Five Tips for Finding Security Vulnerabilities

Since security threats are constantly evolving, workers and criminals are constantly adapting to new realities. Companies across multiple industries are susceptible to security threats that can cause serious, lasting damage. It is more important than ever to pinpoint your organization's security vulnerabilities and respond by implementing the right solutions immediately to reduce or eliminate any security concerns.

- Is there a section of my office building that does not have security cameras?

- Does my office have barriers to entry via keycards or an intercom?

- If my business was broken into, would I be surprised by how and when criminals entered? Is this area actively monitored by trained professionals?

- What is the response time by building security or police officers if my business is burglarized?

Here are five tips to consider in finding security vulnerabilities.

1. Try to Find Security Vulnerabilities Yourself

"If I were a criminal, how would I attack, steal or inflict damage on my business or office?" Business professionals need to ask themselves this vital, albeit uncomfortable question to help find security gaps and vulnerabilities. The main benefit of this exercise is companies will, possibly for the first time, look at their organization as a potential target. People running businesses are instinctively guarded against specific threats by being acutely aware of things they want protected and this discovery process will broaden their way of thinking about existing security protocols with an action plan that may involve new security investments, such as fire or security alarms that are out of date and need to be replaced.

2. Perform an Internal Audit

Since not all security threats are external, it is critically important for companies to be cognizant of potential internal threats. Performing an internal audit will make you aware of vulnerabilities that could be taken advantage of by those working for your company. In some cases, the consequences of internal criminals can be greater than external threats because employees could have access to highly sensitive information, money or products and know exactly how to avoid getting caught by co-workers, security cameras or security personnel. Inside jobs rarely get noticed at the time unless the place of business has constant employee tracking and monitoring, which is rare, so this means businesses can be vulnerable to discreet internal security threats.

3. Actively Practice Security-Related Drills

When crimes occur quickly, it can be difficult for companies – especially in retail – to respond in the right way in fog-of-war-like scenarios. Therefore, it is of paramount importance for businesses that are frequent targets of these types of security threats to practice security and safety drills that will make it second-nature for employees to be one-step ahead in dangerous situations. Commitment to conducting a security assessment and actively practicing security-related drills will increase the chance of keeping employees safe if they encounter security threats that happen in a moment's notice.

4. Research Crimes Committed in Your Industry

Researching how criminals broke into, stole, burglarized or threatened a business in your industry will provide actionable insight in preparing for similar security threats, thereby putting effective preventive security measures into place. By understanding how your industry is most vulnerable to security threats, you will be able to allocate the right money for the right security resources. These security items could include security cameras and systems, fire and security alarms and investigative services, to name a few options. Each industry has unique security threats that impact how companies need to think about how well guarded they are when it comes to protecting themselves, their building or office, money or products. Doing independent research is helpful but reaching out to experienced security professionals provides an added layer of assurance when setting up effective security protocols.

5. Hire Security Consultants

Hiring security professionals, like HSI Security, gives businesses a fresh perspective on security vulnerabilities that were likely not on the company's radar. Security professionals bring extensive experience in using proven security measures to track and prevent criminal behavior and lingering security gaps that could become organizational liabilities. You can rest assured knowing that security experts will address your concerns and provide proven insight for appropriate next steps that will resolve problems with targeted precision.

Conclusion

Security exposure can damage a business with short-term or long-term effects. While some security weaknesses may not pose an immediate threat this second, companies need to understand that all kinds of criminals are constantly trying to find opportunities to expose security vulnerabilities to get what they want. By identifying and resolving security threats related to your specific business and industry, you will decrease your security exposure and deter criminals.

For a free security consultation with our knowledgeable staff, please contact HSI Security professionals today.

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