5 POINT INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM CHECKLIST

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF A SECURITY PROGRAM

1. Conduct an inventory of all Software and Hardware
   Have an up-to-date list of each piece of hardware that has access to your network and every piece of software installed on your systems.

2. Establish guidelines for a Secure Configuration
   Create a list of specific recommendations for securely configuring new hardware and software that is added to your network.

3. Make sure your software is regularly Patched and Updated
   In 2015, a new programming error or flaw was, on average, discovered every week (54 total in 2015), a 125% increase from 2014.

4. Outline specific requirements for User IDs and Passwords
   In a survey of over 700 IT security practitioners, 76% reported that their employees don’t change passwords frequently, 74% reuse the same passwords and usernames, and 71% don’t use complex passwords.
   Source: The Human Factor in Data Protection, Ponemon Institute, January

5. Regularly assess your Outside Vendors and Services
   In 2015, current and former service providers were the source of 41% of security incidents, a 22% increase from 2014.
   Source: The Global State of Information Security, PricewaterhouseCoopers,

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These essential elements of an information security program are derived from the CIS Controls.