Syscon•fidence ✓

Every business needs it; do you have it?

Anti-Virus Services—What Changed?

These days, good anti-virus is absolutely mission critical for all business and home computers. Black Hat Hackers and virus/malware writers have been stepping up their game, and have been launching very successful attacks on large and small organizations and home users worldwide. It seems like every time we watch the news we hear about another data breach.

No anti-virus is 100% perfect; it is a constant cat-and-mouse game between the virus writers and the anti-virus companies. When the virus writers come out with a new exploit unknown to anyone, it is called a 'Zero Day Exploit.' When this happens, it is open season until the anti-virus companies come up with a 'fix' called a Definition, which will recognize the attack signature and stop it before it can infect the machine or server.

The Syscon Managed Anti-Virus (AV) Service uses the Bit Defender engine which has a very high detection rate when compared to other AV solutions. Bit Defender has been ranked among the top three AV solutions both this year and last year by multiple independent organizations. More important than the ability to detect existing viruses and other threats is the ability to detect Zero-day malware/viruses that have never been seen before, but have attributes that suggest malicious intent. The difference in detection methods between known and brand-new malware is that if the malware is known, Bit Defender has a signature in its file to watch for it. In order to detect Zero-day malware, Bit Defender inspects anything that looks suspiciously similar to a class of files known to be malicious. Bit Defender further checks for Zero-day malware by examining files to see if they behave in potentially malicious ways; this is called Heuristic Detection.

Syscon's Managed AV service includes a dedicated person analyzing weekly scans and threat reports for issues, then working with you to resolve anything that needs attention. Custom reports are emailed each week for your review. We are always available for questions, concerns, or assistance. Call or email CustomerSupport@syscon-inc.com for more details and pricing to shore up your network defenses today—*LP*

Updates and Tips from Syscon

Memorial Day...
We will be closed Monday, May 25, 2015

What our Clients have to say about our staff!

Take a look at the back page of this Newsletter to read up on your favorite Tech or Business Consultant...

Did You Know?
Sage 100 Contractor

In any date field, hit the plus sign (+) to move forward one day, or minus sign (-) to move back. This is handy when entering 3-3 deposits made yesterday, since the date defaults to the current date; hit the minus sign and you're all set. Other handy screens are 4-2; 5-2-2; 3-2; 11-2. Give it a try—*CMW*

2014 Year End Wrap up

Journal Entries for 2014 all entered? Ready to Archive 2014?

We've already closed quite a few companies with the new Archive process. If you're ready and everything is entered and tied out, give us a call to schedule a remote time with Michelle, Larry, or Cathy

Upcoming Events

Join **Larry Wendt** from Syscon, long-time member and former Board member for the ASA Chicago as he participates in a Round Table Discussion on Thursday morning, May 21st. This event is open to members and non-members of ASA Chicago.

Larry will be one of three participants in a panel discussing Computer Security.

Where: Fountain Blue Banquets,
2300 Mannheim Rd,
Des Plaines; 847-298-3636

When: Thursday May 21st

Time: 7:00am Breakfast & Registration;
7:30-8:30am Panel Discussion, Q&A

Cost $45/person

Register: online at www.ASAChicago.org or call 847-827-8336

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Master Builder to Sage 100 Contractor
The journey, 20 years...

Syscon has been working with this product for 20 years! This all started when Louis, one of our clients who uses Sage 100 Contractor even today, approached Larry and asked about Construction-specific software, and since we did his computers, could we help with this 'Master Builder' software.

This started our investigation into the Construction Account/Project Management software options, our relationship with Omware and Dan Smith (the original co-founder), and an interesting road from there. Here are some interesting highlights:

* Larry's trip to California for training has a story that ended with surgery

*The first Windows release was version 6 in 1995/1996 and we were one of the first partners to upgrade our clients to this new release

*Syscon begins writing custom integration software to take advantage of the data collection, and provide higher-level analytical tools, and more complex reporting.

* The Marconi center in Point Reyes where annual meetings were held was the site of the first Trans-Pacific radio tower; and it's very cold there in July

* Intuit purchased Master Builder and kicked off with a conference in Hawaii

* Syscon earns a Sales award at the 2002 Annual Conference

* Sage purchases Master Builder and moves the Timberline and Master Builder teams into the same building in Beaverton, Oregon; interesting because these two products were competing for many years.

To hear more about the 20-year history and some interesting facts, watch for the upcoming articles and a personal interview with Larry Wendt! - *CMW*

**March 2015
10-year Client**
Larry,
I wanted to take a minute and let you know we are so grateful for your team and Scott's leadership serving our account. I spent the last week with 40 church Administrators and heard their stories and challenges in I.T. I was grateful for our partnership with Syscon over the years.. Our partnership has been very beneficial to the ministry... Our staff really loves our support team and the office staff who call for scheduling and communicating with us.
Please know we are very grateful for everyone's expertise and commitment to us as your customers.
- Russ McCune
The Orchard Evangelical Free Church

(Thanks Russ!)

Check out the interview with Cathy and Larry in the May 30th *Business Ledger* publication. **www.DailyHerald.com** page 27

Sage 100 Contractor
The final 2015 tax-related update, version 19.5.27, introduced an issue with the Combined Statement (AR & SR together in one report); release 19.5.34 resolves this issue...

What our Clients have to say about our Staff!

**April 2015
Private Hosting Client**
Bob from Syscon promptly called back and within about 6 minutes (including the log-mein routine) had the envelope printer working
again...after doing a test page
- John B

Sage 100 Contractor Client
We love Michelle and appreciate that Syscon has our back!

- Ed Krushka,
Vice President,
Reflection Window

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Computer Security Panel Member for upcoming ASA Chicago event, May 21st—see website for more details