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Does your network security work hard enough for you? by [Bgiles](#)

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The importance of network security for businesses in all sectors cannot be understated, and with new threats arising all the time, it's essential to choose security systems that are flexible and capable of adapting to the dynamic online environment. If it's been a number of years since you upgraded your network security, or your company is still using older servers and operating systems, these money-saving tactics could be leaving you vulnerable.

Even though many security systems can be integrated with a number of operating systems and platforms, it's recommended to upgrade to a current OS and replace your computers and servers every few years. Pursuing a philosophy of 'if it ain't broke, don't fix it' can be a false economy when you consider the potential losses your company could suffer if outdated systems are compromised by hackers or malicious software.

Upgrading from Windows XP to Windows 7 and other contemporary operating systems will offer greater protection and allow you to benefit from the latest security patches and updates. You should similarly make sure your business computers have the latest software installed, such as replacing Microsoft Office 2003 with newer equivalents that will be less vulnerable to hacking.

If your firm makes use of laptops and other portable devices, you should also make sure these are just as secure as their larger computer cousins, making use of Full Disk Encryption (FDE) to protect all files and systems. Some modern operating systems feature FDE as standard, and checking with your network security provider will inform you whether this is the case.

There are many other questions that you may wish to ask when comparing different network security software solutions, as you will need to be confident that this software will be well suited to your needs. If you desire to retain a degree of autonomy rather than leaving security patching and other processes to an automated system, you should look for software that delivers relevant, real-time alerts and minimises false alarms, so less work time will be wasted.

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[Bgiles](#) - About Author:

Bruce Giles a [network security software](#) writes for a digital marketing agency. This article has been commissioned by a client of said agency. This article is not designed to promote, but should be considered professional content.

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