CYBER SECURITY AND YOU

QUICK TIP:

Do you want to make yourself a harder target for phishing? Turn off HTML in your email client. Both at work and at home, using a text based email client will reduce the tools scammers can use to trick you. Search "turn off html in <insert mail client here>" to find the steps needed. It is not as pretty, but it sure works! The fact Microsoft put this feature under the "Trust Center" section is not arbitrary, but a well thought out decision to help its users realize how dangerous this feature can be.

WHAT IS GDPR AND WHY DO I CARE?

It seems every website I have ever used is updating their "Terms of Service" or their "Privacy Statement" in the last month or so, and I know why. A new law called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), was developed by the European Union. It took effect on May 25 and requires organizations to maintain the privacy and security of any EU resident's personal information. "I'm not in the European Union," you say? Well, those companies have customers overseas and you are feeling the ripples of the waves this new law generated.

WHAT DOES GDPR DO IN THE EUROPEAN UNION?

• Personal data for individuals shall be processed lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner.

• People need to be told what is being collected and for what purpose.

• Personal data shall be collected for specified, explicit, and legitimate purposes.
  It shall not be used for any other reasons that conflict with these purposes.

• Personal data shall only be kept and processed for as long as it is required for that purpose and for no longer than that purpose.

• Personal data must be kept up-to-date and accurate.

• People have the right to receive a copy of their data or can request that their personal data no longe be used. In some cases, they can have it deleted entirely.

• Organizations must implement appropriate security measures to protect personal data against accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, or disclosure.

• In addition, organizations need to ensure all staff members who handle personal data are properly trained in how to secure and protect that data.

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