Keep Your Employees Cyber Safe

As a small business, keeping up with the latest competition also involves being sure that you and your employees are cyber-ready. Not only do small businesses rely on technology to perform daily functions, but the Internet provides easy ways for businesses to stay connected and informed. However, with these increased conveniences comes increased risk. According to Symantec, nearly one-third of all cyber-attacks targeted businesses with fewer than 250 employees, the largest growth area for targeted cyber-attacks in 2012. Follow these simple tips from the Department of Homeland Security’s Stop.Think.Connect. Campaign to help keep your workplace cyber safe:

- Use and regularly update anti-virus and anti-spyware software on all computers; automate patch deployments across your organization to protect against vulnerabilities.
- Secure your Internet connection by using a firewall, encrypting information and hiding your Wi-Fi network.
- Establish security practices and policies to protect sensitive information; educate employees about cyber threats and how to protect your organization’s data and hold them accountable to the Internet security policies and procedures.
- Require that employees use strong passwords and regularly change them.
- Invest in data loss protection software for your network and use encryption technologies to protect data in transit.
- Protect all pages on your public-facing websites, not just the checkout and sign-up pages.

Consumers are taking notice of how businesses secure their data and are more willing to trust and reward businesses for good security practices. With cyber criminals now targeting small businesses more than ever before, it’s important to remind consumers that your business is cyber safe by following the above tips.