Cyber security threat should fall to the shoulders of the Chief Technology Officer

Submitted by: Advanced Computer Software Group Limited
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Pressure is mounting on Chief Technology Officers (CTOs) to step up to the plate and protect British businesses from damaging cyber attacks. This is according to the CTO of Advanced, which has published a new white paper (https://www.oneadvanced.com/globalassets/resources/advanced_whitepaper_the_connected_cto_the_organisational_lynchp on the need for CTOs to act as the new lynchpin for connecting the entire organisation and ensuring cyber security becomes a board level priority.

Jon Wrennall, Chief Technology Officer at Advanced, says: “Undoubtedly the role of CTO is on the ascent. Every position on the board can, and should, be a driving force for the business. However, given the impact that digital disruption is having on every single industry, the connected CTO is, I believe, best placed in our digital world to truly drive the associated benefits. However, it therefore also falls to the CTO to both manage and overcome the connected threats as well. Indeed, CTOs are fundamentally not doing their job if they don’t achieve this.”

The stark truth is that not enough is currently being done. The National Trading Standards has reported that British businesses have seen a 22 percent increase in cyber incidents (http://www.tradingstandardsecrime.org.uk/over-1-billion-lost-by-businesses-to-online-crime-in-the-last-year/) over the past year, with total reported losses of more than £1 billion. Advanced’s recent Trends Report (https://www.oneadvanced.com/trends/) revealed that one in four businesses (26 percent) are not prepared for the threat of a cyber-attack and, worryingly, 46 percent admit that data security is not even a deciding factor when adopting digital technology.

The white paper outlines that, to fully embrace disruptive technologies, he ‘connected’ CTO must not only ensure they are aligned across the organisation to accelerate success and prosperity for business, but also ensure the safeguards are in place to ensure organisations stay secure. The good news is that CTOs are heading in the right direction. Rather than solely being involved with IT issues, the CTO has become a vital member of the board, fully-integrated across the whole organisation — and the culture within it — to keep the business ahead of the latest cyber security and tech trends. It’s now about joining up the dots.

Says Jon Wrennall: “A connected CTO is the digital pioneer, the change agent driving change in every dimension of the business. Only by connecting existing silos and ensuring cyber security is a board level priority can British businesses become a global beacon for digital and technological skills. It’s therefore time for CTOs to become the catalyst that ensures their organisation stays relevant, valued, strategic and, perhaps above all in today’s society, secure.”

Advanced’s latest white paper on today’s connected Chief Technology Officer – the organisational lynchpin, is available here http://bit.ly/2l37otK.

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Note to editors:
*Advanced Computer Software Group was renamed Advanced on April 11 2016, as part of a global rebrand.

About Advanced

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We enable our customers to drive efficiencies, savings and growth opportunities through focused, right-first-time software solutions that evolve with the changing needs of their business and the markets they operate in.

True partnership is the defining thing that makes us different from the competition.
We pride ourselves on delivering focused software solutions for public sector, enterprise commercial and health & care organisations that simplify complex business challenges and deliver immediate value.

Advanced is a Sunday Times Top Track 100 Company 2016 and was ranked in the Deloitte UK Fast 50 which recognises the 50 fastest growing technology companies in the UK and a winner of the Tech Company of the Year in PwC's UK Tech Awards in 2014.

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