2025 CYBERSECURITY EXECUTIVE BRIEF FOR ACCOUNTANTS:

6 ESSENTIALS YOUR FIRM NEEDS!

Cybersecurity and data protection continue to evolve - and so do the risks facing accounting firms. Staying protected, compliant, and resilient isn't optional. This brief highlights six critical essentials to help your firm stay secure, meet client expectations, and build long-term trust.

In this Cybersecurity Executive Brief for Accountants, you'll learn about:

- Cloud inevitability - and a silver lining
- Ongoing endpoint security concerns
- The social and reputational risks of a breach
- Increasingly complex partner requirements
- Why awareness training is important
- The failures of IT services taking a reactive approach

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CLOUD INEVITABILITY

Accounting Applications Are Increasingly Moving to the Cloud

More tools. More in the cloud. Accounting applications and workflowsfrom practice management to payroll and reporting-are rapidly moving to cloud-based platforms.

Expect continued growth.
Firms should plan for cloud-first platforms, remote accessibility, and hosted solutions to keep expanding across the accounting industry.

QuickBooks Online as an example.
QuickBooks Online shows how cloud accounting enables real-time access, automatic updates, and seamless collaboration from anywhere.

Benefits and new responsibilities. The cloud improves flexibility, scalability, and uptime-but it also introduces new planning, compliance, and security considerations.

Move intentionally, not reactively.
A thoughtful cloud strategy helps your firm reduce risk, support growth, and get the most from your technology investments.

The cloud is the future
a plan is your advantage.

PSee Solutions helps accounting firms evaluate their options, strengthen security, and migrate to the cloud with confidence and clarity.

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A CLOUD SILVER LINING

BETTER ACCESS. STRONGER SECURITY. A BETTER EXPERIENCE FOR CLIENTS.

The cloud offers accounting firms a powerful advantage when it's planned, secured, and implemented the right way. It helps your team work smarter, serve clients better, and stay ready for whatever comes next.

When cloud solutions are done right, your firm can enjoy:

Better accessibility
Access critical files and applications securely from anywhere, on any device.

Easier collaboration
Work together in real time, streamline workflows, and keep projects moving.

A smoother client experience
Respond faster, share securely, and deliver more value with less friction.

Business continuity
Protect your operations with reliable backups, disaster recovery, and redundant systems.

Flexible work, supported
Empower your team to be productive and connected-wherever they are.

Without the right guidance, cloud projects can lead to:

- ⚠ Confusing platforms and poor integration
- ⚠ A Unrealized benefits and wasted spend
- ⚠ A Gaps in security and compliance
- ⚠ A Data migration challenges and downtime
- ⚠ Frustrated users and disrupted workflows

The solution is a strong plan and the right partner.
By pairing cloud adoption with a cybersecurity-first approach and a proven implementation plan, your firm can unlock the cloud's full potential-safely, efficiently, and with confidence.

PSee Solutions helps accounting firms build secure, scalable cloud environments that drive results today and support growth tomorrow.

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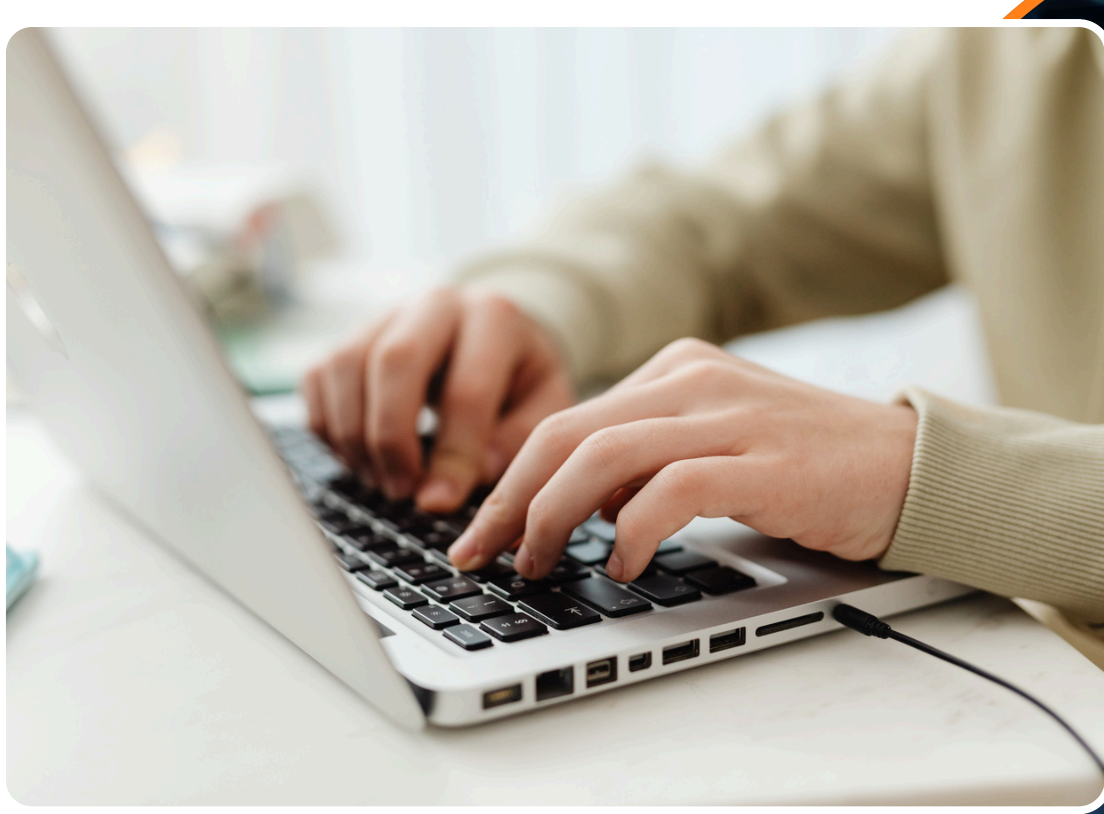
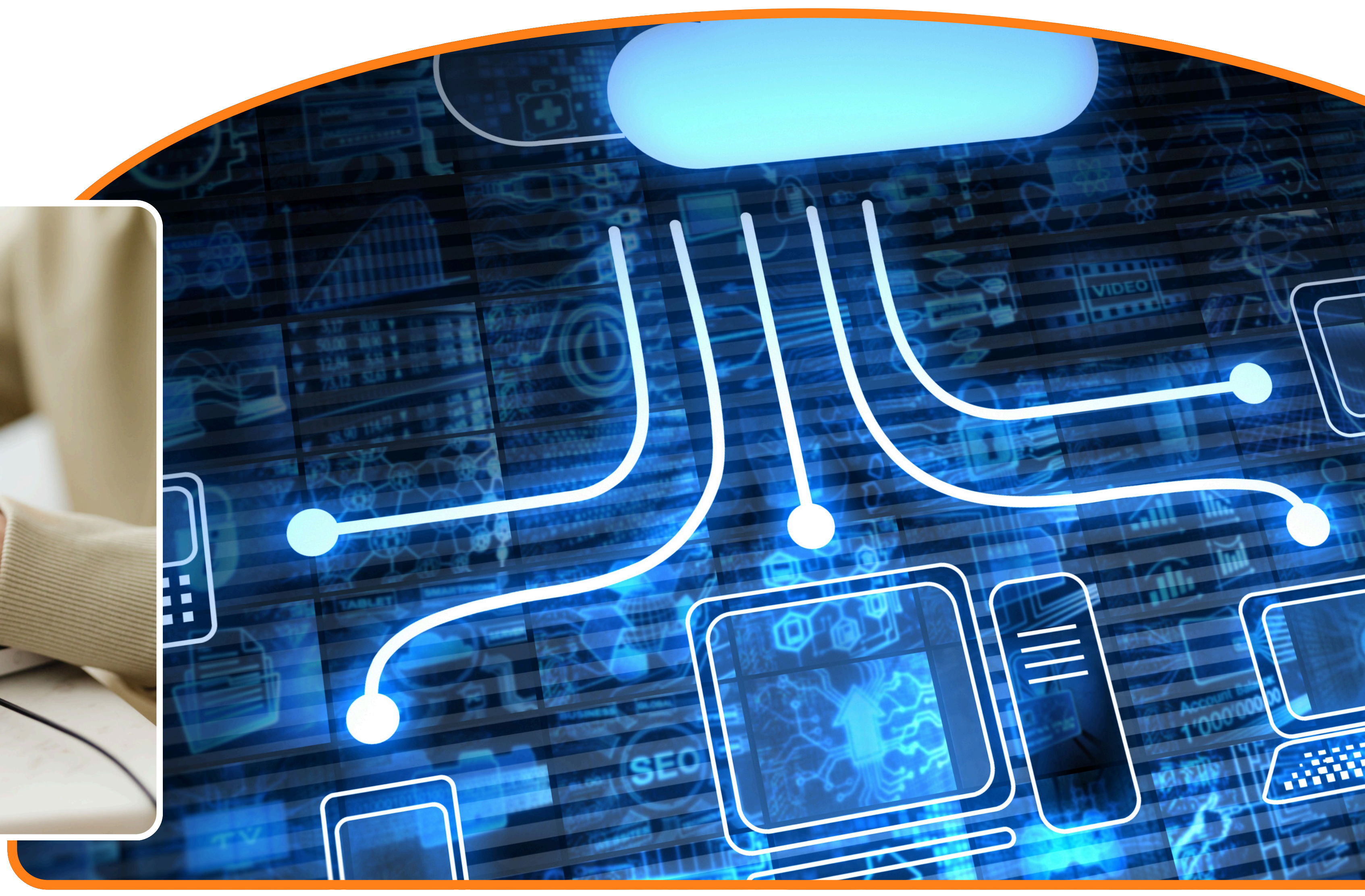
ENDPOINT SECURITY IS AN ONGOING CONCERN

Your firm's data travels with your people. Laptops, desktops, phones, and tablets connect to your network every day - in the office, at home, and on the go. Every endpoint is a potential entry point for cybercriminals.

Strong endpoint security reduces risk, protects client data, and keeps your firm's operations secure and compliant.





A Comprehensive Endpoint Security Approach

Devices Everywhere: Your team uses a mix of laptops, desktops, phones, and tablets - each one must be secured.

Remote & Hybrid Work: Work from anywhere increases the number of endpoints outside your office network and security perimeter.

Every Endpoint Is a Risk: Unpatched or unmanaged devices can be exploited and become a path into your network.

Layered Protection: Use a combination of next-gen antivirus, firewalls, encryption, multi-factor authentication, and device management.

Proactive Security Pays Off: Continuous monitoring, updates, and policy enforcement reduce risk and support regulatory compliance.

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SOCIAL PROOF:
A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD

In today's digital world, your reputation is built - or broken - online. For accounting firms, social proof can drive growth and open doors, but a security misstep can quickly erode the trust you've worked so hard to earn.

When cloud solutions are done right, your firm can enjoy:

- Online reviews, testimonials, and referrals shape how prospects see your firm.
- A breach or security incident can spread fast - and damage credibility overnight.
- Positive social proof builds trust, attracts clients, and supports long-term growth.
- Clients want to know their data is safe and that their firm takes cybersecurity seriously.
- Strong security practices protect both your client data and your reputation.

Reputation is earned. Trust is protected.

Reputation is earCybersecurity isn't just an IT issue - it's a business advantage. By taking a proactive approach to security, your firm can build confidence, inspire trust, and stand out for all the right reasons.ned. Trust is protected.

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PARTNER COMPLEXITY

CYBERSECURITY AUDITS AND QUESTIONNAIRES

Clients, vendors, and partners increasingly ask for proof of cybersecurity maturity. Accounting firms may face questionnaires, audits, and policy reviews.

Rising expectations

Clients, vendors, and partners increasingly require proof of cybersecurity maturity.

More requests, more often

Accounting firms may face questionnaires, audits, and policy reviews.

Growing complexity

Requirements often become more detailed and complex as firms grow.

Documentation matters

Strong documentation, standards, and consistent processes help firms respond confidently.

The right partner helps

A prepared technology partner understands what's needed and makes these requests easier to manage.

Stay ready. Build trust. Protect what matters.

Being prepared for audits and questionnaires demonstrates your commitment to security - and strengthens client and partner confidence.

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CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS TRAINING

People are your first line of defense.

Technology helps protect your firm - but people play a critical role in keeping it secure. Cybercriminals often target human behavior, not just systems. The right awareness training empowers your team to make smart choices every day.

Effective training makes a difference.

People are still the biggest variable
Human error, rushed decisions, and lack of awareness are leading causes of security incidents.

Threats target human behavior
Phishing, social engineering, and careless habits can give attackers a way in.

Awareness helps stop threats early
Well-trained employees recognize red flags and report suspicious activity sooner.

Simple, practical, and repeated
Short, relevant training delivered consistently builds knowledge and reinforces good habits.

A stronger culture protects everyone
When security becomes part of daily behavior, your firm is more resilient, compliant, and trusted.

Ongoing training. Smarter employees. Stronger firm.

Investing in cybersecurity awareness today helps prevent incidents tomorrow - and builds a culture of security that supports your firm's long-term success.

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A "CALL WHEN YOU NEED" IT APPROACH IS NO LONGER SUFFICIENT

In today's environment, waiting until something breaks is a risk your firm can't afford.

A purely reactive IT model leaves critical vulnerabilities unaddressed, increases the likelihood of downtime, and creates frustration for your team and your clients.

Accounting firms needa forward-thinking IT partner that prevents problems, protects data, and keeps your systems running at their best.

Consider the negative effects of a hands-off, reactive IT approach:

- Costly downtime that disrupts client service and productivity
- Missed threats that lead to data breaches or compliance violations
- Inconsistent patching and outdated systems that create vulnerabilities
- Avoidable risk that could have been prevented with proactive oversight

- ✓ Proactive planning to reduce risk and improve performance
- ✓ Continuous monitoring and threat detection
- ✓ Timely patching and system updates
- ✓ Responsive support when you need it
- ✓ Strategic guidance that aligns IT with your firm's goals

Don't wait for something to break.

Partner with PSeeSolutions for proactive cybersecurity and IT support that keeps your firm secure, productive, and ready for what's next.

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