



# ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

## Security Awareness

Organisations are vulnerable to the dangers of social engineering attacks. Some of these may be electronic, through email phishing attacks or links to malware. Others are physical such as tailgating into a secure area or taking materials from an unsecured desk. If a social engineer is successful with these attacks the actions can result in loss of intellectual property and exposure of customer data, breaches that could result in lengthy investigations, costly fines and negative brand sentiment.

Your employees handle sensitive data as a part of their everyday routine. Ensuring they understand the security risks relevant to their duties is imperative. Proper training and awareness can help ensure your employees don't transform from assets into liabilities. Security awareness education empowers your employees with the security know-how to help protect your business against growing security risks and compliance missteps. Awareness is a powerful tool in creating a secure culture and influencing organisational behaviour.

## Managing Risks

Through training and awareness programs, your organisation can develop a team approach to risk management that empowers every member of an organisation to identify and report on risks in order to defend systems, networks and facilities from attack. Each member of your team can help identify vulnerabilities, suspicious activity and possible attacks, which may enable faster response and better containment of a risk when an attack happens.

## Considerations

In most companies the areas that need to be understood can be covered by the following subjects:

- Understanding social engineering
- Physical security
- PC security
- Email security
- Password security
- Web browsing
- Mobile security

Further areas should be considered for specialised and technical staff.

## Learning Management

Traditionally security awareness training, if provided at all, has been delivered in class room scenarios. This gives good interaction with the facilitator but makes updates harder to deliver and it is costly and inconvenient to train new employees.



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Security awareness training is a perfect candidate for on line training. Users can log in and complete modules when they have space in their schedules rather than having to clear lots of time for classroom based training. Updates for new threats can be delivered quickly and easily. New joiners can be trained as soon as they start rather than waiting for a convenient course to become available. Reporting dashboards can provide training coordinators with an overview of who has completed which courses.

## **About the Author**

Tim Roussel has worked in the information management industry for over 20 years. He has experience of working with public bodies and commercial organisations across the UK and EMEA. He has been working for Alternative Solutions Limited for the past six years advising and assisting a variety of organisations on improving business processes, with a specific interest in managing information. Tim can be contacted on 01481 701234, 07781 140353 or by email [tim@asl.gg](mailto:tim@asl.gg).

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