



NEWSLETTER

RJ2 Technologies Monthly Newsletter
January 2026



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In this newsletter:

Cybersecurity Resolutions
For The New Year

Page 01 & 02

Employee Cybersecurity
Training: Why It's Your Best
Defense

Page 03

Vendor Partner Highlight -
Password Boss

Page 03

Cloud Cost Optimization:
How to Save in The New Year

Page 04

Quick Tech Tips

Page 04

2026



Cybersecurity Resolutions For The New Year

The start of a new year is more than just a time for personal resolutions—it's the perfect opportunity for businesses to strengthen their cybersecurity posture. In 2026, cyber threats are evolving faster than ever, and small to mid-sized businesses remain prime targets. A single breach can lead to financial loss, reputational damage, and operational downtime.

By setting clear cybersecurity resolutions now, you can protect your organization and stay ahead of emerging risks. Here are **seven essential resolutions** to make this year:

1. Implement Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) Everywhere

Passwords alone are no longer enough. MFA adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second form of verification—such as a code sent to your phone or a biometric scan. Make it a goal to enable MFA on all critical systems and accounts, including email, cloud services, and remote access tools.

Why it matters: MFA can block over 99% of automated attacks. It's one of the simplest, most effective steps you can take.



2. Strengthen Password Policies

Encourage employees to use passphrases instead of complex strings of characters. A passphrase like "CoffeeLoversUnite2026!" is easier to remember and harder to crack than "P@ssw0rd123." Consider implementing a password manager to simplify secure storage and reduce the risk of reuse across accounts.

3. Conduct a Comprehensive Cybersecurity Audit

Start the year by assessing your current security posture. Are your firewalls configured correctly? Are all devices patched and updated? Are backups tested? A thorough audit will identify vulnerabilities before attackers do.

Pro Tip: Schedule quarterly reviews to keep your defenses strong throughout the year.

4. Train Your Team Regularly

Human error remains the leading cause of breaches. Make cybersecurity training a recurring event, not a one-time checkbox. Teach employees how to spot phishing emails, use secure passwords, and report suspicious activity.

Bonus Idea: Gamify training with quizzes and rewards to boost engagement.

5. Back Up Your Data and Test Recovery Plans

Data loss can cripple a business. Ensure backups are automated, stored securely, and tested regularly. A backup is only useful if you can restore it quickly when disaster strikes.

Ask yourself: When was the last time you tested your disaster recovery plan?

6. Adopt a Zero-Trust Approach

Zero Trust means never assuming trust based on location or credentials alone. Verify every user and device before granting access. This approach significantly reduces the risk of insider threats and compromised accounts.

7. Stay Ahead of Emerging Threats

Cybersecurity isn't static—new threats appear daily. Subscribe to threat intelligence updates, work with your MSP for proactive monitoring, and consider advanced tools like endpoint detection and response (EDR) for real-time protection.

The Bottom Line

Cybersecurity isn't a one-time project—it's an ongoing commitment. By making these resolutions part of your business strategy, you'll reduce risk, build resilience, and give your team confidence heading into 2026.

Need help implementing these resolutions? **Contact RJ2 Technologies today to schedule your New Year Cybersecurity Health Check and start the year secure by calling us at (847) 303-1194 or email marketing@rj2t.com**

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Employee Cybersecurity Training: Why It's Your Best Defense

Technology can only do so much—your employees are the first line of defense against cyber threats. Unfortunately, human error accounts for over 80% of data breaches. That's why regular cybersecurity training is essential.

Why Training Matters

Phishing attacks are becoming more convincing, and a single click on a malicious link can compromise your entire network. Training helps employees recognize these threats and respond appropriately.

What Should Training Include?

- **Phishing Awareness:** Teach staff how to spot suspicious emails and verify links before clicking.
- **Password Hygiene:** Encourage strong passphrases and discourage password reuse.
- **Device Security:** Remind employees to lock screens, update software, and avoid public Wi-Fi for work tasks.
- **Incident Reporting:** Make sure employees know how and when to report suspicious activity.

How Often Should You Train?

Cybersecurity isn't static—threats evolve constantly. Quarterly training sessions, supplemented by monthly tips or phishing simulations, keep security top of mind.

Pro Tip: Gamify training with quizzes and rewards to boost engagement. A well-trained team is your most cost-effective security measure.

Make Cybersecurity Awareness Part of Your Culture

Cybersecurity is everyone's responsibility, and the best technology in the world can't protect your business if your team isn't prepared. By investing in regular, engaging training, you empower employees to recognize threats and take the right actions before damage occurs. In 2026, make security awareness a core part of your culture—it's the most cost-effective way to safeguard your data and reputation.

Call RJ2 Technologies at (847) 303-1194 or email marketing@rj2t.com to get help setting up cybersecurity awareness training for your company today.



Vendor Partner Highlight - PASSWORD BOSS

This month we are excited to highlight Password Boss, a powerful password management solution designed to keep your business secure, efficient, and compliant. With this solution, your business will have peace of mind knowing your credentials are protected, your team can work securely from anywhere, and your business is backed by a solution built specifically for MSPs like RJ2 Technologies and their clients.

RJ2 Technologies is happy to be partnered with Password Boss as they are an affordable solution that is easy to use with advanced security features. With a fast and efficient onboarding process, your business can start using Password Boss right away without complicated training.

To learn more about this partnership please call RJ2 Technologies at (847)-303-1194 or email marketing@rj2t.com.

Cloud Cost Optimization: How to Save in the New Year

Cloud services have become the backbone of modern business operations, offering flexibility, scalability, and accessibility. But as organizations migrate more workloads to the cloud, costs can quickly spiral out of control. Without proper oversight, you may end up paying for resources you don't need—or worse, overspending on inefficient configurations.

The good news? With a proactive approach, you can optimize cloud costs without sacrificing performance or security. Here's how to make 2026 the year you take control of your cloud budget.

1. Audit Your Current Usage

Start by reviewing your cloud resources. Are you paying for unused storage or idle virtual machines? Eliminating waste can significantly reduce costs.

2. Right-Size Your Resources

Many businesses over-provision cloud resources "just in case." Adjust your compute and storage allocations to match actual demand.

3. Use Reserved Instances or Savings Plans

If your workloads are predictable, reserved instances can save up to 70% compared to on-demand pricing.

4. Automate Scaling

Enable auto-scaling to adjust resources based on real-time demand. This prevents paying for capacity you don't need during off-peak hours.

5. Optimize Storage

Storage costs can sneak up on you. Review your data retention policies and move infrequently accessed data to lower-cost storage tiers.

6. Monitor and Optimize Continuously

Cloud optimization isn't a one-time task—it's an ongoing process. Set up alerts for cost anomalies and regularly review usage reports. Consider implementing a cloud management platform.

7. Leverage Cost Governance Policies

Establish clear policies for resource provisioning, tagging, and decommissioning. This ensures accountability and prevents "cloud sprawl," where resources are created but never cleaned up.

Take Control of Your Cloud Costs Today

Cloud technology is essential for growth, but without proper management, costs can erode your ROI. By auditing usage, right-sizing resources, and implementing automation, you can keep expenses under control while maintaining performance and security.

Ready to optimize your cloud environment? **Contact RJ2 Technologies today to schedule a FREE IT Assessment by calling us at (847) 303-1194 or email marketing@rj2t.com.**

Quick Tech Tips

1. Update Your Operating Systems and Apps

Start the year with a clean slate—make sure all devices are running the latest versions. Updates often include critical security patches that protect against new threats.

2. Enable Automatic Backups

Data loss can happen anytime. Set up automated backups for files and systems so you're never caught off guard. Cloud-based backup solutions make this easy and secure.

3. Declutter Your Digital Workspace

Delete unused apps, old files, and unnecessary browser extensions. A tidy system runs faster and reduces potential vulnerabilities.

4. Review User Access Permissions

Over time, employees change roles or leave the company. Audit who has access to sensitive data and revoke permissions that are no longer needed.