# TECH TALK MONTHLY

YOUR MONTHLY DOSE OF TECH & BUSINESS NEWS

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## Monthly update from Mark

Considering cybersecurity insurance for your business? It's a wise decision in today's digital landscape. But before diving in, a thorough assessment of your needs is crucial. Otherwise, you can end up paying a lot more than you need to.

First, conduct a cyber risk assessment to identify your vulnerabilities. Second, understand which cybersecurity safeguards you do or don't have in place (you'll be asked on the application!). Finally, get help from an IT professional to secure the most suitable and cost-effective policy. By taking these steps, you can make an informed decision and select a cyber insurance plan that is a cost-effective digital safety net.

Need some help? Reach out to me at mark@phrixus.com to schedule a chat as we already conduct these for our clients.

Until then, stay safe,

Mark

## DID YOU KNOW

**Every iPhone advertisement has the time set to 9:41.**

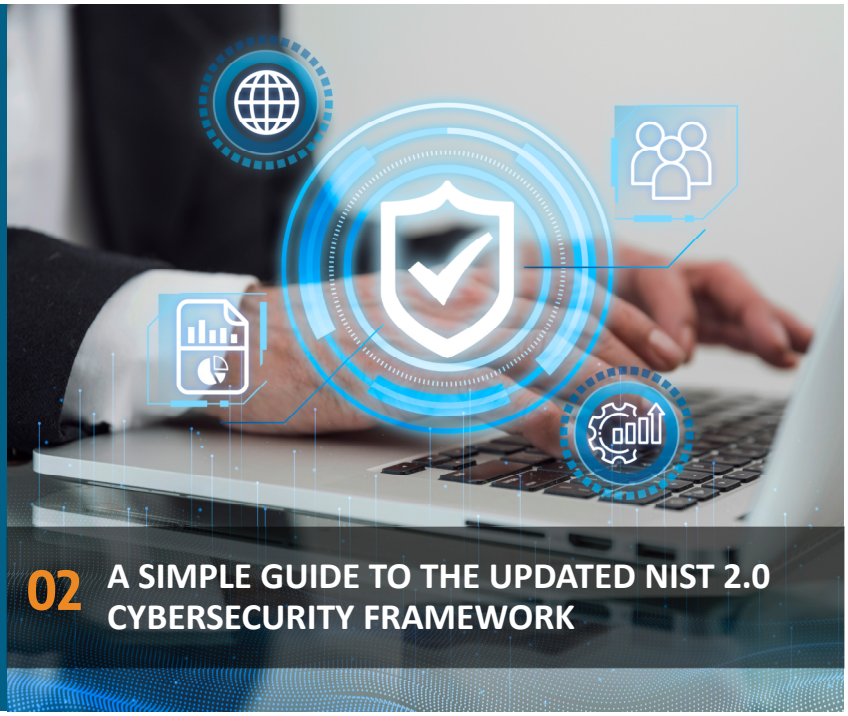

Phrixus Technologies

PO Box 266
Berowra NSW 2081
phrixus.com
02 9457 6416

Staying ahead of threats is a challenge for organisations of all sizes. Reported global security incidents grew between February and March of 2024. They increased by 69.8%. It's important to use a structured approach to cybersecurity. This helps to protect your organisation.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) created a Cybersecurity Framework (CSF). It provides an industry-agnostic approach to security. It's designed to help companies manage and reduce their cybersecurity risks. The framework was recently updated in 2024 to NIST CSF 2.0.

CSF 2.0 is a comprehensive update that builds upon the success of its predecessor. It offers a more streamlined and flexible approach to cybersecurity. This guide aims to simplify the framework.



## 02 A SIMPLE GUIDE TO THE UPDATED NIST 2.0 CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK

### Understanding the Core of NIST CSF 2.0

At the heart of CSF 2.0 is the Core. The Core consists of five concurrent and continuous Functions. These are: Identify, Protect, Detect, Respond, and Recover. These Functions provide a high-level strategic view of cybersecurity risk. This allows for a dynamic approach to addressing threats.

Here are the five Core Functions of NIST CSF 2.0.

- Identify – This function involves identifying and understanding the organisation's assets, cyber risks, and vulnerabilities.
- Protect – The protect function focuses on implementing safe-guards. These protections are to deter, detect, and mitigate cybersecurity risks.
- Detect – Early detection of cybersecurity incidents is critical for minimising damage. The detect function emphasises the importance of detection.
- Respond – The respond function outlines the steps to take in the event of a cybersecurity incident.
- Recover – The recover function focuses on restoring normal operations after a cybersecurity incident.

### Profiles and Tiers: Tailoring the Framework

The updated framework introduces the concept of Profiles and Tiers. These help organisations tailor their cybersecurity practices. They can customise them to their specific needs, risk tolerances, and resources.

PROFILES – Profiles are the alignment of the Functions, Categories, and Subcategories. They're aligned with the business requirements, risk tolerance, and resources of the organisation.

TIERS – Tiers provide context on how an organisation views cybersecurity risk as well as the processes in place to manage that risk. They range from Partial (Tier 1) to Adaptive (Tier 4).

### Benefits of Using NIST CSF 2.0

- Improved Cybersecurity Posture: By following the guidance in NIST CSF 2.0, organisations can develop a more comprehensive and effective cybersecurity program.
- Reduced Risk of Cyberattacks: The framework helps organisations identify and mitigate cybersecurity risks.
- Enhanced Compliance: NIST aligned CSF 2.0 with many industry standards and regulations.
- Improved Communication: The framework provides a common language for communicating about cybersecurity risks.
- Cost Savings: NIST CSF 2.0 can help organisations save money. It does this by preventing cyberattacks

### Getting Started with NIST CSF 2.0

- Familiarise yourself with the framework
- Assess your current cybersecurity posture
- Develop a cybersecurity plan
- Seek professional help

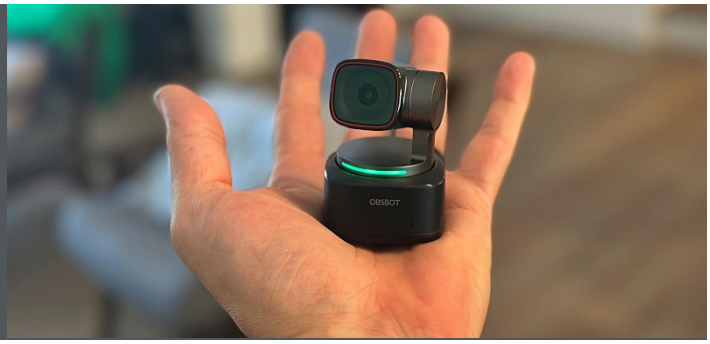
By following these steps, you can begin to deploy NIST CSF 2.0 in your organisation. At the same time, you'll be improving your cybersecurity posture.

## OBSBOT Tiny 2 4K Webcam

Elevate your streaming and video conferencing game with the OBSBOT Tiny 2 4K webcam, offering unparalleled features.

It has a 4K resolution, AI tracking and the 2-axis gimbal that keeps the video smooth, no matter how much you move around.

Upgrade your workspace today with OBSBOT Tiny 2 and experience the difference in video quality, tracking accuracy, and hands-free control.



## 03 IS YOUR BUSINESS LOSING MONEY BECAUSE EMPLOYEES CAN'T USE TECH?

Shiny new tech can be exciting! It promises increased efficiency, happier employees, and a competitive edge. But that promise can turn into a financial nightmare if you neglect employee training and change management.

When employees have trouble using their business tools, productivity drops. Mistakes can be made, and customer service can fall.

### Lack of Technology Training

Imagine investing in a top-of-the-line CRM system. Then you see your sales team floundering instead of excelling. They can't find key features, struggle with data entry, and miss deadlines. Why? Because they haven't been properly trained on the new software. It leads to the following costs:

- Lost Productivity
- Costly Errors
- Demotivation and Resistance

### Failing to Manage the Change

New technology disrupts workflows. Without proper change management, employees feel overwhelmed and insecure. The goal is to help them transition successfully with proper training and support.

When companies neglect change management, the following can happen:

- Low Morale
- Use of Shadow IT
- Resistance to Future Improvements

### Building a Bridge to Success

So, what is the key to unlocking the true value of new technology? It lies in effective training and change management.

Here's how to avoid the negative costs and get the full benefits from your tech.

- Invest in Comprehensive Training - Don't treat training as an afterthought. Yes, some tools say they're easy to use. But people have different tech literacy levels. Develop a tailored training program that goes beyond basic features. Include video tutorials, hands-on workshops, and ongoing support resources.
- Focus on User Adoption, Not Just Features – Training shouldn't just explain how the software works. It should focus on how the new system will benefit employees in their daily tasks and improve workflow efficiency. If employees don't adopt the new solution, the project fails.
- Embrace Change Management – Communicate the "why" behind the change. Explain how the new technology will make everyone's jobs easier. Encourage open communication and address concerns throughout the transition.

### THE TAKEAWAY

New technology is a powerful tool, but it's only as valuable as its users. Prioritise employee training and change management. This will help you bridge the gap between a shiny new system and a real return on investment.

Happy, well-trained employees using the right tools are your secret weapon. They can help you maximise efficiency, boost morale, and stay ahead of the curve.

## 04 HOT OFF THE DIGITAL PRESSES... LEARN ABOUT MICROSOFT COPILOT FOR FINANCE

Microsoft Copilot has been heading up the business AI charge. This genAI-powered app is showing up in various function-related activities. The latest is finance processes.

Microsoft Copilot for Finance is a game-changer. It injects the power of next-generation AI into the heart of your everyday workflow. Imagine having an AI companion that understands the intricacies of finance and collaborates seamlessly with you.

It can help a seasoned financial analyst or a curious learner. It automates repetitive tasks and provides real-time insights. Copilot is poised to revolutionise how we navigate the fiscal realm.

### WHAT IS MICROSOFT COPILOT FOR FINANCE?

Copilot for Finance is a new Copilot experience in Microsoft 365. It connects to business financial systems. Such as Dynamics 365 and SAP. It provides finance-based insights and guided actions in:

- Outlook
- Excel
- Microsoft Teams
- Other Microsoft 365 applications

### Benefits of Using Copilot for Finance

Copilot for finance offers several benefits to those in financial roles. These include:

- Breaking Free from the Manual Grind
- AI-Powered Insights at Your Fingertips
- Tailored for Your Team
- Seamless Integration for a Frictionless Experience
- Built with Trust in Mind

### A Glimpse into the Future of Finance

Copilot for Finance represents a significant leap forward in financial technology. It's more than just automation. It's about harnessing the power of AI to augment human expertise. As well as transform the way finance operates.

## 05 10 EASY STEPS TO BUILDING A CULTURE OF CYBER AWARENESS

Cyberattacks are a constant threat in today's digital world. Phishing emails, malware downloads, and data breaches. They can cripple businesses and devastate personal lives.

Building a cyber awareness culture doesn't require complex strategies or expensive training programs. Here are some simple steps you can take to make a big difference.

1. Start with leadership buy-in
2. Make security awareness fun, not fearful
3. Speak their language
4. Keep it short and sweet
5. Conduct phishing drills
6. Make reporting easy and encouraged
7. Security champions: empower your employees
8. Beyond work: security spills over
9. Celebrate successes
10. Leverage technology

## 06 IPHONE RUNNING SLOW? SPEED IT UP WITH ONE OF THESE TIPS

Let's face it, iPhones are amazing devices. But even the sleekest, most powerful iPhone can succumb to the dreaded slowdown. Apps take forever to load and scrolling feels sluggish. Pretty soon, simple tasks become frustrating ordeals.

If your iPhone has gone from speedy sidekick to sluggish snail, don't despair!

Here are some easy tips to get your iPhone back in tip-top shape:

- Give it a restart: The digital power nap
- Clean out the digital clutter
- Tame background app refresh
- Turn off location services where you can
- Reduce motion effects
- Update your apps and iOS
- Nuclear option: Reset your iPhone (Back up first!)
- Check your battery health

## 07 WHY CONTINUOUS MONITORING IS A CYBERSECURITY MUST

Cyber threats are constantly evolving, and traditional security measures are no longer enough. Continuous monitoring acts as your vigilant digital guard. It's constantly checking for weaknesses. It sounds the alarm before attackers exploit them. Here's why continuous monitoring is a cybersecurity must:

- Breaches Happen Fast
- Advanced Threats Need Advanced Defenses
- Compliance Requirements Often Mandate It
- Peace of Mind and Reduced Costs
- Improved Threat Detection Accuracy
- Faster Incident Response
- Enhanced Security Posture
- Compliance Reporting

In today's threat landscape, continuous monitoring is not a luxury. It's a security necessity.

Don't wait for a security breach to be your wake-up call. Embrace continuous monitoring and take control of your cybersecurity posture. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, especially in the digital world.

## WE LOVE REFERRALS

The greatest gift anyone can give us is a referral to your friends. Referrals help us keep costs down so we can pass the savings to our clients.

If your friend's business ends up becoming a client - we'll gift them their free first month of service (for being a friend of yours) AND we'll gift you $500 cash/ gift voucher.
Simply introduce me via email to **mark@phrixus.com** and I'll take it from there. I personally promise we'll look after their business with a high level of care and attention (just like we do with all our clients).

## Stop allowing browser notifications

Almost every week we receive a report that a user has been hacked and the data on their system has been compromised. What this is in fact is a fake popup notification from a website. The reason it pops up is due to the user inadvertently or deliberately allowing notifications from websites.

Too many notifications can be a distraction when you need to focus, or they can be just plain frustrating and cause unnecessary alarm.

All browsers have the option to stop these and we recommend all website notifications should be blocked.

In both Chrome and Edge select the 3 dots to bring up the menu and select settings, cookies and site permissions or privacy and security to find the notifications options to turn them off


## NEED A LAUGH?

**Why did the Powerpoint presentation cross the road?**

**To get to the other slide!**

## TECHNOLOGY TRIVIA

The question this month is:

***What is the name of that cute penguin character appearing in the Linux operating system?***

The first person to email me at **mark@phrixus.com** and give a correct answer gets a $50 Amazon Gift Card!

## Scam of the month

*Carrie lives in the city and often finds herself in crowded places such as subways and airports. She passes the time traveling by scrolling on her phone. One day, Carrie was on a bus when a notification popped up on her phone. It was an AirDrop requesting to send her a file. Carrie didn't realize she had her share settings open to everyone. She didn't know the sender but out of curiosity, she accepted the file. The file was nothing special. It had data related to a company Carrie was not familiar with. She clicked around on the file, and it opened a strange link. Carrie closed out of the file and the link and assumed it was sent to her by mistake. But really, it carried malware that worked its way through her device. Over the next few days, her phone began to behave erratically, with apps crashing and battery life draining unusually fast. Carrie ignored the signs, assuming she just needed a new phone.*

*Carrie should have had AirDrop turned off when not in use or set to private. Some use AirDrop to send inappropriate photos or malicious files.*