

Is there a way into  
your **NETWORK** that you  
don't know about?

Keep your business secure...



# The biggest threat to your NETWORK security may come from the inside

The computer has been a fact of life for business for more than a decade. In these early years of the 21st century, the new business standard is broadband networks. With the increasing number of businesses using these networks, corresponding network hazards are on the rise. What may surprise you the most is that often, many of these security threats are created from inside companies – often without even an IT manager being aware of them.

## The first line of defence is awareness.

If you have a network, chances are you have holes in it. Even if you have an IT manager, some of your employees may inadvertently be leaving back windows or doors in your network open without your IT manager even knowing about it. Whatever your network situation, you need to be aware of some basic security facts.

### Any port out is a potential portal in.

One of the great advantages of company networks (Virtual Private Networks, or VPNs) is that they allow employees to access the network, retrieve and send e-mails, and connect to the office remotely – from home, from hotels, even from airport waiting areas. Each one of those permissions granted is another way for hackers to get into your network. Sometimes, the home PCs become the actual portal – attackers get into the home PC and use it to tunnel through to your business network.

### Every e-mail account is a potential way in.

This one is often forgotten, even by IT specialists. Today most office workers know not to open e-mail attachments from unsolicited or unknown addresses. But anything that allows even necessary communication in – like e-mail – is another hole in the wall for intruders. Remember, your network is only as secure as its least secure point.

## Intruders can, and do, pick on smaller businesses.

Many people in business have long assumed that only the big mega-companies have to worry about intruders. If this ever was true, it certainly isn't anymore. *In fact, one Gartner study suggested that 40% of small businesses will be attacked in the next year.*

## Who wants to attack you? Pick a reason, any reason.

It could be part of a huge worm attack by trouble-makers like the My.Doom worm of 2004. That worm hit one of six major businesses, but because smaller businesses had fewer defences, one out of three of them were affected. Now, here's the key question: have you enhanced your network security recently? If not, that window may be opening wider.

You could have a disgruntled employee or customer who wants to hurt your reputation, or use sensitive data for extortion.

There are would-be intruders who try to get into networks just to see if they can, and they often leave some mischief behind as their calling card.

The big point here is that with all these potential threats, every hole in our network is potentially devastating. And even the best IT manager simply can't keep his eye on everything, all the time.

More and more governments are introducing tough privacy legislation. Much of this legislation makes companies financially liable for protecting the personal information of clients. In California, by law, companies must report any breach of their network to their entire customer base, regardless of whether the breach resulted in data being compromised.

## Mandala. Help is at hand.

At Mandala, we specialize in making sure there are no unknown, unprotected open doors or windows in your network security. You can rely on us to provide the expertise as well as the software and hardware you need to keep confidential information to yourself. And because we live and work here, just as you do, we can be in your offices when you need us, in person.

## It adds up to peace of mind.

You're not in the IT business, so there's no need for you to spend a lot of time and energy on matters outside your sphere of expertise. When you choose Mandala to develop IT solutions for your organization, you can relax and get on with your business.

We'll secure your network at the right level for your company. We won't leave you short, but neither will we recommend solutions that are more elaborate than your needs warrant.

- Secure e-mail systems. We can set up an e-mail system for you and your employees that tighten security against intruders, reduce the load of spam that has such a negative impact on productivity, and help prevent worms and viruses from coming in undetected.
- Securing the airwaves around your wireless networks. Everybody loves wireless – all that information with no strings attached. Unfortunately, that's how hackers feel about them, too. Wireless networks are notoriously vulnerable, but Mandala has what you need to secure your internal wireless networks.
- Closing the door to unwanted guests. We will provide and maintain a secure firewall. Even necessary ports in and out won't become floodgates to intruders, worms and viruses.

## Turn to us if you don't have an in-house IT Manager.

You need full-time security. Often, with smaller businesses, the people who oversee the IT network were actually hired to perform other jobs. When you ask them to be, in essence, your IT manager, that means they are working at two jobs. That can result in employee burn out, or one of the two functions not receiving the attention it needs. Call us. We'll be your IT team, keeping your network secure and running smoothly. We can take care of all your network needs, not just security.

## ... and, if you do

If you have an IT Manager, congratulations. That means you comprehend the utmost importance of a secure, efficient network. Even the most dedicated IT specialist, however, can only do so much. Intruders are always finding new ways to attack, so your IT Managers have to upgrade their skills continuously, which means added costs. The issue is getting bigger and bigger so that even small companies would require an entire IT staff. Obviously, this is cost-prohibitive.

Hire Mandala to work with your IT Team. With their in-depth knowledge of your system and needs, and our experience, and our products and services, your network will be as secure and as robust as it can possibly be. We can help keep your team current on all the latest issues and solutions.

## Call today for a free consultation.

One phone call will begin the journey to your security. You can have your IT needs assessed free of charge by a Mandala expert. We'll come into your organization and give you an analysis of your network and a written report with no obligation. Call today, and get complete peace of mind from Mandala Systems.

We've been protecting **NETWORKS** since before computers could fit on a desk top.

Mandala has been providing the full range of IT solutions, including hardware, software, communications, training, installation, and support since 1977. This universal approach is reflected in our name. A Mandala is a geometric design symbolizing the universe.

## The Mandala Services Suite

**Support Services.** Keeping your network, servers and desktops operating smoothly.

**Turnkey Solutions.** We can recommend, supply and install the hardware and software solutions that fit your business and your budget.

**E-Mail Systems.** We can set up your own e-mail server and make sure everyone who needs to be connected, is connected securely.

**Upgrade & Conversion.** Software and hardware upgrades can be delicate and time consuming. We'll make sure your network stays current and keeps operating.

Functional, reliable software. Mandala's suite of customizable business software will give you the complete functionality your business demands for less than major branded applications. Comes with the legendary Mandala support.

*Mandala Systems uses Check Point, the leading provider of software for perimeter, internal and web security.*

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