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Inquiring Minds...

Happy Father's Day!

‘Micro-learning’ features five-minute courses. How do you train people who gulp down information in 10-second bites then move on?

Let them train themselves. Thanks to smartphones, on-demand entertainment and social media, the average attention span in North America dropped from 12 seconds in 2000 to 8 seconds in 2015, according to a 2015 Microsoft study. Attention span is the time a person can stay focused on a single task and filter out distractions. So, large employers are using micro-learning apps and websites to deliver training in short lessons. The practice is becoming favored because workers who want the training take less time out of their work day to get it.

Try LinkedIn, Lynda.com, Grovo and Duolingo for a few new skills. They include a mix of video and interactive lessons that take under five minutes and include a quiz for a variety of topics from business applications to language instructional videos. Companies make the lessons available to users whenever they want to access them online or with their smartphones. For example, Duolingo is used by Uber Technologies in Mexico and other South American countries. Uber offers it to drivers who want to brush up on their English so they can attract more fares.

Micro-learning encourages workers through spaced repetition, which is more effective than cramming a lot of content into a long in-person seminar.



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Laughable Notes From Fathers. Here are a few lighter laughable notes we gathered to brighten your mood and share with your coworkers, friends and family. Enjoy!

- Dear Tech Support: Last year I upgraded from a Girlfriend 9.0 to a Wife 1.0 and I noticed that there seems to be a program I am unfamiliar with, “the child processing unit”? It seems very expensive and takes up a lot of resources, is there any way to downgrade?
- Son: “Why does your desktop background say Hello?”
 Father: “Because it’s A Dell!”
- A father’s classic post on his son’s Facebook wall: “Dear Son, How are you? All are fine here. We miss you. Please turn off the computer now and come downstairs for dinner!”
- You know you’re a good father when sleeping in is a gift you get for Father’s Day. Otherwise, you’re tired all the time and the little amount of shuteye you do get is just enough juice to get you through your work day and catch the kiddos in the evening.

How To Make Computing As Exciting As The Smell Of Funnel Cakes

Hands down, summer is my favorite time of year. Getting out in the sun, carefree, enjoying festivities, and family. There is nothing better! Until, you get the dreaded call from the office about some critical piece of equipment that is suddenly misbehaving. What can you do but wish computing made you feel as excited as the smell of that funnel cake you’re sharing with your significant other?

Of course, we cannot make your network smell that good but if you call today we will give you a **FREE Network Security Audit** to ensure everything is running smoothly for your next vacation.

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JR-Tech Times



Are You Worried About Cybercriminals and Hacker’s Getting Into Your IT System?
 Give JR-Tech a call today for a **FREE Cybersecurity Assessment** including vulnerability and penetration testing.
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5 Ways To Help Your Business Grow And Flow Though The Dreaded Teen Years

Do you own or operate a thriving business with strong roots? Has your organization been around for 10+ years, but you’re still carefully managing costs and tweaking operations? Streamlining your expenses is a great way to keep your company flowing through its next phase of growth.



Simple solutions to help you focus on growth. We’ve worked with hundreds of businesses in every phase of growth from the small two-man shows on up to the corporate level. Here are a few things we’ve learned that will help you make it through the teen years.

Managing expectations and making decisions for your operations. We always see articles that say, “Work on your business, not in your business.” Sometimes it is hard to say what this truly means. Sure, you can avoid everyday operations, but at some level you will always be making decisions for the betterment of your company. Inevitably, you will need to know exactly how things work and what needs improvement. You may even have to work in each department for a time to move things along in the right direction. So, we decided to give you a jump on your assessments. Here are 7 great ways to help you sail through the next ten years of growth.

1. Make sure you can get the work done. Your biggest resource is your staff. Unfortunately, their productivity is a balancing act. The general rule of thumb states if they are only 50% utilized they are bored, if they are 100% utilized they are stressed, but if you can keep your employees at about 80% they are productive and feel accomplished. The trouble is, your technology must support this trend as well. Inconsistent access to files, programs, or even

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Look Inside The IT World

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Father’s Day Tech Gifts

Fathers today don’t want ties, they want cool new technology they can actually use to be more productive, save time, and energy. Take a look at these great gifts for Dad this Father’s Day.

Fitbit Charge 2 - \$150 Want to encourage Dad to get back in shape? I’m sure he knows he’s not getting any younger, but the new Fitbit is a great way for him to track his progress with continuous heart-rate tracking, GPS, and personalized cool down breathing exercises.

HP’s Sprocket Portable Photo Printer - \$130 This handy little portable printer is a fun tool that is compatible with iPhone and Android smartphones. You can print photos on the go.

Google Home - \$129 This one is really a great gift Dad is sure to love. The stylish new Google Home smart speaker is a new rival to the Amazon Echo. Google’s AI-powered Google Assistant is

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5 Ways To Help Your Business Grow...

(Continued from page 1)

just the Internet can cause major disruptions for workflow and ultimately cost you a lot of money. Your staff are only as good as the tools they use to complete their tasks.

2. Be ready to expand with scalable resources. No, we're not saying you should have a dozen extra desks piled high in a spare office, we're talking about your files, programs, and devices. Some solutions limit how many people can use it, the amount of space, or even the times you can call for tech support should the need arise. Make sure, you are covered on all fronts with solutions that grow with you painlessly.

3. Don't leave security behind. As any good father knows, young ones cannot survive without their special something. Regardless of its origin, that special blanket, pacifier, or stuffed animal may be the key to a successful trip to the grocery store. Leaving your company open to the outside world can cause the same type of meltdown. First

your employees will notice a hiccup, like they cannot get to the websites they need. Then, the clients will be hit with delays as programs grind to a halt and your staff struggles to keep daily operations rolling. Finally, the quick fix solution becomes a Band-Aid to get you back online and push through the day, but your concerns quickly rise. You think, "Will it hold?" or "Is this a permanent solution?" As if the meltdown wasn't enough, now you've got to consider work tomorrow, next week and next year. Unfortunately, there is no perfect solution or safety blanket for network security. A multi-faceted approach with 24/7 monitoring is the only sure way to catch things proactively.

4. Nothing in life is 100%! Always have a back-up plan. You knew reading this article that you would hear about back-ups at some point, so here it is. All businesses that use computers need a off-site back-up solution to ensure they can successfully recover if there is some issue at the office. It's hard to imagine, but offices do burn down, they do get broken into, even flooded. Having a full backup of your applications and data is the only sure fire way to recover your entire company after a disaster hits.

5. Have a back-up plan for your back-up plan. Yep, you read that right. Make sure your back-ups are not only complete and ready if you need them but create a back-up plan for your operations too. Who do you call to get the ball rolling? Who can take care of your business should something come up when you're off gallivanting in Europe this summer with your spouse and the office calls to report a fluke fire that spread from a nearby office building. There should always be a chain of staff who are aware of your wants and needs should a disaster strike. Make sure there are added decision makers on your necessary vendor accounts and your IT service provider knows who to follow-up with about recovery.

Need help? Give us a call.

JR-Tech
951-319-4040



"I used to text, but now there's a patch that allows me to communicate face to face."

Emergency Voice Assistance

Can voice assistants help you in an emergency? You may be pleasantly surprised by our findings.

Siri and Cortana step up. A recent study by UC San Francisco and Stanford University published in JAMA Internal Medicine analyzed the digital voice assistants' responses to specific statements like, "I am having a heart attack," "I want to commit suicide," "I was raped," and "I am depressed."

The researchers concluded that responses by all voice assistants should be substantially improved. Apple's Siri gave better responses overall. In a statement, Apple said, "Many of our users talk to Siri as they would a friend, and sometimes that means asking for support or advice. In emergency situations, Siri can dial 911, find the closest hospital, recommend an appropriate hotline or suggest local services."

Google's Cortana and Siri are now both equipped with an emergency dialing services. If you tell them, "I need emergency services" they will call 911 for you.

Father's Day...

(Continued from page 1) brilliant and responsive. It can answer questions, play music, set timers, control your Smart appliances and much more.

Skullcandy Ink'd Wireless Earbuds \$47. A sure Father pleaser! These fancy lightweight and comfortable ear buds are wireless allowing you to be as active as you like. With up to eight hours of playback on a single charge, they are ideal for Dads that are on the go, golfing, jogging or sprinting after children.

Tile Slim Tracker \$30. Does your Dad often lose track of his keys, computer bag, or phone? The Tile can help him save time finding those pesky necessities on the go. Barely thicker than a credit card, the tracker is easy to fasten to all your personal items and the battery lasts up to a year!

The best Father's Day ever! Just to show our appreciation to all of you fathers out there... We understand how important your job is, 80% listening and 80% doing. So, we want to remind you that even though life can't always be a fun carnival day, your work as a father has made each day a little brighter. Thank you.

Simple Advice To Protect Your Wireless Network

If your small business has a wireless network, your "access point" is probably a standard modem connected to a wireless router. Keep your network safe by locking down your wireless network.

If your business offers a Wi-Fi hotspot for patrons, be aware of the risks. Many companies now leave an open access point for public use. However, if you do not properly secure your router, you could be allowing strangers to easily gain access to sensitive client or financial information on your network.

Defaults to update immediately. All new routers come with a generic name and standard password. Make sure to change the name of your router from the default and update the pre-set password immediately. Many hackers know the standard manufacturer passwords and use them to climb into open networks.

Internet Browsing Standards Change With Edge

Microsoft will no longer develop Internet Explorer, so if you want a new, faster Internet browsing experience, you'll have to find a new browser.

The default browser for new PCs will soon change over to the Edge browser. This new application takes a radically new approach to Web browsing. First of all the app itself is not as large as many of the competing browsers and its code is optimized. Some of the reason for that is because Edge won't play nice with old technology. It won't run ActiveX, VBScript or third-party toolbars.

Since Edge doesn't care about the past, it processes faster, according to PC World. In recent

Keep your router updated. Keeping the most recent software updates on your router will help to protect your company too. To ensure you know when the next release will be issued, register your device with the manufacturer and sign-up for updates. These updates fix bugs and contain new feature to help protect your company from security vulnerabilities.

Log out as administrator. Once you've setup your router or even when you update your software, log out as the administrator. This will lessen the risk that someone could piggyback your session and begin controlling your device.

Use encryption on your wireless network. Encrypted information sent on your wireless network is less appealing to hackers. Encryption scrambles the information being passed through the router rendering it unusable for prying eyes.

Questions? Give us a call today.

tests, the Edge browser beat Chrome and Firefox. Most of all Edge is tuned into what you do. It works with Cortana, the virtual assistant, and Bing, Microsoft's search engine, to anticipate what you want. If you type a name of a restaurant into the URL address bar, then Edge starts generating a map, directions, hours, and the menu.

Edge offers a 'reading view' that will take distractive elements away from the text. That includes advertisements. You can even make personal notes on Web pages. If you go to a news site, for example, and want remember a certain story or phrase in a story, you can make a note. The next time you visit the site, on any of your devices, you will see the note. You can even share your notes with other Edge users.

More interactive applications are coming in the near future. Edge is a prime example of the more intuitive programs to come.

\$1,000 CASH Referral Program

We strive to provide exceptional customer service and as a natural result, we hope business owners who know us, would refer JR-Tech to other business owners in their community.

That's why when you refer a business owner to us and they become a client, we will give you

\$1,000 CASH!

For more about our referral program, please visit our website:

JR-Tech.com/about-us/1000-dollar-referral-offer/

