

# What is Network Security?

In this digital age, network security has become vital for protecting company assets, gaining a competitive advantage and for helping a business comply with regulatory requirements and fiduciary responsibilities. And yet, with how important network security is for your business, many small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) often lack the IT resources to ensure their network is adequately protected from today's sophisticated Internet threats.

## ***What is Network Security?***

Network security refers to any activities designed to protect your network. More specifically, these activities protect the reliability, usability, integrity and safety of your network and business data. Effective network security targets a variety of threats—bots, viruses, malware and spyware—and stops them from entering or spreading on your network.

## ***How does Network Security protect you?***

Network security protects your business from threats that are spread over the Internet. The most common threats include:

- Viruses, worms and Trojan horses
- Spyware and adware
- Zero-day attacks (also called zero-hour attacks)
- Hacker attacks
- Denial of service attacks
- Data interception and theft
- Identity theft

In order to ensure your business is adequately protected, it is important to understand the different types of threats and how they can impact your business.

## **How does Network Security Work?**

Network security is accomplished through hardware and software. It is important to remember that the software must be constantly updated and managed to protect your business from emerging threats. Equally as important is understanding that no single solution protects you from a variety of threats. By employing multiple layers of security, you ensure that if one is to fail, another still stands.

A network security system usually consists of many components which work together to minimize maintenance and improve security. These components generally include:

- Anti-virus and anti-spyware
- Firewall
- Intrusion prevention systems (IPS)
- Virtual Private Networks (VPNs)

## **What are the business benefits of Network Security?**

With a proper network security in place, your business will experience many business benefits including:

- Protection from business disruption
- Compliance with regulatory requirements and fiduciary responsibilities
- Reduction of the risk of legal action from data theft

Ultimately, network security helps your business gain competitive advantage by protecting what is most important—your business' reputation.

To learn more about IT Security and to discuss how these services can benefit your business, please contact us at (613)260-1114 or by email at [sales@intega.ca](mailto:sales@intega.ca).