



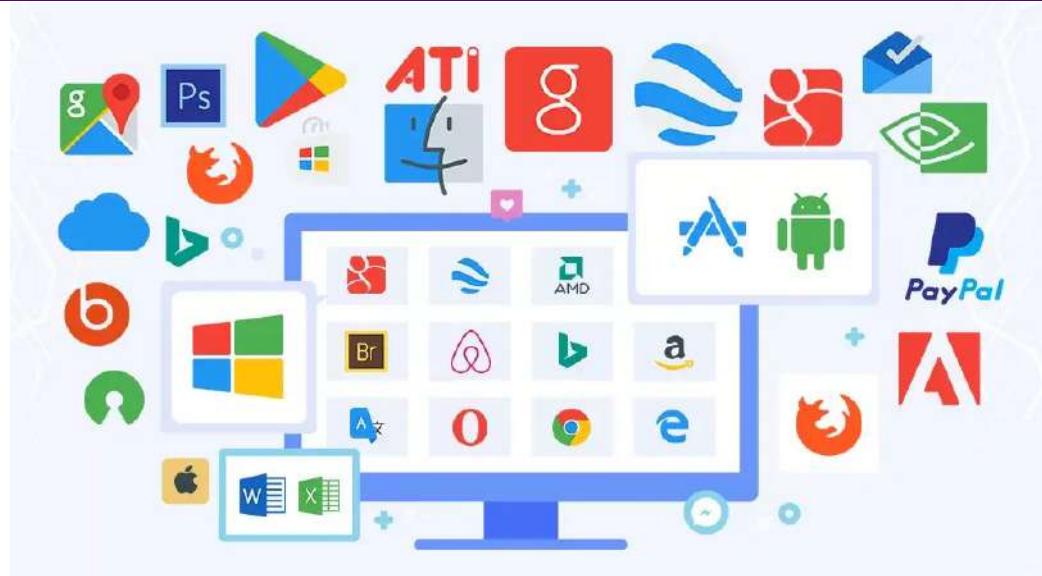
Connection

October 2024

We believe that experienced, reputable, and fast responding IT support should be the standard!

Our Services:

- Data Backup & Recovery
- Managed Services
- IT Consulting
- Network Security
- Cloud Computing
- Remote IT Services
- Cyber Security Training
- Mobile Device Management
- VoIP Phones



Why Securing Your Software Supplychain is Critical

In today's world, everything's connected. That includes the software your business relies on, whether you've installed that software locally or use it in the cloud.

Protecting the entire process that creates and delivers your software is very important. From the tools developers use to the way updates reach your computer, every step matters. A breach or vulnerability in any part of this chain can have severe consequences.

A recent example is the global IT outage that happened last July. This outage brought down airlines, banks, and many other businesses. The culprit for the outage was an update gone wrong. This update came from a software supplier called CrowdStrike. It turns out that the company was a link in a LOT of software supply chains.

What can you do to avoid a similar supply chain-related issue? Let's talk about why securing your software supply chain is absolutely essential.

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Increasing Complexity and Interdependence

Many Components. These include open-source libraries, third-party APIs, and cloud services. Each component introduces potential vulnerabilities.

Interconnected Systems. A vulnerability in one part of the supply chain can affect many systems. The interdependence means that a single weak link can cause widespread issues.

Continuous Integration and Deployment. Securing the CI/ CD pipeline is crucial to prevent the introduction of malicious code.

Rise of Cyber Threats

Targeted Attacks. Attackers infiltrate trusted software to gain access to wider networks.

Sophisticated Techniques. These include advanced malware, zero-day exploits, and social engineering. A robust security posture is necessary to defend against these threats.

Financial and Reputational Damage. Companies may face regulatory fines, legal costs, and loss of customer trust. Recovering from a breach can be a lengthy and expensive process.

Regulatory Requirements

Compliance Standards. These include regulations like GDPR, HIPAA, and the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC).

Vendor Risk Management. Companies must ensure that their suppliers adhere to security best practices. A secure supply chain involves verifying that all partners meet compliance standards.

Data Protection. Securing the supply chain helps protect sensitive data from unauthorized access. This is especially important for industries like finance and healthcare.

Ensuring Business Continuity

Preventing Disruptions. A secure supply chain helps prevent disruptions in business operations as cyber-attacks can lead to downtime.

Maintaining Trust. By securing the supply chain, companies can maintain the trust of their stakeholders.

Steps to Secure Your Software Supply Chain

Strong Authentication. Use strong authentication methods for all components of the supply chain. Ensure that only authorized personnel can access critical systems and data.

Phased Update Rollouts. Keep all software components up to date, but don't do all systems at once. If those systems aren't negatively affected, then roll out the update more widely.

Security Audits. Assess the security measures of all vendors and partners. Identify and address any weaknesses or gaps in security practices.

Secure Development Practices. Ensure that security is integrated into the development lifecycle from the start.

Threat Monitoring. Use tools like intrusion detection systems (IDS) as well as security information and event management (SIEM) systems.

Education. Awareness and training help ensure that everyone understands their role in maintaining security.

A breach or outage can have severe consequences. Securing your software supply chain is no longer optional; investing in this is crucial for the resilience of any business.



Reminder: COMMON MOBILE MALWARE TRAPS

Mobile malware is often overlooked. People focus on securing their laptops or desktops without paying close attention to smartphone and tablet security. Mobile malware can arrive in various forms, from sneaky apps to deceptive links. Ignorance is not bliss here.

Understanding the common traps is your first line of defense.

- **Phishing Attacks**
Clicking links or downloading attachments can lead to malware infection.
- **Malicious Apps**
Always research apps before downloading.
- **SMS Scams**
Be wary of unexpected messages, especially those asking for sensitive info.
- **Public Wi-Fi Networks**
Avoid accessing sensitive information on public Wi-Fi.
- **Fake Apps**
Always verify app authenticity.
- **Adware**
Less harmful but can be annoying and can expose you to other threats.

Gadget of the Month!

CLVX 1 KEYBOARD BY CLEVETURA

The CLVX 1 is a Gesture Keyboard with a Touchpad inside.

The Type and Touch Modes switch automatically, indicated at the spacebar.

It offers a full-sized ANSI layout with a numeric keypad, navigation cluster, and a fully customizable Fn row.

When typing, the touchpad is blocked. When making gestures, it works as a touchpad.



Pre-Order for \$219 on the Clevetura website!



We Value Your Feedback!

If you've enjoyed your experience with us, we would love to hear from you!

Please take a moment to leave us a positive Google review. Your thoughts help us grow and serve you better.

To leave a Google review on your computer, follow the steps below...

To leave a Google review on your computer...

1. Search:

Look up *Computer Services Unlimited* on Google.

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Click on our name in the results.

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4. Review:

Rate and Comment then click "Post."

Joe Schmoe

Job Title

Your Company

Main: (123)-456-7890

Direct: (703)-867-5309

Cell: (678)-999-8212

Fax: (123)-456-7890

jschmoe@company.com

123 Street St.

City, State 12345

www.website.com

www.facebook.com/yourpage

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Could an email signature be a hidden threat to your business?

Imagine this: You're wrapping up a meeting when your phone buzzes with a new email. It's from a key supplier and looks urgent. The message is short, direct, and ends with the familiar email signature you've seen countless times. Without a second thought, you act on the request, only to discover hours later that the email wasn't from your supplier at all. That convincing signature was a clever forgery. Now you're dealing with the fallout of a security breach that could have been avoided.

The Growing Threat of Forged Email Signatures

This isn't a far-fetched nightmare; it's happening more often than you might

think. Email signatures, those seemingly innocuous blocks of text at the end of every professional email, are being weaponized by cyber criminals. While you've (hopefully) invested in securing your networks and training your team, the security of your email signature might be the last thing on your mind. But ignoring this small detail can open the door to big risks.

The Hidden Danger in Your Email Signature

An email signature is more than just a formal way to sign off. It's a digital fingerprint of your business identity, packed with crucial information like your name, job title, contact details, and often your business's logo and links. For clients and colleagues, it's a mark of authenticity. For cyber criminals, it's a treasure trove of data ripe for exploitation.

What makes email signatures particularly vulnerable is their consistency and familiarity. The more someone sees your signature, the more they trust it. Cyber criminals exploit this by crafting emails that appear to come from you or your trusted contacts, complete with a forged signature that looks almost identical to the real thing.

Why Email Signatures Are Often Overlooked

Many businesses overlook the security of their email signatures. They're often seen as an afterthought, something nice to have but not crucial to protect. This can be dangerous. Without proper security measures, your email signature can easily be spoofed, putting your business and your clients at risk.

How to Protect Your Business from Email Signature Scams

Understanding the risks is the first step toward protecting your business. For

example, if your email signature includes links, those links can be manipulated to direct recipients to malicious websites. Your title and contact details can be used to create highly convincing phishing emails.

To safeguard your business, rethink your approach to email signatures. **Start by standardizing the format across your company.** When everyone's signature looks the same, it's easier to spot anomalies that could indicate a security threat.

Ensure that the links in your signatures are regularly verified to point to secure, legitimate websites. And while it might be tempting to include lots of information in your signature, remember that the more data you provide, the more opportunities you give cyber criminals to exploit it.

Stay vigilant, and treat your email signature with the same care you give to other security measures. It might just be the key to keeping your business safe from a hidden threat.

Tech Giggles!

What's a
computer's
favorite shoe?

...

Re-boots!



What's NEW at CSU?



If you give CSU a bunch of chips, of course we'll do a fun taste test competition! And of course we'll make weird faces while trying a spicy one!

Quesadilla Day!



Another business trip for the books! This time it was all about AI... dun dun dun!





We celebrated the September birthdays with fruit for the healthy guy and a cute lil baby cake for the sugar girl!



National IT Professionals Day!

It's appropriate that this day landed on Melvin's work anniversary!

We celebrated with passing out joke bags holding cool new CSU shirts for the team!



We celebrate having Melvin as part of the CSU team for **6 years!** We appreciate the liveliness and hard work you bring to CSU, Melvin!

