Responsive Technology Partners
VTX1 Family INTERNET
Issue 54 | September 2023

RESPONSIVE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS, INC., VTX1 INTERNET ANNOUNCE STRATEGIC ALLIANCE, SAN ANTONIO, TX

Southeastern-based Responsive Technology Partners announced plans to expand operations westward by forming a strategic alliance with broadband provider VTX1 Internet, located in San Antonio, Texas.

Since its early days as a rural telephone service provider, Valley Telephone Cooperative has transformed phone service, becoming a leading broadband provider while offering internet and telephone services to roughly 40,000 customers in South Texas. The Cooperative has since combined its holdings, including VTXC Communications and VTX Telecom, to form VTX1 Companies. Currently, VTX1's service area covers approximately 37,656 square miles: From Brownsville to just southeast of Austin, and from Laredo to Corpus Christi.

Steven McComas,
Responsive Technology Partners' CEO,
MPA, MBA, CGMA, CPA

"The strategic alliance between Responsive Technology Partners and VTX1 - one of the largest internet companies in Texas - is a win for both organizations. As we work together to offer world-class managed technology and cyber security services to VTX1 clients, we look forward in supporting small to midsize businesses, governments, school systems, professional firms and hospitals operating in the VTX1 market area. Our alliance and combined expertise afford one-stop-shop world-class technologies solutions that are only afforded to larger companies to the VTX1 clients. VTX1 shares our mission to provide world-class customer service through industry-leading IT solutions that make every customer feel as if they are our only customer. We are blessed and are truly humbled by our continued opportunities to serve private and public sector entities with their technology needs to the growing VTX1 family," commented Responsive Technology Partners' CEO Steven McComas, MPA, MBA, CGMA, CPA.

Continued on pg. 2

Continued

With the recent acquisition of San Antonio-based Invisible.technology, Responsive Technology Partners has extended its IT solutions offerings to Texas, in addition to its Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and Virginia markets.

Patrick McDonnell, VTX1 Internet CEO

"Partnering with Responsive Technology Partners to deliver I.T. Support services to our customers in the greater San Antonio and Austin area will allow VTX1 Internet and the VTX1 Family of Companies such as Rock Solid Internet to provide services many of our customers are asking for. The partnership will allow us to provide the very best IT and managed services solutions to our customers. From point-of-sale technology to cybersecurity services to camera systems and other added services, Responsive Technology Partners will add immediate value to our customers businesses." said Patrick McDonnell, VTX1 Internet CEO. "Together, working as one team, we will unlock the full potential of value-added services and place our clients on the best path for success in the new digital business landscape."

Responsive Technology Partners is a major leader in the MSP industry, having achieved growth both organically and by acquisition means. Joint venture partnerships include Pineland Telephone Cooperative and Wilkes Communications, as well as mergers with First Service Carolina, Compunet LTD, and Professional Network Services to create a unified powerhouse in the IT support space. Since 2020, Responsive has been recognized by Inc. 5000 four consecutive times in the categories "Fastest growing I.T. Management companies in the Nation" and "Fastest growing privately-held companies in the Nation".

Your Invited! Join us for our

Responsive Technology Partners

VTX1 Family INTERNET

STRATEGIC ALLIANCE RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION!

September 18, 2023
11:30 AM- 1 PM

6884 Alamo Downs Pkwy
San Antonio, TX 78238

(877) 358-9388

The Greater San Antonio Chamber

Proud Member San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Accredited

www.responsivetechnologypartners.com

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL INSIDER THREAT AWARENESS MONTH

National Insider Threat Awareness Month is a campaign put together by The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence & Security (USD(I&S)), the National Insider Threat Task Force, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) and partners to promote awareness surrounding insider threats. 2023 is the fifth anniversary of NITAM, which takes place in September.

This year's theme is the "Bystander Effect".

The term "bystander effect" refers to the phenomenon of a lack of action amongst a group of people in an emergency situation. In cyber security, the bystander effect can prevent people from acting effectively in the aftermath of a cyber-attack. Being a bystander in cyber security means that data breaches and infiltrations are not dealt with efficiently, or maybe never even dealt with at all if no one ever reports the breach. Here are some strategies to lessen the impact of the bystander effect.

Educate Your Employees:

Education and awareness are the first steps in reducing risk for insider threats, especially the effects of bystanders. Perform regular assessments of employee knowledge about what to do in a data breach scenario. Send out test phishing emails to see if your employees will click the link or identify it as a threat. Training can increase confidence in employees to be better able to identify and deal with threats. This will inherently decrease the bystander effect within the company.

Curate Company Culture:

A positive and collaborative approach to post cyber-attack procedures and data recovery can reduce the bystander effect. The bystander effect in a cyber security setting can be caused by a lack of comfortability in reporting cyber security breaches. Do not blame employees, but rather work together to find a solution. The more comfortable an employee is reporting a breach, the more often they will do so, therefore lessening the bystander effect.

Assess Risk Regularly:

Performing regular risk assessments to determine the actual hazard surrounding bystanders and insider threats can help prepare companies for cyber-attacks and promote positive changes to policies and procedures. Find the right risk assessment for your company and implement a schedule to perform the risk evaluations. This way, the company will be more aware of the risks and there will be less bystanders who are silent due to lack of knowledge.

HOW HACKERS GET YOUR INFO

Threat actors can obtain your personal information in a multitude of ways. Avoiding data breaches on an individual level is comprised of having cyber hygiene and navigating the internet in a safe way. Here are some tips on how to avoid hackers getting your info.

Phishing:
Phishing is the practice of "phishing" for information through malicious links, sometimes hidden through images or buttons. Practice good cyber hygiene by evaluating emails and texts critically. If the links, images, buttons, sender or subject line look suspicious, report the email and don't click!

Public Wi-Fi:
Sometimes hackers can create fake Wi-Fi networks to steal your information through internet connection. Evaluate public wireless networks to see if they could be fraudulent or malicious. Overall, confirm that the network you are connecting to is legitimate or protect yourself using a VPN.

Fake Applications:
Apps on the app store are not always legitimate. Threat actors put out malicious applications for downloading on the app store to steal your information through your device. Check reviews and authenticate the applications before downloading.

Oversharing on Socials:
Sometimes hackers can obtain your personal information simply by viewing your social profiles. Never make your email or phone number public and use complex passwords. Be careful who you share your personal information with online.

Responsive Technology Partners is the leading cyber-security expert with offices located in the Alpharetta, Marietta, Milledgeville, Vidalia, and Metter, Georgia areas. We also have locations in Tampa, Florida; Roanoke, Virginia; Raleigh, North Carolina and San Antonio, Texas. Service offerings include I.T. support, cyber-security and compliance, cloud-based POS systems and support, cloud services, access control and camera systems. Our company's mission is to provide world-class customer service through industry leading I.T. solutions that make every customer feel as if they are our only customer. To learn more, please visit our website: www.responsivetechnologypartners.com