Top

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7 Cybersecurity Recommendations

Digital transformation has been game-changing for business productivity, providing capabilities like 24/7 global access and enabling scale – but innovation also creates new opportunities for cyberattack. As organizations adapt to the new risks in our multicloud-based world, **Dell's cybersecurity experts recommend 7 fundamental actions** to strengthen the foundation of your cybersecurity posture.

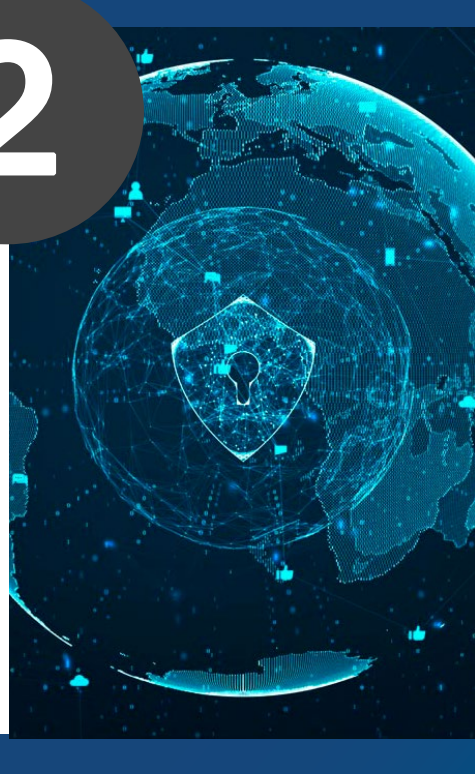
1 Foster a security-based culture.

Given today's threat landscape, everyone in the organization needs to stay informed and vigilant – not just the security team.

- Establish/update security policies and ensure support at the highest levels of your organization.
- Administer security training to empower employees with the latest information on cyberattacks.
- Reinforce individual accountability and test the quality of training with practices like simulated phishing emails.

2 Determine your cybersecurity baseline with an assessment.

- Inventory your current ecosystem and security practices to take stock of all of your key assets (edge, core, and cloud).
- Identify all potential exposure points and risks.
- Consider working with a trusted partner to help form a plan to address the gaps identified by the assessment.



3 Make sure essential cybersecurity operations best practices are in place.

- Use advanced and automated threat detection and response tools.
- Employ advanced user and device authentication like multi-factor and biometrics.
- Keep cybersecurity software current by quickly implementing updates.
- Isolate your critical data in an air-gapped cyber recovery vault.

4 Secure the entire ecosystem.

- Make sure that your cybersecurity strategy addresses the needs of today's complex IT ecosystem, from core to cloud to edge.
- Design a complete strategy that includes secure platforms and processes based on a Zero Trust foundation (more below), advanced detection and response capabilities, data protection, and automation/intelligence.
- Focus your plan on resilience, not just recovery.

5 Continue your Zero Trust journey.

Zero Trust is a best practice security architecture based on the notion of "never trust, always verify." It requires constant user and task authentication and provides least privilege access, which is designed to only allow a user or entity the lowest required level of access, limiting the potential impact of a bad actor.

- Evaluate your current cybersecurity model against the best practices of Zero Trust.
- Keep in mind that implementing Zero Trust is a process, not an event, that requires prioritizing the most important data and applications.
- Consider utilizing a trusted partner who can simplify the integration and orchestration of Zero Trust-enabling technologies.

6 Create a resiliency and recovery plan for the worst-case scenario.

- Prepare as if a successful attack is an inevitability.
- Communicate the plan to all key stakeholders throughout the organization so they can react quickly in case of an attack.
- Develop and maintain a recovery playbook, designed to resume normal operations as quickly as possible while minimizing data loss and financial/operational impacts. **Routinely practice and update the playbook to stay current with the threat landscape.**

7 Take advantage of automation to drive scale and simplicity.

- Use automated and intelligent tools to prevent attacks, enable scale, and reduce the element of human error in the recovery process should an attack occur.
- Evaluate managed services to extend the capabilities of your teams with certified security experts.
- Look for potential opportunities to reduce or rationalize vendor relationships, as research indicates that fewer data protection vendors (or even just one) is preferable to many.[1]

[1] Based on research by Vanson Bourne commissioned by Dell Technologies, "Global Data Protection Index 2022." Results were derived from a total of 1,000 worldwide IT decision makers from both private and public organizations with 250+ employees.

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