More Than Knowing The Law

Cyber Security – Not Just A Technology Risk

Heather Hibberd, Chief Risk Manager at LPLC, is joined by Susie Jones, the CEO of [Cynch Security](https://cynch.com.au/), an organisation that partners with small businesses across a range of sectors, including law, to improve their cyber security fitness.

In this episode, Susie uses her expertise in the people and process side of cyber security to break down common misunderstandings that often lead to cyber incidents in law firms, as well as simple actions you can take to protect your firm.

If you’re a practitioner that knows you should be doing more about cyber security, but have been putting it off because it seems too technical or too much of a bother, this podcast is for you.

**In this episode, you will discover:**

* **How and why cyber criminals choose their target.**
  + “*Cybercriminals quite often are not targeting the individual, they literally don't care who you are, they target the technology, they target the assets and the value that you have in your business.*”
  + “*It’s much more to do with what information do you have access to, what funds do you have access to, what information on your clients do you have access to and that quite often can be far more valuable than anything that you as an individual may have in your possession.”*

* **Cyber awareness in law firms and the need for each of us to understand our personal responsibility to be cyber-safe.**
  + “*I think we're seeing a lot of, perhaps reticence to make changes that we believe need to be made. It comes from the lack of understanding of the responsibility that each individual person has when it comes to mitigating these types of attacks and risks.*”
  + “*That's actually where we need to break down the understanding or the misunderstanding, because personal responsibility is both the first line of defence, but also often the last line of defence for many legal firms.*”

* **Common barriers lawyers face that may prevent them from implementing basic cyber security measures and how to overcome them.**
  + “*People may not necessarily feel comfortable with technology generally, and if they don't immediately know how to do something cyber-security related, the last thing they want to do is ask somebody for help or to be seen being silly and mess it up.”*
  + *“It can just seem like such an onerous task, it can seem like something that's going to take forever, and when you're already working 16-hour days, that can feel pretty onerous to then spend some of your own personal time to implement some of these controls.”*

* **Implementing multi-factor authentication, password managers and other steps you can take.**
  + *“There is no reason why you can't implement a little bit of cybersecurity or a small cybersecurity control in as little as five minutes at a time.”*
  + *“Following a few step-by-step instructions to put a multi-factor authentication on your email is not a difficult task - it won’t take very long at all, but can make it that much harder for you to be brought unstuck by a cybercriminal targeting the technology that you're using.”*
  + *“Another option is using password managers - it’s a piece of software which acts as a safe or a vault for all of your passwords. It means that the only passwords you need to remember is the password to get into your password manager, but it also means you can use very strong, unique passwords across every different account that you have.”*

See more from Susie at<https://cynch.com.au/>

**More Cyber Security Resources from LPLC**

[Cyber Essentials Series](https://lplc.com.au/resources/video/cyber-awareness-essentials?media=multifactor-authentication-a-security-must-have)

[Cyber Security Guide for Lawyers](https://lplc.com.au/resources/practice-risk-guides/cyberguide)

[Call before you pay email footer](https://lplc.com.au/resources/practitioner/call-before-you-pay)

**Other useful links**

[Australian Cyber Security Centre Guides](https://www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/small-and-medium-businesses/step-by-step-guides)

**Acronyms used in this episode**

ASIC - Australian Securities and Investments Commission

**Website URL**

[lplc.com.au](https://lplc.com.au)