, while the funds to secure the network and technology are rarely able to match that need.