

TECHNOLOGY INSIDER



2024

Your monthly newsletter, written for humans not geeks

DID YOU KNOW...

Firewalls are named after concrete walls?



We also have firewalls made of steel in the floorboards of our cars.

Book a Call With the Team



TechFacts

1

810 million websites use WordPress as their CMS (Content Management System). **That's 43% of all websites on the internet. And more than 500 sites are built using WordPress every day.**

2

56.5% of all email is spam. Not all of this gets through to us, thanks to junk mail filters, but more than a third of our inbox is spam email.



Technology update

Nearby sharing is about to become easier in Windows 11

Microsoft is testing an update that will streamline its nearby sharing feature in Windows 11.

If tests go well, when you enable nearby sharing through quick settings, both Wi-Fi and Bluetooth will automatically be enabled too if they're switched off. If you turn off Wi-Fi or Bluetooth, nearby sharing will also turn off.

NEW TO

MICROSOFT

Voice Access takes over from Windows speech recognition

Microsoft has officially deprecated Windows speech recognition, which means there will be no further updates for the feature. It's being replaced by Voice Access, which is available in Windows 11 version 22H2 or later.

Voice Access has more capabilities as well as supporting more dialects. If you aren't using Windows 11, speech recognition will still work.

3

The US has most active Twitter (X) users at 77.75 million. Japan comes in second, with 58.2 million, and India is third, with 24.45 million. **The UK comes in fifth place, with 19.05 million active users.**



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"You don't have to be a genius or a visionary or even a college graduate to be successful. You just need a framework and a dream."

Michael Dell, CEO of Dell



FEBRUARY'S FUN TECH QUIZ - WHO WILL BE THE QUIZ VALENTINE?

1. Which AI company is considering making its own AI chip?
2. How old will Google turn later this year?
3. Which social media platform wants to go ad-free?
4. In which year did the first virtual event take place?
5. What was the first mobile phone with internet connectivity?

The answers are below.

1. Open AI
2. 26
3. X (Twitter)
4. 1993 (It was a virtual trade show)
5. The Nokia 9000 Communicator, back in 1996



VOICE CONTROL

Encryption: Your security must-have

Keeping sensitive business data safe is a top priority. When you're managing a team of employees that use PCs, phones, and tablets, the importance of encryption can't be stressed enough.

Encryption is a secret code for your digital information. It scrambles your data into an unreadable format, and only someone with the right "key" can unscramble and access it. Think of it as a lock and key system for your digital assets, ensuring that even if someone gains unauthorised access to your devices or data, they can't make head nor tail of it without the key.

Your business likely stores tons of sensitive information, from financial records to customer data. Encryption ensures that even if a device is lost or stolen, your data remains safe and confidential.

And there are loads of other benefits too...

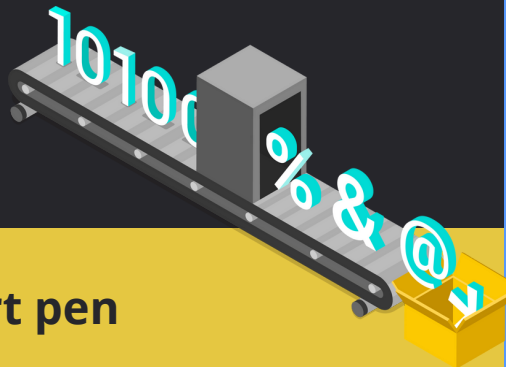
- Lots of industries have strict regulations regarding data security and privacy (think GDPR). Encryption helps you stay compliant, avoiding expensive fines and legal troubles.
- When clients or customers know that you take their data security seriously, it builds trust. People are more likely to do business with a company that safeguards their information.

- With the rise of remote work, your employees might be accessing company data from various locations. Encryption ensures that sensitive information is secure no matter where they are.
- Encrypting your emails and messages keeps your communication confidential, protecting sensitive business discussions and strategies.

When you're setting up encryption for the first time you need to think about both device encryption and data encryption. You also need to consider encryption both while data is at rest (where it's stored) and when it's in transit (being sent from person to person). And while that may sound intimidating, you don't have to do it alone - we can help.

You may also consider training your people on encryption best practice, to make sure there are no weak links in your team. After all, it only takes one false move to leave your data vulnerable. Helping everyone understand the importance of encryption and how to use it effectively is a strong protective measure.

If this is something we can help you do, we'd love to assist. Get in touch.



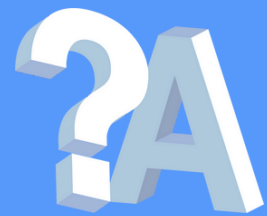
Business gadget of the month

Livescribe Echo 2 smart pen

Sometimes, taking notes with pen and paper is simply easier. You may be on the go, in a meeting without your laptop, or it might just help you think better.

But when you're jotting down your notes, wouldn't it be great if your pen remembered every stroke and saved a digital copy too? That's what this smart pen does. Not only that, but you can record audio on it too and play back what was being said when you made a specific note. Smart.

£114.95 from Amazon.



Q: Can I use my browser's built-in password manager?

A: It's a bad idea. Dedicated password managers are more secure and designed for business use. We can help you find the most suitable one.

Q: When should I replace employee PCs?

A: There comes a point when it starts to cost more to maintain a device than it would to replace it. Typically, the lifespan of a PC is around 5 years. If you'd like an audit of your devices, we can help.

Q: Does my business have to upgrade to Windows 11?

A: No. But it's a good idea if you want to take advantage of some of the new features designed to aid business productivity. We can help make the process easy - get in touch.

This is how you can get in touch with us:

CALL: 01908 410261

EMAIL: business@yourcloudworks.com

WEBSITE: www.yourcloudworks.com

