

## TouchPoint Networks Protects SMBs From Windows 7 End of Life

Leading Provider in Managed Technology Services Alerts SMBs to End of Support

PORTLAND, OR – January 2019 - TouchPoint Networks a leading managed technology services provider (MTSP), is helping small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs) secure their organizations from cyberattacks, by addressing the Windows 7 "End of Life" policy that will begin in January of 2020. Microsoft has announced that they will cease supporting the software, providing updates, enhancing security features and the software will essentially become obsolete. SMBs need to be aware of this transition because cybercriminals are constantly inventing new methods and techniques to exploit weak infrastructure. If a business doesn't adapt and bring in technology that can keep pace with the ever evolving security threats that the modern business faces, they will eventually become a "sitting duck" for cyberattacks.

Many businesses handle problems like this in the same manner that they handle all other problems. Ignore it until they suffer a minor consequence, and after they feel some of the pain, then they react and begin solving the problem. However, this is a very dangerous strategy to utilize given the potential consequences. For example, we can look at the costs that some major players have paid for insecure infrastructure. According to Time Magazine, "The Equifax breach cost the company over \$4 billion in total." While small businesses can't withstand losses like that, there's also a stronger push from authorities for tighter cybersecurity measures, bigger fines and harsher penalties for lax policies.

"Business owners need to act, now," advised Gary Gonzalez, President of TouchPoint Networks. "Indecision is also decision. The majority of Windows 7 users will migrate to the cloud which coincidentally will provide many increases in security capabilities that could greatly reduce their need for ad-hoc security features, driving total cost down. However, the key to a successful transition is starting early because these things take time. Unfortunately, businesses who decide not to act, may place themselves in even graver danger because they will be extremely susceptible to

cyberattacks, precisely because Windows 7 is obsolete technology and it may be too late."

## **ABOUT TouchPoint Networks**

Gary Gonzalez and his business partner's Chuck Whiteley and Tamara Gonzalez, are owners of TouchPoint Networks, a member of the Technology Assurance Group (TAG). TouchPoint has built a team of professional voice and data specialists dedicated to the highest levels of customer support. TouchPoint's pattern of steady growth reflects their commitment to keeping pace with the constantly evolving telecommunications technology arena, and the dramatic expansion of the Pacific Northwest's business market. With offices located along the I-5 Corridor in Portland, Eugene, and Medford, TouchPoint Networks is uniquely positioned to respond quickly and effectively to a wide range of customer equipment and service requirements. For more information on TouchPoint Networks, please visit www. asktouchpoint.com.